

**Minutes
Transylvania County Board of Education
June 5, 2017**

INVOCATION/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME

BUSINESS ITEMS:

1. Approval of Agenda
2. Public Comment
3. Good News Report
4. Recognition of Retirees
---Reception---
5. Former Students in the Military
6. Consent Agenda:
 - A. Minutes
 - B. Personnel Report
7. School Nutrition Procurement Results 2017-2018
8. Policy:
 - A. Spring 2017 PLS Updates
 - B. 4000 Series Part A: Students
 - C. Policies 2110 and 2115
9. CTE Plan 2017-2018
10. Safe Schools/Athletics Update
11. FY18 Budget
12. FY18 Interim Budget Resolution
13. Superintendent's Update
14. Important Dates
15. Public Comment
16. Other Items

The Transylvania County Board of Education met in regular session at 6:30 p.m. on June 5, 2017 at the Morris Education Center. Ron Kiviniemi led in a moment of silence and Betty McGaha led the Pledge of Allegiance. Chairman McCoy welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order. In addition to approximately 25 guests, the following board members and staff were in attendance:

BOARD MEMBERS:

Tawny McCoy, Chair
Ron Kiviniemi, Vice Chair
Marty Griffin
Betty Scruggs McGaha
Alice Wellborn

BOARD ATTORNEY:

Chad Donnahoo

MEDIA:

John Lanier, Transylvania Times

STAFF:

Dr. Jeff McDaris, Superintendent
Jenny Hunter, Administrative Assistant
Dr. Jeremy Gibbs, Chief Academic Officer
Norris Barger, Director, Business Services
Brian Weaver, Senior Director, Human Resources
Audrey Reneau, Director, K-5 Curriculum & Instruction
Carolyn Barton, Director, School Nutrition Services
Kevin Smith, School Community Relations Coordinator
Alan Justice, Director, Safety/Athletics/Transportation
Donna Wilde, Principal, DRS
April Gaydosh, Principal, BES
Joe Russo, TCAE President
Kelly Cook, School Resource Officer

1. **Approval of Agenda**

Mr. Kiviniemi requested that discussion of a bond timeline be added to the agenda after item 12. There were no objections, and ON A MOTION BY MR. GRIFFIN, SECONDED BY MRS. WELLBORN, the agenda for June 5, 2017 was approved as amended.

2. **Public Comment**

None

3. **Good News Report**

Dr. McDaris reported the following items:

TCS HOSTS SQUIRREL BOX DERBY

On Saturday, May 27, Transylvania County Schools hosted the 10th Annual Squirrel Box Derby during the White Squirrel Festival in downtown Brevard. A number of school system employees volunteered their time and effort to help make the derby, always the highlight of the festival, a big success. This year's derby was made possible by the Brevard High School Band Association, Heart of Brevard, the Transylvania County Rescue Squad, Comporium Communications, State Farm Insurance, T. E. Allen Engineering, O.P. Taylor's, Highline Ink, Dugan's Pub, Lowe's Home Improvement, and Charlie's Tire Center. Special thanks go to Kevin Smith for his work coordinating the event.

RES EMBRACES "THE LEADER IN ME"

Rosman Elementary School is excited to begin a journey helping children set goals for the future by becoming a "Leader in Me" school. The Leader in Me model begins with a powerful premise—every child possesses unique strengths and has the ability to be a leader—which shapes the views of staff to value and develop the whole child. The process integrates leadership development into existing programs, curricula and traditions, and serves as a foundational operating system by improving relationships, transforming culture, and motivating staff and students. The 2017-2018 school year will be focused on staff training and implementation, with students starting Leader in Me activities in 2018-2019 and beyond.

EDUCATORS OF THE YEAR 2017-2018

At the "Teacher of the Year" Awards Evening on May 22, Rebecca Green, BMS, was named as the Transylvania County District Teacher of the Year and Paula Fisher, DRS, was named as the Transylvania County District Teacher Assistant of the Year for 2017-2018. Congratulations to Ms. Green, Ms. Fisher, and all of the educators listed below who were recognized as the "best of the best" by their colleagues for 2017-2018. The district Teacher of the Year award is sponsored by First Citizens Bank of Brevard.

Student Services Person of the Year: Ashley Witt, PFES

Media/Technology Person of the Year: Vera Cubero, BHS

Principal of the Year: April Gaydosh, BES

Rookie of the Year: Jacob Osteen, RES

Teacher Assistants of the Year: Terri Upton, BES; Barbara Stewart, BHS; Karen Britt, BMS; Paula Fisher, DRS; Cindy Kiser, PFES; Tracy Owen, RES; Sandy O'Rourke, RHS; and Vickie Ayers, TCH

Teachers of the Year: Carol Martin, BES; Sara Plum, BHS; Rebecca Green, BMS; Arami Bolick-Moore, DRS; Laura Burgess, PFES; Anneme Suttles, RES; Patrick Chapman, RHS; Christine Glance, RMS; and Jennifer Corn, TCH

TC SCHOLARS AND MEMORABLE EDUCATORS

On May 18, Transylvania County Schools honored 180 sophomores, juniors, and seniors and 35 individuals named as Memorable Educators by the class of 2017 at the 34th Annual Transylvania County Schools Scholars Recognition Evening. The celebration began in the Brevard High School cafeteria with a buffet provided by the School Nutrition department, then moved to the auditorium for the presentation of academic awards, scholarship awards, and the naming of Junior Marshals for 2017. Congratulations to all of the honorees.

Kevin Smith reported the following item:

THE 2017 FRIDAY MEDAL

The Friday Institute for Educational Innovation at NC State University’s College of Education honors significant, distinguished and enduring contributions to education through advocating innovation, advancing learning, and imparting inspiration. The Friday Medal is given annually to selected individuals who embody the mission and spirit of the Friday Institute. Past recipients include:

- Judge Howard E. Manning, Jr., Former Superior Court Judge who oversaw enforcement of *Leandro v. State of North Carolina*
- Hon. Bob Wise, President of the Alliance for Excellent Education and former Governor of West Virginia
- Muriel Thomas Summers, Principal of A.B. Combs Leadership Elementary School and co-author of *The Leader in Me*
- Dr. David H. Rose, faculty member at Harvard University and co-founder and chief education officer for the Center for Applied Special Technology (CAST)
- Dr. Bill McNeal, Transformation School Coach in Durham and the 2004 National Superintendent of the Year
- Hon. James B. Hunt, Jr., former Governor of the State of North Carolina

This year the Friday Medal will be awarded to innovative superintendents of rural North Carolina school districts. Dr. Jeff McDaris has been selected as one of the seven superintendents to receive the Friday Medal. The awards ceremony will be held on November 15, 2017 at the Friday Institute for Educational Innovation in Raleigh, NC.

GRADUATION 2017

Congratulations to all our 2017 graduates. All three ceremonies may be viewed live or as archived videos via the TCS YouTube channel <http://youtube.com/tcsnc>. There will be separate links for each ceremony.

4. Recognition of Retirees 2017-2018

Each year the Transylvania County Board of Education recognizes the employees of Transylvania County Schools who have retired or will be retiring during the current school year. Dr. McDaris reported that the 16 individuals being honored for the 2016-2017 year represent a combined total of 337 years in public education. Dr. McDaris and the board presented gifts to the individuals named below in appreciation for their years of dedicated service to public education and the students of Transylvania County Schools.

| Transylvania County Schools Retirees 2016-2017 | | | |
|---|---------|------|----------|
| Lynn Brockman-Gibson | Teacher | PFES | 42 years |

| | | | |
|---------------------|-------------------------|------------------|----------|
| Brenda Campbell | School Nutrition Worker | RES | 8 years |
| Ronnie English | Custodian | RMS/RHS | 7 years |
| Shane Foreman | Custodian & Bus Driver | RES | 7 years |
| Eva Gray | Teacher Assistant | PFES | 22 years |
| Barbara Lovell | Office Support | TCH | 10 years |
| Colleen Mackey | Teacher Assistant | PFES | 30 years |
| Leigh Anne McJunkin | Bookkeeper | BHS | 24 years |
| Tony Meachum | Principal | TCH | 33 years |
| Robert Merrill | Custodian | BHS | 6 years |
| Chris Miller | Teacher | BES | 29 years |
| Sheila Mooney | School Counselor | DRS | 18 years |
| Charles Pace | Custodian | BMS | 15 years |
| Renee Pagano | Teacher | BMS | 34 years |
| Doug Persek | Maintenance Technician | Plant Operations | 19 years |
| Mike Shotwell | Teacher | BMS | 33 years |

The board also recognized a group of retired educators who came out of retirement to serve in interim administrative roles during the 2016-2017 year. The board and superintendent gave thanks and appreciation to the following individuals for their service to the Transylvania County Schools:

Tammy Bellefeuil, Interim Principal, BHS
 Allen Credle, Interim Assistant Principal, BHS
 Cathy Credle, Interim Principal, TCH
 Virginia Haynes, Assistant Principal, BHS
 Bill Parker, Interim Administrative Support, RES

Following the recognitions, the board recessed at 6:50 p.m. for a reception in honor of the retirees. The board came out of recess at 7:10 p.m.

5. Former Students in the Military

The board reviewed the list of former students from Brevard High School, Rosman High School, and Davidson River School who are currently serving or have previously served in the U.S. Military. There were no new names on the list.

6. Consent Agenda

ON A MOTION BY MRS. MCGAHA, SECONDED BY MR. KIVINIEMI, the minutes of the May 15, 2017 meeting and the personnel report for June 5, 2017 (attached) were unanimously approved.

7. School Nutrition Procurement Results 2017-2018

Chairman McCoy thanked Carolyn Barton and the school nutrition staff for catering the retiree reception. Mrs. Barton presented the school nutrition procurement bids for FY18. She reported that school lunch prices will stay the same for 2017-2018 and gave updates on the summer feeding program and Backpack Buddies. The board commended the leadership of the school nutrition department in seeing that food-

insecure students are fed year round. ON A MOTION BY MR. KIVINIEMI, SECONDED BY MR. GRIFFIN, the board unanimously approved the School Nutrition bid results for 2017-2018.

8. Policy

Brian Weaver presented 12 revised policies and one new policy from the spring 2017 PLS updates for second-read approval. He reported there had been no changes to the policies since their first reads in May. There were no questions, and ON A MOTION BY MR. GRIFFIN, SECONDED BY MR. KIVINIEMI, the 13 policies listed below were approved as presented.

| APPROVED | |
|----------------|--|
| 1310/4002 | Parental Involvement |
| 1320/3560 | Title I Parent and Family Engagement |
| 3410 | Testing and Assessment Program |
| 3420 | Student Promotion and Accountability |
| 3470/4305 | Alternative Learning Programs/Schools |
| 3640/5130 | Student Voter Registration and Preregistration |
| 4250/5075/7316 | North Carolina Address Confidentiality Program |
| 5008 (NEW) | Automated Phone and Text Messaging |
| 5030 | Community Use of Facilities |
| 6140 | Student Wellness |
| 6320 | Use of Student Transportation Services |
| 6450 | Purchase of Services |
| 7930 | Professional Employees: Demotion and Dismissal |

Mr. Weaver presented four new policies from the 4000 Series, Part A (Students) and five old policies as first-read information. He addressed questions from the board regarding homeless students (policy 4125) and school assignment (policy 4150). ON A MOTION BY MRS. MCGAHA, SECONDED BY MRS. WELLBORN, the policies listed below were unanimously accepted as first-read information. Action on the policies will be requested at the next regular meeting.

| 4000 Series (Part A): Students | | | |
|--|---------------------------------|--|---|
| New Policies (first read; adoption in July) | | Old Policies (first read; rescission in July) | |
| 4001 | Equal Educational Opportunities | AC; AC-R; JB | Non-Discrimination; Equal Educational Opportunities |
| 4125 | Homeless Students | | |
| 4150 | School Assignment | JECBB; JECBB-R | Assignment of Students to Out-of-District Schools |
| 4155 | Assignment to Classes | | |

Mr. Weaver reported that policy 2110, Board Member Elections, and policy 2115, Unexpired Term Fulfillment, have been revised in response to Session Law 2016-44, "An Act to Change the Election Method of the Transylvania County Board of Education from Nonpartisan to Partisan." He stated that the policies could be revisited again if a proposed bill to return the elections to nonpartisan is passed. Mr. Kiviniemi remarked that the change from nonpartisan to partisan elections was not based on the desires of the school board or the public at large, but on the personal desire of a former state representative. ON A MOTION BY MRS. MCGAHA, SECONDED BY MR. KIVINIEMI, revised policies 2110 and 2115 were accepted as first read information on a 4:1 vote

(FOR: McCoy, Kiviniemi, McGaha, Wellborn; AGAINST: Griffin). Approval of the policies will be requested at the next regular meeting.

9. **CTE Plan 2017-2018**

Dr. McDaris reported that Arleca Chapman was not able to be in attendance due to a death in her family, and offered to answer any questions about the Career and Technical Education (CTE) plan for 2017-2018. After brief discussion, ON A MOTION BY MR. GRIFFIN, SECONDED BY MRS. MCGAHA, the Career and Technical Education Plan for 2017-2018 was unanimously approved.

10. **Safe Schools/Athletics Update**

Alan Justice gave an update on school safety and athletics for the 2016-2017 school year. He reported that school resource officers taught a total of 352 classes this year. They also made 3585 student contacts, 975 parent contacts, 209 home visits, worked 254 sporting events, handled 1200 traffic control issues and conducted 100 safety drills. Mr. Justice commended the work of law enforcement and staff members during last week's lockdown incident at Rosman High School. Mrs. Wellborn asked about students using cellphones during the lockdown. Mr. Justice reported that he did not see that as a problem, as it may have stopped parents from rushing to the school by knowing that their children were safe. He stated that the school system needs to do a better job of getting information out to the public first (before external sources) when an incident like this occurs. Mr. Griffin asked when the administration would be able to let the public know the reasons behind the lockdown incident. Mr. Donnahoo stated that information might never be publicly disseminated due to privacy issues. The board commended the work of SROs with students and families.

Mr. Justice reported that the school system would probably have 15-18 reportable incidents for this year's Annual School Crime and Violence report. Suspension numbers are expected to be similar to last year's (179 short term and 5 long term). In random drug testing, there were six positive results, three at BHS and three at RHS. Most results were marijuana-related. The number of positive test results seems to be trending downward.

Mr. Justice reported that concussion protocols will continue for football and other sports. He is working with Mission Hospital to add an athletic trainer for BMS, bringing the system total to three. Mr. Justice reported that 2016-2017 saw many notable athletic achievements. The Blue Devils made it to the 3rd round in football playoffs. Rosman volleyball and other sports also went to playoffs. The BHS cross country team captured another state championship. Several wrestlers placed at state, and players in many sports achieved all-conference recognitions. The board commended all of the TCS athletes, coaches and athletic directors for two strong high school programs.

11. **FY18 Budget Update**

Norris Barger reported that the proposed House and Senate budgets each have the same overall numbers, but differ in the areas of salaries and benefits. Much remains to be worked out before their stated goal of June 15 completion.

12. **FY18 Interim Budget Resolution**

Dr. McDaris reported that the board adopts an interim budget resolution each June in order to pay salaries and normal operating expenses for the period beginning July 1 until the adoption of the final budget resolution for the new fiscal year. ON A MOTION BY MR. GRIFFIN, SECONDED BY MR. KIVINIEMI, the interim budget resolution for the 2017-2018 fiscal year was unanimously approved (see attached).

13. Bond Timeline

Mr. Kiviniemi suggested that the board think about placing a bond referendum for school improvements on the primary ballot in March instead of the general election ballot in November. He noted that the Senate is considering a state bond referendum for school construction in 2018. He is concerned that the public may think the state bond would cover all of the district's needs, and therefore might not support a local bond. If there is a state bond referendum, Transylvania County Schools' portion would be only \$1.7 million, which is less than 2% of the \$93 million in identified needs. The board discussed the pros and cons of having a bond referendum on the primary ballot versus the general ballot. Chairman McCoy recommended that the superintendent research voter data trends and explore the commissioners' potential support for putting a referendum on the primary ballot. She also recommended that the board have a special work session in July to further discuss.

14. Superintendent's Update

Dr. McDaris gave the following updates:

- Transylvania County Schools, along with six other school systems, has been notified that it is no longer eligible to receive the Rural Low Income Schools (RLIS) Grant. This comes as a surprise. Apparently, the change was made based on 2000 census data. The new language states that if any one school in an LEA is within 10 miles proximity of an urbanized city or cluster, no school in the system can qualify for the grant. The threshold for an urban city is 2500 people, which would seem to disqualify the majority of school districts in the region from RLIS funding. However, 55 districts statewide still qualify. In our region, for example, Rutherford County still qualifies, even though the population of three cities in Rutherford County are over 2500, and Forest City is about the size of Brevard. It also appears that Lee County still qualifies, and Sanford has a population of 29,000 and several large industries. Conversely, Polk County no longer qualifies either. Transylvania County Schools has used the RLIS grant to fund a social worker position that is greatly needed for our population, particularly in the upper rural areas of the county. Further clarification is being sought on this matter.
- Transylvania will host the NCDPI Digital Learning DLC Summer Summit for the Western Region on August 3, 2017 at Brevard High School. The summit is timely because the State Board of Education has just approved two Digital Learning Competency CEUs for teachers as part of licensure renewal requirements. The new requirement will go into effect for teachers with licenses expiring on or after June 30, 2019.
- Now that the House and Senate budgets are both out, conferees from both chambers will try to reach consensus on the differences. Both budgets contain things that are concerning for traditional public schools.

Mr. Griffin asked why teachers must now pay to renew their professional licenses. Dr. McDaris reported that several licensure fee changes were made by the State Board of Education (SBE) effective January 1, 2017. The majority of the changes included increased fees for licensure processes. Prior to the recent change by the SBE, there was no fee for licensure renewals.

15. Important Dates

Dr. McDaris gave a reminder that the board will resume its once-a-month meeting schedule in July. He recommended the board consider canceling the June 19 meeting

since two board members will be out of town. Chairman McCoy recommended scheduling a special work session in July in lieu of the June 19 meeting. There were no objections, and ON A MOTION BY MR. GRIFFIN, SECONDED BY MR. KIVINIEMI, the regular meeting of June 19, 2017 was unanimously canceled. Ms. Hunter will poll members regarding a date for the work session.

| | |
|------------|---|
| June 6 | Transportation Banquet, 6:00 p.m., MEC |
| June 9 | Last pupil day - 12 noon dismissal |
| June 9 | Davidson River School Graduation, 10:00 a.m., DRS Lawn |
| June 9 | Brevard High School Graduation, 6:00 p.m., Music Center |
| June 10 | Rosman High School Graduation, 10:00 a.m., Music Center |
| June 12-16 | Teacher workdays |
| June 19 | 4-day summer schedule begins |
| July 4 | Independence Day holiday |
| July 17 | REGULAR MEETING, 6:30 p.m., MEC |

16. **Public Comment**
None

17. **Other Items**
Dr. McDaris thanked Officer Kelly for attending the meeting.

Chairman McCoy noted that all four elementary schools have now adopted themes that set them apart and show how much the school system has to offer. Mrs. Wellborn observed that the elementary schools are the beginning point of marketing to parents. Board members commended the exciting new opportunities being offered.

Mr. Griffin thanked the board and the schools for their continued support of children year round.

Mr. Kiviniemi informed the board that he would not be able to attend the high school graduations this year due to family obligations out of town.

There was no further business, and ON A MOTION BY MR. GRIFFIN, SECONDED BY MRS. WELLBORN, the meeting was adjourned at 8:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chairman

Secretary

**PERSONNEL REPORT
June 5, 2017**

I. ACCEPT THE REPORT OF RESIGNATIONS/TERMINATIONS ACCEPTED/INITIATED BY THE SUPERINTENDENT FROM/FOR THE FOLLOWING PERSONS:

Licensed Personnel

Sara Cannon, Teacher, PFES, effective July 1, 2017
Laura Denton-Russo, Teacher, RES, effective June 16, 2017
Thomas Fred Whitman, Teacher, RHS, effective June 30, 2017

Classified Personnel

Gail Briscoe, Teacher Assistant, BES, effective June 14, 2017
Ronnie English, Custodian, RMS & RHS, effective July 31, 2017

II. APPROVE THE EMPLOYMENT RECOMMENDATIONS MADE BY THE SUPERINTENDENT FOR THE FOLLOWING PERSONS:

Licensed Personnel

Tenesha Abernethy, Teacher, PFES, effective August 17, 2017
Elizabeth Berteotti, Media Coordinator, TCHES, effective August 17, 2017
Lyndsey Falls, Teacher, PFES, effective August 17, 2017
Kerianne Hartell, Teacher, PFES, effective August 17, 2017
Kelsey Hiatt, Teacher, BES, effective August 17, 2017
April Nelson, Teacher, BMS, effective August 17, 2017
Patricia Roman, Interim Teacher, RES, effective November 20, 2017

Classified Personnel

Jason Janco, Teacher Assistant, DRS, effective August 18, 2017

III. ACCEPT THE REPORT OF TRANSFER OF ASSIGNMENT MADE BY THE SUPERINTENDENT FOR THE FOLLOWING PERSONS:

Licensed Personnel

Michelle Boudreau, from Teacher, PFES, to Teacher, TCHES, effective August 17, 2017
Renee Compton, from Teacher, RMS, to Teacher, BES, effective August 17, 2017
Kelley Eyster, from Teacher, DRS, to Teacher, RMS, effective August 17, 2017
Melissa McKinnon, from Teacher, RMS, to Teacher, BMS, effective August 17, 2017
Carrie Norris, from Instructional Coach, BES, to Assistant Principal, BHS, effective July 3, 2017
Jennifer Speckman, from Teacher, TCHES, to Teacher, DRS, effective August 17, 2017
Bridgette Whitlock, from Teacher, RHS, to Instructional Technology Facilitator, MEC, effective August 17, 2017

Classified Personnel

None

IV. APPROVE THE LEAVES OF ABSENCE RECOMMENDED BY THE SUPERINTENDENT FOR THE FOLLOWING PERSONS:

Licensed Personnel

Katie Bland, Teacher, PFES, family leave (BOE policy code 7510, effective for the 2017-2018 school year)

Classified Personnel

None

- V. APPROVE THE SUPERINTENDENT'S RECOMMENDATION FOR THE FOLLOWING
SUBSTITUTE EMPLOYEES:

Substitute Teachers

Patricia Roman

Substitute School Nutrition Workers

None

TRANSYLVANIA COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

INTERIM BUDGET RESOLUTION

2017-2018

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TRANSYLVANIA COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION that interim appropriations be made available for the purpose of paying salaries and the usual and customary expenses of the Transylvania County Schools for the period beginning July 1, 2017 until adoption of the 2017-2018 Budget Resolution. Interim appropriations so made and expended shall be charged to the proper appropriations in the Budget Resolution.

Passed by majority vote of the Transylvania County Board of Education on the 5th day of June 2017.


Chairman


Secretary