

**Minutes
Transylvania County Board of Education
June 6, 2011**

INVOCATION/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME

BUSINESS ITEMS

1. Approval of Agenda
2. Public Comment
3. Good News Report
4. Former Students in the Military
5. Closed Session (Personnel)
6. Consent Agenda:
 - A. Minutes
 - B. Personnel Report
7. Resolution Approving Modifications for CTE Facility Financing
8. Staff Wellness Report
9. CTE Plan 2011-2012
10. Student Handbooks 2011-2012
11. Important Dates
12. Other Items
13. Public Comment

The Transylvania County Board of Education met in regular session at 6:30 p.m. on June 6, 2011, at the Morris Education Center. Present were Chris Whitmire, Chair; Tawny McCoy, Vice Chair; Sue Fox; Shelia Norman; and Cindy Petit. Also present were Dr. Jeff McDaris, Superintendent; Jenny Hunter, Administrative Assistant; David Sutton, Director of Human Resources; Alan Justice, Director of Transportation, Safe Schools & Athletics; Dr. Scott Elliott, Director of 9-12 Education; John Lanier, *Transylvania Times*; Chris Mosser, School Resource Officer; and one guest. Mrs. Fox gave the invocation and Mr. Whitmire led the Pledge of Allegiance. Chairman Whitmire welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order.

1. Approval of Agenda

ON A MOTION BY MRS. FOX, SECONDED BY MRS. NORMAN, the meeting agenda for June 6, 2011 was approved as presented.

2. Public Comment

Commissioner Larry Chapman, speaking as private citizen, said he wanted to respond to an accusation that he does not care about education because he does not have kids in school. He stated that he has a granddaughter at PFES, and he does care about education. He gave the Board a DVD of the documentary, *Waiting for Superman*, and other handouts. He recommended the documentary as an informative portrayal of the failure of public schools at the state and national level. He stated that he supports public education, "but we have to do it right."

3. Good News Report

Dr. McDaris recognized the student artwork that was on display in the board room. He reported the following items:

JCPC HELPS PROJECT REBOUND

Recently, the Juvenile Crime Prevention Council (JCPC), which helps fund Project Rebound at Davidson River School, allocated \$2,500 to help with classroom

materials and supplies for students in the Project Rebound program. This allocation is in addition to the \$47,935 grant already provided for the year. Project Rebound is taught by Marilyn Edie and Coach David Siniard.

PISGAH FOREST ROTARY CLUB SCHOLARSHIP

Davidson River School recently received \$300 in scholarship money from the Pisgah Forest Rotary Club. The scholarship will be awarded to one of the 21+ seniors at the DRS graduation ceremony on June 10. Many thanks go to the Pisgah Forest Rotary Club.

RIVER OF KNOWLEDGE FUND

Davidson River School is the recipient of donations to the *River of Knowledge Fund*, a fund established by an anonymous community donor to benefit the students at DRS. Donations awarded to DRS from the fund to date total over \$350. Donations may be sent to *River of Knowledge Fund*, P.O. Box 1585, Pisgah Forest, NC 28768. All donations go exclusively to DRS for student needs.

FRESH FRUIT AND VEGETABLE PROGRAM

TCS is proud to announce that all four elementary schools will once again participate in the USDA Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program (FF&VP) for the 2011-2012 school year. North Carolina received approximately \$4 million as its FF&VP allocation for 2011-2012. One-hundred seventy elementary schools were selected for the program, which is an all-time high. The FF&VP provides a fresh fruit or vegetable snack to each child during the school day. Students are introduced to new and exciting foods and reap the benefits of healthier snacks. Each school has worked out a schedule with teachers, students and staff to provide the snacks in an easy and time-efficient manner. "We are very excited to offer this program again for the 2011-2012 year!" states Carolyn Barton, Director of Child Nutrition.

YMCA CAMP GREENVILLE VISITS TCHES

Recently the YMCA Camp Greenville staff visited T. C. Henderson Elementary School and gave a demonstration of life in the 1800's. Students explored their heritage through demonstrations of cooking, cleaning, clothes making, and games.

CAREER DAY AT CAMP KEYSTONE

Last week the sixth grade at Brevard Middle School visited Camp Keystone for Career Day. Students learned different skills such as pottery, painting, candle making, forestry, and storytelling. They also watched a demonstration of butter-making.

Battle of the Books

Pisgah Forest Elementary School won the Battle of the Books championship title following three rounds of tournament play against Brevard Elementary and T. C. Henderson. The PFES team did not miss a single question or rebound question. Students were questioned on twelve novels they had read throughout the year. This is the fifth year for the tournament.

National Honor Society

On May 25, the Brevard High School National Honor Society inducted twelve new members for the 2011-2012 year. These new inductees will join the returning members in giving back to the community through participation in tutoring and independent service projects.

4. **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. Dr. McDaris reported that no new names had been added to the list.

5 **Closed Session**

ON A MOTION BY MRS. MCCOY, SECONDED BY MRS. NORMAN, the Board went into closed session at 6:45 p.m. to discuss confidential personnel information, pursuant to N.C.G.S. 143-318.11(a)(1) and 115C-319-321. Present in the closed session were Mr. Whitmire, Mrs. McCoy, Mrs. Fox, Mrs. Norman, Mrs. Petit, Mr. Sutton, and Dr. McDaris. ON A MOTION BY MRS. FOX, SECONDED BY MRS. MCCOY, the Board reconvened in open session at 7:20 p.m. No action was taken in the closed session.

6. **Consent Agenda**

ON A MOTION BY MRS. PETIT, SECONDED BY MRS. MCCOY, the minutes from the May 9, 2011 meeting and the revised personnel report for June 6, 2011 were unanimously approved.

7. **Resolution for CTE Financing**

Dr. McDaris presented a resolution approving modifications for the Rosman CTE facility financing agreement. He explained that the modifications are needed to update the agreement due to a slight change from what was recorded in the original documents. He reported that the bid opening for the CTE project is scheduled for June 29. The Board tabled action on the resolution until later in the meeting in order to attempt to reach Mr. Barger by phone.

8. **Staff Wellness Report**

Alan Justice gave a report on the Healthy, Active, Caring Schools Policy and Wellness Plan for 2010-2011. The School Health Advisory Council achieved all of its goals for the year. Thanks to the partnership with the Transylvania County Sheriff's Department, the DARE program will be expanded to RMS next year. Next year will see moodles (online training) for teachers regarding bullying. Some updates will be made to the bloodborne pathogens policy, following two safety incidents that occurred this year--a needle stick and a biting incident. Implementation of the new student reproductive health and safety program went well. Over 1800 students received vision exams at schools and 308 were referred for further testing. Dental screenings via the SMILE bus were a big hit. Random drug testing was performed on more than 300 high school students, with 9 positive results--all for marijuana. The Learning Library from ASU will be available as a resource to expand physical education courses. Areas of concern are the need for more staff to be trained in first aid and CPR, and continuing efforts to address student Body Mass Index (BMI) and childhood obesity issues. The SPARK program in PE classes K-6 is very effective in getting students to move more. One of the Health Advisory goals for next year will be to address concerns regarding new, synthetic drugs that have been appearing in local communities. Mr. Justice gave a special commendation to the school nurses for all that they do.

9. **CTE Plan 2011-2012**

ON A MOTION BY MRS. MCCOY, SECONDED BY MRS. FOX, the CTE Plan for 2011-2012 was unanimously approved as submitted.

10. Student Handbooks 2011-2012

Dr. Elliott presented revisions to the 2011-2012 student handbooks based on discussion from the May 23 meeting. Under the section regarding fighting (high school), new language was added that reads, "Principals will consult School Resource Officers and offenders may be charged," and "Parents will be encouraged to meet with the School Resource Officer to discuss the consequences of any possible criminal charges." Mr. Whitmire suggested a review of student discipline policies at the June 20 board meeting. Dr. McDaris recommended waiting, since legislation is currently pending which would impact all student discipline policies. Dr. Elliott suggested that he, two board members, two principals and an SRO meet to discuss further clarifications to local policies and procedures. Board members agreed with this idea. ON A MOTION BY MRS. FOX, SECONDED BY MRS. NORMAN, the student handbooks for 2011-2012 were unanimously approved as revised.

11. Important Dates

June 7	Bus Driver Banquet, 6:00 p.m., Old Hickory House Restaurant
June 10	DRS Graduation, 1:00 p.m., DRS
June 10	BHS Graduation, 6:00 p.m., Brevard Music Center
June 11	RHS Graduation, 10:00 a.m., Brevard Music Center
June 14	Last pupil day; early dismissal at 1:00 p.m.
June 15, 16	Teacher workdays
June 16	CTE Luncheon, 12:00 noon, BHS CTE wing
June 20	Begin 4-day summer schedule
June 20	REGULAR MEETING, Retiree Recognition, 6:30 p.m., MEC
July 4	Holiday
July 18*	REGULAR MEETING, 6:30 p.m., MEC

*In July, the Board meeting schedule changes from two regular meetings per month (February through June) to one regular meeting per month (July through January).

Mrs. Norman asked about pending budget legislation to add five student days to the school calendar. Dr. McDaris reported that if approved, the change would be effective with the 2011-2012 school year. The five extra days would replace five existing teacher workdays. Transylvania's start date of August 15 would not change due to our waiver, but the school year could be extended into June depending on how the extra days are configured in the calendar. He noted that the extra days would increase school bus and cafeteria operating costs, and the state is unlikely to provide funds to offset the additional expense. Transportation budgets have already been cut and fuel reimbursement rates have been set at \$2.71 per gallon. Dr. McDaris stated that he believes additional days would be good for student learning; however, he is concerned that 1) the proposed change came without warning at the eleventh hour, and 2) removal of five workdays will further restrict teachers' professional development opportunities.

12. Other Items

Chairman Whitmire reported that the North Carolina School Boards Association has asked local boards to participate in a short survey to gather input for their strategic plan. Board members answered the following survey questions from NCSBA:

- A. Looking at outside influences on public education and school boards, what opportunities can your board identify in the years to come? *Need a stronger public awareness campaign to counter the pervasive wave of negativism toward public education that exists today.*

- B. Looking at outside influences on public education and school boards, what threats can your board identify in the years to come? *Future legislation and limited resources. Unfunded mandates (state and federal) have not changed and continue to increase, while resources continue to dwindle.*
- C. What strengths do you believe NCSBA has in relation to the opportunities and threats identified above? *NCSBA is organized to be a single, consolidated voice for 115 LEAs across the state. It is our connector and advocate for local control. Strategic planning is a strength also.*
- D. What weaknesses do you believe NCSBA has in relation to the opportunities and threats identified above? *NCSBA has been targeted by state legislators in an attempt to eliminate funding.*
- E. Other thoughts? *Ongoing frustration with a long, drawn-out and backward budget process--especially receiving last-minute information from the state that is dramatically different from anything that has been discussed previously.*

A conference call was held with Mr. Barger in which he explained that the resolution to modify the CTE agreement was merely paperwork required by the bank. ON A MOTION BY MRS. MCCOY, SECONDED BY MRS. NORMAN, the Board approved the resolution modifying the Rosman CTE facility financing agreement as submitted. Mr. Barger reported that a pre-bid conference on the CTE project is scheduled for June 22 in Rosman. Bids will be opened on June 29. If all goes well, work would begin after the Board accepts a bid at its next regular meeting on July 18. Mr. Whitmire suggested having a special meeting to approve the bids in early July in order to expedite the process. Possible dates were discussed. Mr. Barger noted that he would need a day or two after the bids are received to check references before making a recommendation to the Board. Mrs. McCoy recommended that the Board discuss the matter further at the June 20 meeting.

Chairman Whitmire mentioned a video from the Chamber of Commerce that he may want to present at a future meeting.

Mrs. McCoy requested an update on the letter of concern regarding the sale of alcoholic beverages near Rosman High School. Dr. McDaris reported he has sent the letter to the alcohol licensing board on behalf of the Board. Members will receive copies.

Chairman Whitmire thanked the Board members for their hard work and endurance during this trying budget season. He commended Dr. McDaris for his stirring words at the commissioners' budget workshop on June 2, and reported that the commissioners voted 4:1 to provide funding that would allow educational programs to continue. Mrs. Norman and expressed her thanks to Dr. McDaris and Mr. Whitmire for their leadership and cool heads. Dr. McDaris thanked everyone for the team effort. Mr. Whitmire commended Mr. Lanier for his excellent news reporting.

13. Public Comment None.

There was no further business, and ON A MOTION BY MRS. FOX, SECONDED BY MRS. NORMAN, the meeting was adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

June 6, 2011

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Respectfully submitted,

Chairman

Secretary

**PERSONNEL REPORT
6/06/11**

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

Licensed Personnel
None

Classified Personnel
None

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

Licensed Personnel
Chad Hamby, Assistant Principal, BHS, effective July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2013

Classified Personnel
None

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

Licensed Personnel
Crystal Whitman, from Teacher, RES, to Lead Teacher, RES, effective July 1, 2011

Classified Personnel
None

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

Licensed Personnel
None

Classified Personnel
None

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

Substitute Teachers
Deborah Cooper

Substitute Child Nutrition Workers
Kristen Roberts

The administrators named here are recommended for renewal of their contracts:

Mike Bailey, four-year contract, effective July 1, 2011, through June 30, 2015
Tammy Bellefeuil, four-year contract, effective July 1, 2011, through June 30, 2015
Arleca Chapman, four-year contract, effective July 1, 2011, through June 30, 2015
Kim Elliott, four-year contract, effective July 1, 2011, through June 30, 2015
Scott Elliott, four-year contract, effective July 1, 2011, through June 30, 2015
Dony's Merrill, four-year contract, effective July 1, 2011, through June 30, 2015
Donna Wilde, four-year contract, effective July 1, 2011, through June 30, 2015

The licensed employees named here are recommended for election to career status:

Jeff Bailey, Teacher and Coach, BHS
Mark Bumgarner, Teacher and Coach, BES
Linda Carrillo, Teacher, RMS
Marlene Cronin, Teacher, BES
Patrick Davis, Teacher, BHS
Marie Dean, Lead Teacher, PFES
Jennifer Galloway, Teacher and Coach, TCH
Sally Germanaro, Teacher, PFES
Michael Ginnane, Teacher, BHS
Maura Goodrich, Teacher, RHS
Derrick Huggins, Teacher and Coach, RES
Keri Mann, Teacher, RES
Mark McCann, Teacher, BHS
Julie Nederveld, Teacher, RES
Shannon Patton, Teacher, RHS
Kathy Purdy, Teacher, BES & TCH
Melissa Redden, Teacher, BES
Stacey Seefeldt, Counselor, BHS
Sarah Shawver, Counselor, RHS
Erik Wahus, Teacher, BHS
Eve Walker, Teacher, PFES
Bridgette Whitlock, Teacher, BHS
Cathy Zandecki, Teacher, BMS

The licensed employees named here are recommended for a one-year renewal of their probationary contracts:

Ashton Barton, Teacher, RMS
Allison Baum, Teacher, BMS
Peggy Bayne, Media Coordinator, RES
Sharon Bentley, Part-time Speech-Language Pathologist, BES
Beth Branagan, Social Worker, DRS
Christy Bryson, Teacher, RHS
Tamira Carbuhn, Teacher, BES & PFES
Kathy Carr, Teacher, RHS
Luanna Carter, Career Development Coordinator, BHS
Kristi Clark, Teacher, PFES
Keisha Dawalt, Teacher, PFES
Clare Desmelik, Teacher, BHS

Jessica Edney, Teacher, BHS
Carrie Elmore, Teacher, BHS
Kelley Eyster, Teacher, BMS
Ami Fish, Counselor, RES & TCH
Katie Gray, Teacher, BMS
Amanda Griffin, Teacher, RMS
Meredith Guice, Teacher, BES
Jane Hamilton, Teacher, PFES
Adria Hardy, Teacher, BHS
Dan Harris, Teacher, BHS
Kristy Hasman, Teacher, RMS
Sharon Hedgepeth, Teacher, BES
Trina Hendricks, Teacher, BHS
Kelly Hooper, Teacher & Coach, RMS & RHS
Holly Jones, Teacher, RHS
Sarah Kipp, Teacher, BHS
Jessica Levesque, Part-time Teacher, DRS
Courtney Mackey, Teacher, PFES
Jennifer McCall, Teacher, RMS
Shellah Dolly McCall, Teacher, BHS
Stephanie McCall, Teacher, RES
John McDaris, Teacher & Coach, BHS
Connie McGaha, Teacher, BES
Jackie Miller, Teacher, BES
Dustin Morgan, Teacher, RMS
Heidi Morgan, Teacher & Coach, BHS
Tammy Morris, Teacher, BES
Thomas Nordmann, Teacher, BES
Claire Olinik, Teacher, RMS & RHS
Brooks Owenby, Teacher, BHS
Scott Phelps, Media Coordinator, TCH
Megan Robertson, Teacher, RES
Dusty Robinson, Teacher & Coach, RHS
Katrina Ronneburger, Teacher, BHS
Betty Scruggs, Part-time Teacher, BES
Sara Seagraves, Teacher, BHS
Srah Shawver, Counselor, RHS
Angela Shiflet, Teacher, PFES
Debora Smith, Teacher, PFES
Rivers Smith, Teacher, BMS
Lisa Smith, Teacher, BMS
Brooke Snipes, Teacher, PFES
Heidi Spradlin, Teacher, BMS
Kevin Spradlin, Teacher, BHS
Aaron Whitmire, Teacher, RMS & RHS
Ashley Witt, Counselor, PFES
Matthew Witt, Teacher & Coach, RHS