

Minutes
Transylvania County Board of Education
June 17, 2013

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. Consent Agenda:
 - A. Minutes
 - B. Personnel Report
6. LEA Data Profile 2011-2012
7. CTE Plan for 2013-2014
8. Student Handbook Updates for 2013-2014
9. FY14 Budget Update and Options
10. FY14 Interim Budget Resolution
11. Important Dates
12. Public Comment
13. Other Items

The Transylvania County Board of Education met in regular session at 6:30 p.m. on June 17, 2013 at the Morris Education Center. Members Tawny McCoy, Chair; Cindy Petit, Vice Chair; Sue Fox; Ron Kiviniemi and Mike Rogers were in attendance. Also present were Dr. Jeff McDaris, Superintendent; Jenny Hunter, Administrative Assistant; Norris Barger, Director of Business Services; Dr. Scott Elliott, Assistant Superintendent; Officer Brian Barton; Jeremiah Reed, *Transylvania Times*; Nancy Tanker, *Hendersonville Times-News*, Meredith Licht, TCAE; and two guests. Mrs. Fox led in a moment of silence and Mr. Rogers led the Pledge of Allegiance. Chairman McCoy welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order.

1. Approval of Agenda

ON A MOTION BY MRS. FOX, SECONDED BY MR. ROGERS, the meeting agenda for June 17, 2013 was approved as presented.

2. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

3. Good News Report

Dr. McDaris reported the following items:

ALUMNI GAME

An overflow crowd packed into the Rosman High School stadium to cheer on their favorite teams at the BHS v. RHS Alumni Game that was held on Saturday, June 8, 2013. Proceeds from the advance ticket sales will go to benefit the RHS and BHS booster organizations.

BREVARD PHILHARMONIC CONCERT

The Brevard Philharmonic Orchestra will present selections from *Peter and the Wolf* to TCS fifth graders on March 6, 2014 at the Porter Center on the campus of Brevard College. The concert will feature artists as well as musicians performing on stage.

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. There were no new names on the list.

5. **Consent Agenda**

ON A MOTION BY MRS. PETIT, SECONDED BY MR. KIVINIEMI, the minutes from the May 14 and June 3, 2013 meetings and the personnel report for June 17, 2013 (see attached) were unanimously approved.

6. **LEA Data Profile for 2011-2012**

Dr. McDaris reported that the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act (IDEA) requires the Department of Public Instruction to monitor LEAs on a regular basis to ensure compliance with state and federal laws and regulations that govern the provision of special education services to appropriately identified children. Per state reporting requirements, the LEA Data Profile for Students with Disabilities for Transylvania County Schools for 2011-2012 was presented and reviewed. Dr. McDaris reported that the state's data profile reflects a one-year time lag. He noted that the numbers shown in red on the report reflect corrections to the data that was compiled by the state. He reported that students with disabilities have the option to stay in school until the age of 22. With the scarcity of available jobs locally, more special needs students are choosing this option. The Board also received as information the draft Continuous Improvement Performance Plan (CIPP) for 2013.

7. **CTE Plan for 2013-2014**

On June 3, Dr. Scott Elliott presented the Career and Technical Education (CTE) plan for 2013-2014. Dr. Elliott reported that he had made some revisions to the plan based on feedback from the last meeting. He recognized Mr. Lee McMinn who wrote a series of articles highlighting the CTE program for the *Transylvania Times*.

Mr. Rogers observed that Dr. Elliott has a very full plate serving on a number of local and regional CTE boards and related committees in addition to all of his other duties. He thanked Dr. Elliott for his diligence and hard work with CTE and expressed hope that some help could be forthcoming.

Mr. Rogers expressed concerns about the impact of standardized training and credentialing requirements on CTE curricula. Dr. Elliott reported that the trend toward industry credentialing through NCCER (National Center for Construction Education) and other agencies has come about in recent years because DPI lacks the necessary expertise in certain CTE areas and is relying on third-party curriculum. Dr. McDaris added that often state curriculum is shaped by what is happening in large metropolitan districts, resulting in changes that can adversely affect small, rural districts by limiting their local flexibility to offer programs such as Live Project. Mr. Rogers stated that he hated to see state requirements restrict students from receiving the hands-on training that would allow them to go directly into the job market. Chairman McCoy stated that she shares these concerns. ON A MOTION BY MRS. FOX, SECONDED BY MR. ROGERS, the Career and Technical Education Plan for 2013-2014 was unanimously approved.

8. **Student Handbook Updates for 2013-2014**

Dr. Scott Elliott presented updates to the elementary and high school student handbooks for 2013-2014. He reported there were no substantive changes to the middle school

handbook. In the elementary handbook, two new additions were the standardization of beginning and ending times for all four elementary schools and the elimination of social promotion in third grade reading. Dr. Elliott gave a reminder that the state now requires third graders who do not pass the third grade reading EOG to attend summer reading camp. Mr. Kiviniemi stated that as a former principal, he has grave concerns about the negative effects of retentions. Dr. McDaris noted that statistically students who are retained are more likely to eventually drop out of school.

Dr. Elliott reported that the high school handbook has added a requirement that a student must meet all academic and attendance standards for graduation in order to participate in the commencement exercises. Dr. Elliott explained that this requirement has always been in place, but has not been written into the handbooks until now.

Mrs. Petit stated that she had heard from a number of students, parents and teachers who had concerns about EOC scores counting 25% of a student's grade. Dr. Elliott agreed that there was much uncertainty among students and teachers this year about transitioning to the new common exams, especially as the common exams will become the new metrics for teacher and principal evaluations. He reported that TCS made a decision to curve the common test scores up this first year of implementation in order to hold students harmless yet still be accountable for the results.

Mr. Rogers requested an update on EOG scores for grades 3-8. Dr. Elliott reported that the 2012-2013 scores for 3-8 EOGs would be delayed until September or October in order for all scores to be normed and scaled by the state. In the meantime, students have received grades and transcripts based on promotion criteria such as teacher standards and attendance.

There were no other questions or concerns, and the handbooks for 2013-2014 will be submitted to the printers.

9. **FY14 Budget Update and Options**

Dr. McDaris reported that on May 30, the Board of Commissioners had voted 3:2 in favor of the Board of Education's increase of \$509,333 in local current expense funding and \$1.6 million in capital outlay funding, which is a decrease of \$200,000 from the requested \$1.8 million. The commissioners also recommended a 4.2 cent property tax increase. A public hearing on the county's budget for the 2013-2014 year has been scheduled for June 24.

Dr. McDaris and Mr. Barger reported that the House budget proposal has been released and although more favorable than the Senate version, it does include areas of concern. One concern for public schools is funding for "opportunity scholarships" (i.e., school vouchers). Another concern is the postponement of any changes to the small school funding formula until 2014-2015.

Dr. McDaris reported that like the Senate budget, the House budget proposal includes cuts to teacher assistant positions. Mr. Barger reported that whether or not we can absorb those cuts without losing assistant positions will depend on the flexibility of the discretionary reduction. If the state keeps the discretionary reduction in place, he may be able to trade out funding in other areas to save positions. Mr. Barger added that because neither the House nor the Senate proposal contains a pay increase for state employees, the \$75,000 in local funding that was earmarked for a possible 2% cost-of-living increase may be put toward teacher assistant positions if necessary. Dr. McDaris

discussed the importance of teacher assistants in this county and commented on the short-sightedness of state legislation that tries to make teachers more accountable for student performance while cutting funding for teacher assistant positions and raising class sizes.

Mr. Barger reviewed changes to the Board's capital outlay priority list based on the proposed allocation of \$1.6 million. He reported that he had combined the Education Center rear paving project with the Bus Garage paving project, resulting in a total cost that was approximately \$5,000 less than expected. He noted that the BES shingling project and the RES doors are expected to come in under budget as well. Mr. Barger reported that he had also moved the additional front door security for TCH from FY14 to FY15 based on the placement of a full-time SRO at the school. By incorporating these and other changes and appropriating approximately \$182,000 in capital outlay, Mr. Barger stated that he was able to keep some version of each of the top priority items that were included in the original \$1.8 million request.

Mr. Kiviniemi stated that he would still like to see the extra TCH front door security done even if it means dipping further into capital outlay. Mr. Barger stated that it is his goal to bid all of the schools' front door security systems as one package in order to get a better price and hopefully have funds left over for TCH. He does not anticipate having all of the security systems done before school starts, as he needs time to visit other campuses in order to research and evaluate the best options to meet our needs.

Mr. Petit asked about lightning strikes and outdoor security cameras. Mr. Barger reported that all outdoor cameras are at risk from lightning; however, most of the new cameras will be in protected areas and therefore less vulnerable.

Mr. Rogers requested an update on the BES front office project. Mr. Barger reported that Padgett & Freeman Architects are working on drawings and should have preliminary plans ready for review soon. The goal is to begin work in late summer and finish by the end of September. He reported that temporary changes to the student drop-off area may be needed while construction is going on. In terms of bids, Mr. Barger reported that any project over \$90,000 must be advertised. He feels there could be several local firms interested in bidding on the project.

Mr. Barger gave updates on the BMS traffic pattern, BHS auditorium and DRS door projects. Each of the projects is proceeding well.

Mrs. McCoy and Mr. Rogers requested an update for the next meeting on the status of capital outlay projects that were budgeted in FY13. They indicated that they would like to address questions from commissioners regarding recurring expenses and funding for the projects that extend over more than one year. Mr. Rogers expressed appreciation to Dr. McDaris for keeping communication lines open with the county manager regarding budget questions.

Mr. Barger presented a proposal for improvements to the stadium lighting at Brevard High School. He explained that the current lighting has become a safety hazard, noting that lights went out twice during games last year due to excessive heat from the old wiring. Mr. Barger presented a five-year lease purchase proposal and joint resolution from Musco Sports Lighting that would give the school new lights, new wiring, new poles, a new breaker panel, and a computerized control system, plus a 25-year warranty on repairs and two guaranteed total re-lamps over the 25 year period. The total cost of the

proposed lease purchase agreement would be \$167,682.50, with five annual payments of \$37,689.64. He reported that the lease purchase agreement would require the adoption of a joint resolution by the Board of Education and the Board of Commissioners to enter into a continuing contract for the project. Mr. Barger reported that Musco had provided a similar lighting package for the RHS stadium several years ago. He stated that if the Board agrees, the county manager has agreed to place the joint resolution on the Board of Commissioners' agenda for July 8. Mr. Barger noted that approval would be needed by July 19 in order to get the lights finished in time for the first football game on August 16. He also indicated that there may be additional bidders for the lighting project.

Mrs. McCoy requested clarification regarding how this project is reflected in the FY14 capital outlay plan. Mr. Barger explained that the \$74,600 shown for the BHS football field lighting upgrade reflects the first two of five payments (\$37,300 in FY14 and \$37,300 in FY15).

Mr. Rogers confirmed that the lighting upgrades are a necessity. Mr. Barger added that the proposal would greatly improve the stadium lighting patterns and also save money, estimating that the cost to replace just the wiring, panels and lamps alone would be approximately \$100,000. The lease purchase proposal provides a 25-year guarantee with no other expense beyond the five lease payments. Mr. Kiviniemi asked whether the Board had used this type of arrangement before. Mr. Barger replied in the affirmative, noting that the school system currently uses lease agreements for all of its copiers.

MR. KIVINIEMI MADE A MOTION, SECONDED BY MRS. FOX, to adopt the joint resolution for the purchase and installation of stadium lighting at Brevard High School. During discussion, Chairman McCoy recommended that since there may be more bidders and the Board would not be meeting again before July 8, that the company name and amount be left blank in the joint resolution. MR. ROGERS MADE A MOTION to amend the joint resolution to read that the project will not exceed 167,682.50 and will be financed by a party to be determined by bid process. MRS. FOX SECONDED THE MOTION. The Board voted unanimously to approve the joint resolution as amended for the purchase and installation of stadium lighting at Brevard High School (see attached). Mr. Rogers asked about the old light poles. Mr. Barger stated that it is his understanding that the old poles would be the school's to keep.

10. FY14 Interim Budget Resolution

Dr. McDaris reported that the interim budget resolution that is presented each June allows the school system to pay salaries and normal operating expenses after June 30 until the adoption of the final budget resolution for the new fiscal year beginning July 1. ON A MOTION BY MR. ROGERS, SECONDED BY MRS. PETIT, the interim budget resolution for 2013-2014 was unanimously approved (see attached).

11. Important Dates

July 4	Holiday
July 15	REGULAR MEETING, 6:30 p.m., MEC
Aug. 5-6	Administrators' Retreat, TBA, Rogow Room
Aug. 7-8	New Teacher Orientation, TBA, Rogow Room
Aug. 12	Resume regular schedule
Aug. 12-16	Teacher Workdays
Aug. 15	Elementary "Meet the Teacher" Night, 4-6 p.m., BES, PFES, RES, TCH

Aug. 19 First Student Day
Aug. 19 REGULAR MEETING, 6:30 p.m. MEC

12. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

13. Other Items

Dr. McDaris informed the Board that he has been summoned for jury duty the week of July 8-12, 2013.

Chairman McCoy noted that recent personnel reports have brought some sadness due to the resignations of personnel. Dr. McDaris remarked that Transylvania County Schools has always been blessed with a wealth of talent, and often that talent attracts bigger school systems to come calling. On behalf of the Board, Dr. McDaris wished the very best to those individuals who are leaving the Transylvania County Schools in order to pursue new career advancements and opportunities elsewhere. They will be missed.

Mr. Rogers reported that the first round of principal interviews that were held at Brevard Elementary School earlier that day had gone well.

There was no further business, and ON A MOTION BY MRS. FOX, SECONDED BY MR. KIVINIEMI, the meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chairman

Secretary

**PERSONNEL REPORT
June 17, 2013**

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

Licensed Personnel

Kati Swinney, Teacher, RMS & RHS, effective June 17, 2013
Dr. David Sutton, Executive Director, TCS, effective June 30, 2013

Classified Personnel

None

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

Licensed Personnel

Aimee Adams, Teacher, BHS, effective August 12, 2013
Corey Cunningham, Teacher & Coach, BHS, effective August 12, 2013
Meaghan Dolan, School Counselor, BHS, effective August 12, 2013
Michael Drake, Teacher, BMS, effective August 12, 2013
Joshua Galloway, Teacher and Coach, RMS & RHS, effective August 12, 2013
Brandy Glendening, Teacher, RMS, effective August 12, 2013
Frances Gregory, Part-Time Literacy Specialist, TCH, effective August 12, 2013
Chelsea Lambert, Teacher, BMS, effective August 12, 2013
Regan Mimken, Teacher, BES, effective August 12, 2013
Kasey Queen, Teacher, RES, effective August 12, 2013
Daniel Sprinkle, Teacher, BMS, effective August 12, 2013
George Sutherland, Interim Teacher, BMS, effective August 12, 2013
Stefanie Tomlin, Teacher, BES & PFES, effective August 12, 2013
Lewis Whiteside, Teacher, BMS, effective August 12, 2013
Hanna Woody, School Counselor, BMS, effective August 12, 2013

Classified Personnel

Al Evans, Teacher Assistant, BES, effective August 12, 2013

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

Licensed Personnel

Angela Adcock, from Teacher Assistant, TCH, to Teacher, TCH, effective August 12, 2013
Amanda Lippard, from Teacher Assistant, BHS, to Teacher, BHS, effective August 12, 2013
Debora Smith, from Teacher, PFES, to Part-Time Literacy Specialist, RES, effective August 12, 2013

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

None

Substitute Child Nutrition Workers

None

**JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE
TRANSYLVANIA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
AND THE TRANSYLVANIA COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
TRANSYLVANIA COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA**

THIS RESOLUTION is adopted by both the Transylvania County Board of Public Education ("Board of Education") and the Transylvania County Board of Commissioners ("Board of Commissioners").

WHEREAS, the Board of Education wishes to enter into a continuing contract for capital outlay under N.C. Gen. Stat. § 115C-441(c1) for the purchase and installation of stadium lighting at Brevard High School and other related equipment and services for the project ("Project");

WHEREAS, the Project will not exceed \$167,682.50 and will be financed by a party to be determined by bid process;

WHEREAS, the financing contract will require the Board of Education to pay the total cost of the Project in installments over a period of five (5) years;

WHEREAS, the Board of Education will finance the cost of the contract out of its existing budget in each of those fiscal years;

WHEREAS, the Board of Education anticipates approving the contract in its final form during the month of _____, 2013;

WHEREAS, the contract may be a continuing contract for capital outlay subject to the provisions of N.C. Gen. Stat. § 115C-441(c1);

WHEREAS, the contract specifically states that this is not an obligation of the County of Transylvania such that no action for any deficiency could lie against the County of Transylvania;

WHEREAS, the Board of Education's budget resolution for the fiscal year 2014 includes an appropriation authorizing the payment for that year's portion of the obligation; and

WHEREAS, although the Board of Education and the Board of Commissioners agree that the entire cost of the contract will be covered by the Board of Education's existing budget, the contract is nevertheless being approved by resolution of the Board of Commissioners, in order to comply with the technical requirements of N.C. Gen. Stat. § 115C-441(c1) to the extent such requirements are applicable.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED, per N.C. Gen. Stat. § 115C-441(c1), that the Transylvania County Board of Commissioners subject to the foregoing agrees to appropriate sufficient funds to the Transylvania County Board of Education in ensuing fiscal years in an

amount which is sufficient to meet the contract obligations incurred by the Board of Education for this Project, so long as the amount the Transylvania County Board of Education shall be obligated to pay under the contract shall not exceed the amounts recited above. The Board of Education understands and expressly agrees that said funds shall be a part of, and not in addition to, the regular appropriations made to the Transylvania County Board of Public Education.

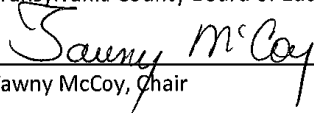
ADOPTED, this the ____ day of _____, 2013.

ADOPTED, this the 17th day of June, 2013.

Transylvania County Board of Commissioners

Transylvania County Board of Education

Mike Hawkins, Chair



Tawny McCoy, Chair

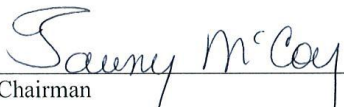
TRANSYLVANIA COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

INTERIM BUDGET RESOLUTION

2013-2014

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, 2013, until adoption of the 2013-2014 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 17th day of June 2013.



Chairman



Secretary