

**Minutes
Transylvania County Board of Education
July 16, 2018**

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
 - C. Designation of School Treasurers & Depositories
6. Technology Purchase 2018-2019
7. Trauma Kit Agreement (*addition*)
8. Policy:
 - A. Spring 2018 Custom Policy Updates
9. FY19 Budget Update
10. Bond Update
11. Superintendent's Update
12. Resolution Supporting NC Whole Child Month
13. Important Dates
14. Public Comment
15. Other Items
16. Closed Session

The Transylvania County Board of Education met in regular session at 6:30 p.m. on July 16, 2018 at the Morris Education Center. Marty Griffin led in a moment of silence and Ron Kiviniemi led the Pledge of Allegiance. Chairman McCoy welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order. In addition to five guests, the following board members and staff were in attendance:

BOARD MEMBERS:

Tawny McCoy, Chair
Ron Kiviniemi, Vice Chair
Marty Griffin
Alice Wellborn

STAFF:

Dr. Jeff McDaris, Superintendent
Jenny Hunter, Administrative Assistant
Dr. Brian Weaver, Senior Director, Human Resources
Norris Barger, Director, Business Services
Kevin Smith, School Community Relations Coordinator

BOARD ATTORNEY:

Chad Donnahoo

SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER:

Kelly Cook

MEDIA:

John Lanier, Transylvania Times

1. **Approval of Agenda**
Chairman McCoy recommended adding Trauma Kit Agreement as new item 7. ON A MOTION BY MR. GRIFFIN, SECONDED BY MRS. WELLBORN, the agenda for July 16, 2018 was approved as amended.
2. **Public Comment**
None

3. **Good News Report**

Dr. McDaris reported that the Brevard FFA chapter did very well at the recent North Carolina State FFA Convention and Expo in Raleigh. Daniel Toole was installed as the NCCFFA state president and placed first in the state in Prepared Public Speaking. Jacob Smith placed first in the Envirothon Career Development Event (CDE), and Maggie Morris and Shade Wilbanks placed first in Dairy Cattle Evaluation. All four first place winners will travel to Indianapolis in October to compete at Nationals. Other competitors included Lily Harris (second place, Dairy Handlers CDE); Lily Harris, Courtney Meyer, Maggie Morris and Jacob Smith (team competition, Dairy Milk and Product Quality); Jasmine Gillespie and Shade Wilbanks (team competition, Meat Cuts); and Maggie Masters, Zach Owenby, and Matthew Skinner (team competition and semi-finals, Quiz Bowl CDE). Thanks and appreciation go to FFA advisors Dan Harris and Sara Rhymer.

Dr. McDaris thanked Officer Cook for being in attendance.

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 MR. KIVINIEMI, SECONDED BY MR. GRIFFIN, the minutes of the June 18, 2018 meeting, the personnel report for July 16, 2018 (attached), and the school treasurers and depositories listed below were unanimously approved.

School Treasurers

Kim Garrett, Brevard Elementary
 Kim Nanney, Brevard High
 Debbie Keever, Brevard Middle
 Kim Hanna, Davidson River
 Lisa Rogers, Pisgah Forest Elementary
 Cindy Ayers, Rosman Elementary
 Evelyn Chapman, Rosman High
 Patricia Holliday, Rosman Middle
 Lisa McDaris, T. C. Henderson

Depositories

United Community Bank
 First Citizens Bank

6. **Technology Purchase 2018-2019**

Dr. Brian Weaver presented the Chromebook bids for 2018-2019. He reported that Technology Director Whitlock was out of town attending a required conference. Dr. Weaver reported that this purchase is a funded, annually recurring item in the capital outlay budget. It requires board approval since it is over \$90,000. The new Chromebooks will be used to replace the current student devices at Brevard High School per the district's equipment replacement schedule. The old Chromebooks will be repurposed as loaner machines throughout the system. Dr. Weaver recommended the board approve the purchase of 900 Dell 3180 Chromebooks from Trinity3 Technology in the amount of \$239,226.75. ON A MOTION BY MR. GRIFFIN, SECONDED BY MRS. WELLBORN, the Chromebook purchase for the 2018-2019 school year was approved as recommended.

7. **Trauma Kit Agreement**

Norris Barger presented a software license agreement with Blue Spear Solutions for the Bleeding Control Kits and training for the Transylvania County Schools, which is serving

as a pilot program for the state. Thanks to Representative Cody Henson, funding for the project will be provided in the form of a grant appropriation from the state to the school system, who will in turn pay Blue Spear Solutions. Mr. Barger reported that the contract calls for payment to be made at the time of the training in August. Because the state appropriation has not yet been received, this will require \$126,950 in Fund 8 to be encumbered until the grant allotment comes in. Board members had concerns that the school system could be committing to funding that it does not have yet, with no guarantee that the state legislature would not suddenly reverse itself and withdraw the appropriation. MR. GRIFFIN MADE A MOTION that the board approve the contract with Blue Spear Solutions in anticipation of the earmarked appropriation from the NC General Assembly. Mr. Kiviniemi suggested and Mr. Griffin accepted an amendment to the motion to include a non-appropriation clause. MR. KIVINIEMI SECONDED THE MOTION AS AMENDED. Mr. Donnahoo explained that by signing the agreement, the board would be committed to paying Blue Spear Solutions, regardless of the state appropriation. MR. KIVINIEMI WITHDREW THE AMENDMENT. Dr. McDaris stated that he believed it unlikely that the state would withdraw the appropriation and offered to discuss the board's concerns with Representative Henson. After further discussion, members agreed that the program was too important in terms of safety to pass up, and the MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

8. Policy

Dr. Brian Weaver presented 23 revised policies from the Spring 2018 Custom Policy Updates for second-read approval. He reported there had been no changes since the first reads in June. There were no questions, and ON A MOTION BY MR. KIVINIEMI, SECONDED BY MR. GRIFFIN, the 23 policies listed below were unanimously approved as presented.

APPROVED	
1710/4021/7230	Prohibition Against Discrimination, Harassment, and Bullying
1720/4015/7225	Discrimination, Harassment, and Bullying Complaint Procedure
3200	Selection of Instructional Materials
3565/8307	Title I Program Comparability of Services
3640/5130	Student Voter Registration and Preregistration
4316	Student Dress Code
4328	Gang-Related Activity
4400	Attendance
4700	Student Records
5010	Parent Organizations
5030	Community Use of Facilities
5070/7350	Public Records - Retention, Release, and Disposition
5071/7351	Electronically Stored Information Retention
6220	Operation of School Nutrition Services
6420	Contracts with the Board
6421	Pre-Audit Certification
7100	Recruitment and Selection of Personnel
7240	Drug-Free and Alcohol-Free Workplace
8220	Gifts and Bequests
8300	Fiscal Management Standards
8325	Daily Deposits
8510	School Finance Officer
9125	Participation by Minority Businesses

9. FY19 Budget Update

The board reviewed the latest capital projects status report and discussed funding scenarios for several projects. Norris Barger reported that most projects will be completed by the time school starts in August or shortly thereafter. Mr. Barger reviewed state budget items and reported that the state has approved an average 6.5% raise for certified staff and a 2% raise for non-certified staff. Mr. Griffin noted that for another year, teachers with 31+ years of experience will receive no raise. Mr. Barger confirmed that to be correct, and noted that the state salary schedule for school administrators is still structured in such a way that some assistant principals earn more than principals. Mr. Barger reported that the architects' bill for advance planning through June 30 has been received, and to his knowledge, the advance planning line item request has not been funded by the commissioners.

10. Bond Update

Norris Barger reported that two programming reviews will be held later this week, one at BHS and one at RHS, for school administration input. The board will get an update on Phase 1 after that. Mr. Barger reported that because the county did not fund the \$276,000 advance planning item in the FY19 budget, he has explored other ways to pay for Phase II. He has identified \$50,000 to \$75,000 in combined fund balance that could pay for concept renderings for use at public hearings and meetings this fall. While not as detailed as schematic designs, he feels the concept renderings would be effective in promoting the bond projects. Mr. Donnahoo recommended that the board consider amending the contract with Clark Nexsen for a modified Phase II, reduce the price to \$75,000, and have Clark Nexsen apply credit toward the schematic design. He stated that even if the bond does not pass, this would not be money spent in vain. It is very possible that there will be money from the county in the future for school improvements. The board owns the work already done in Phase I, and Phase II would simply be on hold awaiting funding. After some discussion, ON A MOTION BY MR. KIVINIEMI, SECONDED BY MRS. WELLBORN, the board authorized the superintendent to renegotiate the advance planning study and pay the Phase II fee in an amount not to exceed his authority, and to negotiate proportional credit for future work should Clark Nexsen be selected as the architect for the project. Mr. Griffin asked if renegotiating the contract would impact the project negatively. Mr. Barger gave assurance that Clark Nexsen has a full understanding of the funding strictures facing board at this time, and a willingness to work within the current situation. There was no further discussion, and THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

11. Superintendent's Update

Dr. McDaris gave the following updates:

- The *My Future NC* western regional meeting was held last week at Cherokee Central School. Dr. McDaris recommended visiting Cherokee Central as an impressive example of what real investment in school facilities can produce.
- North Carolina population estimates for 2016-2017 indicate that growth is becoming even more concentrated around urban centers than previous data had suggested, according to *Carolina Demography*. North Carolina's metro areas (Wake County, Triangle, Triad, and Charlotte) are driving the population growth in the state, which mirrors numbers related to job growth, salaries and economic drivers. This is a concern for the growing gap between rural and metro North Carolina.
- In CNBC's annual "Top States for Business" survey, North Carolina dropped four spots to ninth place, earning a "D" in education and a "D+" for quality of life. The bad

grades come at a time when North Carolina is in a recruiting battle for the Amazon HQ2 project and its 50,000 new jobs as well as a planned new corporate campus and 10,000 jobs from Apple.

- North Carolina legislators have approved a change in the bail bond forfeiture system that will negatively impact public school funding. When someone is bailed out of jail but fails to appear in court, the bail agent or surety company is responsible for paying the bail amount. That money goes into a “fines and forfeitures” fund to support public schools. Recently passed legislation will now make it easier for bondsmen and surety companies to avoid paying those forfeitures when criminal defendants do not appear. Forfeitures provided more than \$11 million to NC public schools in 2016-2017. The changes provided in House Bill 382 would decrease that amount by half. In addition, school boards statewide may be forced to create trust accounts to hold bond forfeitures for three years in case they have to pay them back years after collection. This would create a massive new administrative burden, especially on smaller counties.
- Brookings has published a report showing that local newspaper closures increase local government borrowing costs. A research paper to be presented at the 2018 Municipal Finance Conference finds that closing local newspapers increases government borrowing costs because (1) less information is publicly available, and (2) local officials are no longer monitored as closely, reducing the quality of governance. The research also finds that online media are not acting as sufficient substitutes for local papers.

12. **Resolution Supporting NC Whole Child Month**

Dr. McDaris reported that the North Carolina Association for Supervision & Curriculum Development (NCASCD) has adopted a Whole Child Resolution and asks its member districts to consider supporting the resolution as well. The Whole Child concept emphasizes that all children should be healthy, safe, engaged, supported and challenged. ON A MOTION BY MR. GRIFFIN, SECONDED BY MR. KIVINIEMI, the board unanimously approved a resolution recognizing October 2018 as Whole Child Month in North Carolina (see attached).

13. **Important Dates**

Aug. 1-2	TCS Administrators' Retreat, 7am - 5pm, TCH
Aug. 13	Regular 5-day schedule resumes
Aug. 16-21	Teacher workdays
Aug. 16	New Teacher Orientation, 8am - 3pm, Blue Ridge Community College
Aug. 20	REGULAR MEETING, 6:30 p.m., MEC
Aug. 22	First student day
Sept. 3	Labor Day holiday
Sept. 17	REGULAR MEETING, 6:30 p.m., MEC
Sept. 28	Early dismissal - students, 12:00 noon

Dr. McDaris noted that a number of students will be returning to campus on August 1 for sports training and band camps.

14. **Public Comment**

None

15. **Other Items**

None

16. **Closed Session**

ON A MOTION BY MRS. MCCOY, SECONDED BY MRS. WELLBORN, the board went into closed session at 8:15 p.m. to (1) consult with the board attorney regarding *Trawick v. Lars Grothe, et al* (18 CVS 283, Transylvania County Superior Court), and (2) discuss confidential personnel information (superintendent's annual evaluation), pursuant to N.C.G.S. § 115C-319, 143-318.11(a)(1) and 143-318.11(a)(3). Chairman McCoy, Vice Chairman Kiviniemi, Mr. Griffin, Mrs. Wellborn, Mr. Donnahoo, Mr. Barger, and Dr. McDaris were present for discussion of legal matters. Board members McCoy, Kiviniemi, Griffin and Wellborn were present for work on the superintendent's evaluation. No action was taken in the closed session, and ON A MOTION BY MR. KIVINIEMI, SECONDED BY MR. GRIFFIN, the board reconvened in open session at 10:02 p.m.

There was no further business, and ON A MOTION BY MR. KIVINIEMI, SECONDED BY MR. GRIFFIN, the meeting was adjourned at 10:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chairman

Secretary

**PERSONNEL REPORT
July 16, 2018**

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

Licensed Personnel

Melanie Carrick, Teacher, BHS, effective July 16, 2018
Linda Carrillo, Teacher, RMS & RHS, effective June 13, 2018
Lystra Keever, Teacher, RES, effective June 13, 2018

Classified Personnel

Ronnie English, Part-time Custodian, RHS, effective July 26, 2018
August Hall, Part-Time After-School Program Worker, RES, effective June 19, 2018
Tracy Owen, Part-Time After-School Program Worker, RES, effective July 1, 2018
Valerie Pangle, Teacher Assistant, RES, effective June 11, 2018

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

Licensed Personnel

Eilene Corcoran, Part-Time Teacher, BHS, effective August 16, 2018
Michael Kirst, Assistant Principal, PFES, effective July 11, 2018
Breanna Morris, Teacher, RES, effective August 16, 2018
Jessica Nosworthy, Speech-Language Pathologist, BES, effective August 16, 2018
Elizabeth Thompson, School Psychologist, BHS, effective August 16, 2018

Classified Personnel

Heather Merritt, Teacher Assistant, RES, effective August 16, 2018
Holly Watkins, Teacher Assistant, TCHES, effective August 16, 2018

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

Licensed Personnel

None

Classified Personnel

None

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

Licensed Personnel

Mary Browning, Teacher, BHS, family leave (BOE policy code 7510), effective August 27, 2018 through January 17, 2019

Classified Personnel

None

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

Substitute Teachers

None

Substitute School Nutrition Workers

None

Resolution in Support of North Carolina Whole Child Month

WHEREAS, the observance of North Carolina Whole Child Month in October of each year provides a fitting opportunity to reflect on how to best address the needs of our children;

WHEREAS, recognizing that true student success entails more than just academic achievement, the nonprofit professional organization ASCD (Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development) launched the Whole Child Initiative in 2007; this comprehensive approach to education seeks to adequately prepare today's young North Carolinians for the demands of college, career, and good citizenship; and

WHEREAS, the initiative highlights five key elements that children need to become happy, productive members of society; that they are healthy, safe, engaged, supported, and challenged; and

WHEREAS the first element is that a child enters school healthy and learns about and practices a healthy lifestyle; and

WHEREAS, the second element is that each student learns in an environment that is physically and emotionally safe for students and adults; and

WHEREAS, the third element is that each student is actively engaged in learning and is connected to the school and broader community; and

WHEREAS, the fourth element is that each student has access to personalized learning and is supported by qualified and caring adults; and

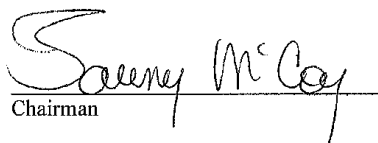
WHEREAS, the fifth element is that each student is challenged academically and prepared for success in college or future study and for employment; and

WHEREAS, the North Carolina affiliate of ASCD (NCASCD) is the largest affiliate and provides professional development and networking opportunities for thousands of educators across our state; and

WHEREAS, the continued prosperity and vitality of our state depends on our children's achieving their full potential, which in turn requires educational policies that ensure young North Carolinians be successful;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Transylvania County Board of Education recognizes October as North Carolina Whole Child Month and encourages parents, educators, and community members to support a whole-child approach to education.

ADOPTED this the 16th day of July 2018.


Chairman


Secretary