

**Minutes**  
**Transylvania County Board of Education**  
**July 21, 2008**

INVOCATION/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME

BUSINESS ITEMS

1. Public Comment
2. Good News Report
3. Policy
  - A. JI (Wireless Communication and Electronic Devices)
  - B. JECA (Private/Home Schools – Enrollment)
  - C. JH (Safe Surrender of a Newborn Baby)
  - D. IIBH (Electronic Stored Information Retention)
  - E. GCJ (Certified Staff Time Schedules)
4. Former Students in the Military
5. Consent Agenda
  - A. Closed Session (Personnel)
  - B. Memorial Report
  - C. Minutes
  - D. Personnel Report
6. Non-Faculty Coaches
7. Freshman Year Experience
8. Capital Projects Update
9. Important Dates
10. Other Items

The Transylvania County Board of Education met in regular session at 6:30 p.m. on July 21, 2008, at the Morris Education Center. Present were Teresa McCall, Chairman; Jenni Pogue; and Chris Whitmire. Also present were Dr. Sonna Lyda, Superintendent; Jenny Hunter, Administrative Assistant, and approximately 30 staff members, guests and media representatives. Mr. Whitmire gave the invocation and Chairman McCall led the Pledge of Allegiance. Chairman McCall called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone. A special welcome was given to Mark Schulman, new reporter for the *Hendersonville Times-News*.

**1. Public Comment**

Mark Burrows, Transylvania County Economic Development Director, representing a group of parents, spoke about a recent article in the *Transylvania Times*. The article addressed concerns that were identified by teachers, students, and parents on recent TCS satisfaction surveys. He offered the support of the parent group in helping the administration find solutions.

Bob Cubbler, Board of Education candidate, stated that the comments from the school system's public information officer that were published in the article seemed to downplay any problems. He asked where the school board and administration stand on this issue.

Chairman McCall thanked the speakers for their input. She reported that the Board does not take these concerns lightly; however, the natures of some issues prevent their discussion in a public forum. On behalf of all Board members, she welcomed individual communication on these or other issues, and asked that anyone with a specific concern contact the superintendent in order to give the administration an opportunity to respond to the concern.

**2. Good News**

Hannah Austin, BHS, has been selected to perform in the 2008 Macy's Great American Marching Band at the 82<sup>nd</sup> Annual Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade held in New York City. Students from every state in the nation are selected for this honor.

The Duke Energy Foundation has donated \$1,500 to Transylvania County Schools. This annual gift is used to support math and science projects in the schools.

**3. Policy**

Dr. Bo Williams presented the following policies as information. Approval will be requested at the next regular meeting.

- *Policy JI (Wireless Communication and Electronic Devices)* – Revisions reflect the Board's input from the policy work session and recommendations from the board attorney. Board members suggested better clarification to the consequences of being caught using a cell phone during a test. Further revisions may be made between now and the August 18 meeting.
- *Policy JECA (Private-Home School Enrollment)* – Revisions reflect the Department of Public Instruction's requirement, effective with the 2008-2009 year, that any dually enrolled student who takes a content course online or on campus must take the EOG in Reading and Math for the grade level at which they are enrolled.
- *Policy JH Safe Surrender of a Newborn Baby)* – New policy as mandated by the State of North Carolina. The policy outlines to whom and the conditions under which a student parent may voluntarily give up a newborn infant less than seven days old.
- *Policy IIBH (Electronic Stored Information Retention)* – New policy mandated by federal law. The policy outlines the requirements for retention and archiving of e-mails and other electronic records under public records law.
- *Policy GCJ (Certified Staff Time Schedules)* – Minor revision to reflect actual practice. School offices will be open from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. rather than 4:00 p.m. as currently written.

**4. Former Students in the Military**

The Board reviewed the list of former TCS students who are serving or have served in the U.S. Military. Three new names, Carrie Dickson, Ricky James, and Jimmy Volrath, were added to the list. Chairman McCall expressed appreciation to the all of the soldiers and their families for their dedication and sacrifice.

**5. Consent Agenda**

ON A MOTION BY MRS. POGUE, SECONDED BY MR. WHITMIRE, the Board went into closed session at 7:09 p.m. to discuss information that is not a public record (employee personnel files), pursuant to N.C.G.S. 143-318.11(a)(1) and 115C-319. Present in the closed session were Teresa McCall, Jenni Pogue, Chris Whitmire, Sonna Lyda, and David Sutton. No action was taken. ON A MOTION BY MR. WHITMIRE, SECONDED BY MRS. POGUE, the Board reconvened in open session at 7:20 p.m.

Dr. Lyda presented a revised personnel report for July 21, 2008 (see attached). ON A MOTION BY MRS. POGUE, SECONDED BY MR. WHITMIRE, the Board unanimously approved the revised personnel report. Dr. Lyda announced that Donna Raspa would be the new principal of Rosman Elementary School, effective August 1, 2008. Mrs. Raspa replaces Caroleen Hodge, who has retired.

ON A MOTION BY MR. WHITMIRE, SECONDED BY MRS. POGUE, the minutes of the June 16, 2008 and July 1, 2008 meetings and the following memorial were approved:

The book, *Alaska Atlas & Gazetteer*, to be placed in the Rosman High School media center in memory of Calvin Raxter, father of Tammy Moman. Tammy is a teacher at RHS.

#### 6. **Non-Faculty Coaches**

ON A MOTION BY MR. WHITMIRE, SECONDED BY MRS. POGUE, the following non-faculty coaches for fall sports 2008-2009 were approved:

*BHS Football:*

William Hemphill  
Shane Worley  
Chad Owenby, Statistician  
Jim Rubion, Statistician

*BMS Football:*

Wayne Brown  
Charlie Carr  
Mark Ellenberger  
Tim Galloway  
Frank Robinson

*RHS Football:*

Brian Chapman, Statistician

*BHS Volleyball:*

Sammy Pressley, Head  
Jessica Pressley, Assistant

*RHS Volleyball:*

Mary Ramey, Assistant

*RMS Volleyball:*

Sarah Chappell

*BHS Cross Country:*

Bill Baldwin  
Jackie Witherspoon

*BMS Cross Country:*

Donna Allsteadt  
Bill Tellman

*RHS Cross Country:*

Chan Raxter

*RMS Cross Country:*

Chan Raxter

*BHS Soccer:*

Dale Hagedon

*BMS Soccer:*

Gregg Hall

*BHS Tennis:*

Camille Van Horn, Assistant

*Women's Summer Basketball:*

David Hollingsworth

#### 7. **Freshman Year Experience**

Dr. Scott Elliott gave an overview of the Freshman Year Experience, a comprehensive , year-long program designed to promote and support a successful transition into the ninth grade for at-risk students. The FYE program will involve approximately 20% of entering freshmen. Upper-class student leaders will participate as mentors for the program. A day-long "Sharing Common Ground" retreat in September will address issues such as boundary breaking; team building; "making your mark in high school"; navigating relationships with family, friends and peers; and character skill building. Board members were very enthusiastic about the program.

**8. Capital Projects Update**

Dr. Lyda presented an update on capital projects. Mr. Whitmire raised a question about the number of bathrooms required per ADM and handicap accessibility. The capital projects report will be re-addressed at the August meeting when Mr. Barger can be present to address questions.

**9. Important Dates**

Aug. 5 – 6	District Leadership Retreat	8 am – 5 pm	BHS Media Center
Aug. 18 – 19	New Teacher Orientation	9 am – 3 pm	Cradle of Forestry
Aug. 18	REGULAR MEETING	6:30 p.m.	MEC
Aug. 21 – 22	Teacher Workdays		
Aug. 25	First Day Students		
Sept. 1	Labor Day; Teacher Workday		
Sept. 15	REGULAR MEETING	6:30 p.m.	Transylvania Co. Library
Sept. 24	Parent Advisory Council	7:30 a.m.	MEC
Sept. 25	Superintendent's Communication Council	3:45 p.m.	MEC
Sept. 26	Student Advisory Council	7:30 a.m.	MEC

**10. Other Items**

Mr. Whitmire asked when the Board might review the field trips policy and the employee leaves of absence policy. Dr. Lyda reported that these items would probably be scheduled in September.

Chairman McCall welcomed school board candidates Tawny McCoy, Bob Cubbler, and David Morton and extended best wishes to them and incumbent candidate Jenni Pogue in the November election.

There was no further business, and ON A MOTION BY MRS. POGUE, SECONDED BY MR. WHITMIRE, the meeting was adjourned at 7:42 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Chairman

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Secretary

**PERSONNEL REPORT  
7/21/08**

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

Licensed Personnel

Linda Locks, Teacher, PFES, effective September 30, 2008

Classified Personnel

Charles Cunningham, Teacher Assistant, BMS, effective July 17, 2008

Sidney Propst, Bus Driver, BHS, effective July 7, 2008

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

Licensed Personnel

William Clark, Teacher and Coach, BHS, effective August 21, 2008

Donna Raspa, Principal, RES, Two-Year Contract, effective August 1, 2008

James Reid, Teacher and Coach, RHS, effective August 21, 2008

Pat Sales, Interim Teacher, BHS, effective August 21, 2008 through January 15, 2009

Kimberly Wynn, Teacher, BHS, effective August 21, 2008

Classified Personnel

Becky McDaris, After School Worker, BES, effective August 18, 2008

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

Licensed Personnel

Rae Parker, from Teacher, RES, to Instructional Technology Facilitator, RMS and RHS, effective August 21, 2008

Classified Personnel

None

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

Licensed Personnel

Charisma Arbogast, unpaid leave pursuant to local Board policy GCBDB, effective August 21, 2008 through January 15, 2009

Chamblee Carrington, unpaid leave pursuant to local Board policy GCBDB, effective August 21, 2008 through October 24, 2008

Classified Personnel

None

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

Substitute Teachers

Jessica Whitmire, Bachelor's Degree, Brevard College