

**Minutes
Transylvania County Board of Education
September 12, 2023**

INVOCATION/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME

BUSINESS ITEMS (including amendments and rescissions):

1. Approval of Agenda
2. School Board Member Training
3. Closed Session

The Transylvania County Board of Education met in special session on September 12, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. at the Morris Education Center. The purpose of the meeting was to receive training on rights and responsibilities for school board members and hold a closed session for attorney-client matters. Kimsey Jackson led in a moment of silence and Bryan O'Neill led the Pledge of Allegiance. Chairman McCoy called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone. In addition to two guests, the individuals listed below were in attendance. Chairman McCoy reported that Mr. Wiener would be joining late. She requested prayers for the family of Dawson Hogsed, former TCS principal, who passed away last week. Dr. Fletcher thanked Officer Scott Thomas for securing the meeting.

BOARD MEMBERS:

Tawny McCoy, Chair
Kimsey Jackson, Vice Chair
Tanya Dalton
Bryan O'Neill
Chris Wiener (*joined late*)

STAFF:

Dr. Lisa Fletcher, Superintendent
Jenny Hunter, Administrative Assistant
Dr. Brian Weaver, Assistant Superintendent
Scott Thomas, School Resource Officer

BOARD ATTORNEYS:

Chris Campbell, Campbell Shatley
Kris Caudle, Campbell Shatley

1. Approval of Agenda

ON A MOTION BY MR. O'NEILL, SECONDED BY MR. JACKSON, the meeting agenda for September 12, 2023 was approved as presented.

2. School Board Member Training

Board attorneys Kris Caudle and Chris Campbell gave a two-hour training on school board member rights and responsibilities. Topics included, but were not limited to, legal considerations and best practices, roles and duties of members, public meetings, rules for voting, recusals, handling complaints and concerns, public records, confidential information, public comment, social media, "information" versus studies or research, setting the meeting agenda, school visits, budget review, qualified immunity and public official immunity, social emotion learning and the general statutes, ethics laws and conflicts of interest, failure to discharge duties, prohibitions against benefitting from public contracts, sanctions, board member contracts with nonprofits, accepting gifts and favors, duty to make hiring and firing decisions based upon the recommendation of the superintendent, duty to provide an adequate school system, duty to participate in certain suits and actions, duty to determine the school calendar, duty to elect a superintendent, and duty to ensure freedom of religion.

Mr. Campbell emphasized that it all boils down to trust—trust in the law, trust in each other, and trust in the superintendent.

Mr. Wiener joined the meeting at approximately 7:45 p.m.

3. Closed Session

ON A MOTION BY MRS. MCCOY, SECONDED BY MR. O'NEILL, the board voted unanimously to go into closed session pursuant to N.C.G.S. § 115C-318.11(a)(3) to consult with an attorney retained by the public body in order to preserve the attorney-client privilege. Following a brief recess, the closed session convened at approximately 7:55 p.m. Present in the closed session were board members Tawny McCoy, Chair; Kimsey Jackson, Vice Chair; Tanya Dalton; Bryan O'Neill; and Chris Wiener. Dr. Lisa Fletcher, Superintendent, Dr. Brian Weaver, Assistant Superintendent, and Board Attorneys Chris Campbell and Kris Caudle were also present in the closed session. At approximately 8:28 p.m., BY MOTION MADE BY MR. WIENER AND SECONDED BY MRS. DALTON, the board adjourned closed session and returned to open session.

There was no further business, and ON A MOTION BY MR. WIENER, SECONDED BY MRS. MCCOY, the meeting was adjourned at 8:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chairman

Secretary