

1 The Transylvania County Board of Education (the “board”) believes that time is a variable in the
2 educational process and that ~~children~~ **students** may need different amounts of instructional time
3 in order to fulfill the educational goals and objectives of the board. The board also recognizes
4 that the school day and school year should be planned in such a manner as to facilitate student
5 learning and to permit an accurate assessment of student achievement in scheduled testing
6 periods.

8 ~~Opening and Closing Dates and School Calendar for 2020-2021 School Year~~

9
10 For the ~~2020-2021~~ school year, the school system will follow the school calendar requirements
11 set forth in section 2.11.(b) of Session Law 2020-3, as amended by section 3.(b) of Session Law
12 2020-49.

14 A. INSTRUCTIONAL TIME

15
16 The board will approve the length of the school day, which may vary from school to
17 school. The “instructional” day includes those hours a student is assigned to a teacher for
18 the primary purpose of instruction. Breaks in the instructional day for changing classes,
19 homeroom, lunch, pep rallies, and similar non-instructional activities are not part of the
20 instructional day and are not considered instructional hours.

21
22 Interruptions of instructional time and time off task must be kept to a minimum. The
23 principal is responsible for ensuring that instructional time is maintained and protected in
24 the school schedule. Each teacher is responsible for ensuring optimal use of instructional
25 time in his or her classes. School personnel are encouraged to seek creative means of
26 reducing transitional time and scheduling non-instructional activities. A proposal for
27 alternative scheduling of classes or other such strategies may be a part of a school
28 improvement plan.

30 ~~B. SCHOOL DAY~~

31
32 The length of the school day may vary from school to school if approved by the board of
33 education. The “instructional” day includes only those hours a student is assigned to a
34 teacher for the primary purpose of instruction. Breaks in the instructional day for
35 changing classes, homeroom, lunch, pep rallies, and similar non-instructional activities
36 are not part of the instructional day and may not be counted towards the minimum
37 instructional hours requirement established in Section D, below.

39 B. SCHOOL CALENDAR ~~OPENING AND CLOSING DATES~~

40
41 The school board will establish a school calendar that is consistent with the requirements
42 of G.S. 115C-84.2 and any other applicable legal requirements. ~~Except for year-round~~
43 ~~schools or schools operating under a modified calendar, the opening date for students will~~

44 ~~be no earlier than the Monday closest to August 26, and the closing date for students will~~
45 ~~be no later than the Friday closest to June 11.~~

46
47 The school board may offer supplemental or additional educational programs or activities
48 outside the adopted school calendar.

49
50 **1. Waiver of Opening or Closing Dates**

51
52 Upon a showing of good cause, as defined by G.S. 115C-84.2(d), the board will
53 may seek a waiver of the opening date from the State Board of Education.

54
55 The board will revise the closing date only if necessary to comply with the
56 minimum requirements for instructional days or instructional time.

57
58 **C. SCHOOL CALENDAR**

59
60 ~~The school calendar in all schools will be for 215 days and will provide for a minimum of~~
61 ~~185 days or 1025 hours of instruction covering at least nine months. A school “month” is~~
62 ~~defined as 20 days of instruction. If school is closed early due to inclement weather, the~~
63 ~~day and the number of instructional hours originally scheduled may count towards the~~
64 ~~required minimum number of instructional days or hours. As funding permits, the board~~
65 ~~may pursue increasing the number of instructional hours or days, at least for those~~
66 ~~students who need more time to learn the curriculum.~~

67
68 **2. Converting to a Year-Round Calendar**

69
70 The board may initiate or review recommendations from the superintendent or a
71 school improvement team for modifying ~~the~~ a school's traditional school calendar
72 to a year-round calendar. The superintendent and individual schools are
73 encouraged to obtain input from teachers and other personnel as well as from the
74 community in developing proposals for modifying the school calendar to year-
75 round. A year-round school may be included as a part of a school improvement
76 plan.

77
78 ~~Any calendar adopted by the board will be consistent with the following requirements.~~

79
80 ~~1. The calendar will consist of 215 days and shall meet state requirements for the~~
81 ~~minimum instructional days and/or the minimum instructional hours.~~

82
83 ~~2. At least 10 of the days on the calendar will be designated as annual vacation leave~~
84 ~~days.~~

85
86 ~~3. The calendar will include the same or an equivalent number of legal holidays as~~
87 ~~those designated by the State Human Resources Commission for State employees,~~

88 including Veteran's Day if it falls on a weekday.

89
90 4. ~~School will not be scheduled on Sundays.~~

91
92 5. ~~The total number of workdays for teachers employed for a 10-month term will not~~
93 ~~exceed 195 days.~~

94
95 6. ~~The calendar will designate "instructional" days, when students must be present.~~

96
97 7. ~~The remaining days will be scheduled by the board, in consultation with school~~
98 ~~principals, as "flexible" days, for use as teacher workdays, additional instructional~~
99 ~~days, or other lawful purposes. Before scheduling these "flexible" days, each~~
100 ~~principal shall work with the school improvement team to determine the days to~~
101 ~~be scheduled and the purposes for which they should be scheduled.~~

102
103 8. ~~Of the "flexible" days described in subsection D.7, the board will designate at~~
104 ~~least two days as protected days on which teachers may take accumulated~~
105 ~~vacation leave. All other "flexible" days may be designated as days on which~~
106 ~~teachers may take accumulated leave, but the board will give teachers at least 14~~
107 ~~calendar days' notice before requiring a teacher to work instead of taking vacation~~
108 ~~leave on any of these days. A teacher may elect to waive this notice requirement~~
109 ~~for one or more of these days.~~

110
111 9. ~~The board may, due to school closings because of inclement weather or other~~
112 ~~reasons, use any of the "flexible" days designated in subsection D.7 above as~~
113 ~~make-up days for those instructional days that were missed. If necessary, these~~
114 ~~make-up days may be scheduled after the last day of student attendance. If either~~
115 ~~of the two protected days described in subsection D.8 above are scheduled as a~~
116 ~~make up day, teachers may take accumulated vacation leave on the make up day~~
117 ~~and will not be required to work.~~

118
119 10. ~~If the school calendar requires students to attend on Memorial Day, each principal~~
120 ~~shall ensure that students are instructed on the significance of Memorial Day on~~
121 ~~that day. If students are not scheduled to attend school on Memorial Day,~~
122 ~~instruction on the significance of Memorial Day will be provided at another time.~~

123
124 11. ~~If the school calendar requires students to attend school on September 17, which~~
125 ~~is Constitution Day and Citizenship Day, each principal shall ensure that an~~
126 ~~educational program about the United States Constitution is held in the school on~~
127 ~~that day. If students are not required to attend school on September 17, the~~
128 ~~principal shall ensure that such a program is held during the week preceding or~~
129 ~~following Constitution Day and Citizenship Day.~~

130
131 12. ~~The month of November shall be designated "Veterans' History Awareness~~

132 Month.²²

133
134 Legal References: P.L. 108-447, div. J, title I, sec. 111 (codified as a statutory note to 36 U.S.C.
135 106(d)); G.S. 115C-12(33), -36, -47, -84.2, -105.21(b)(2), -238.31, -288; State Board of
136 Education Policy BEPL-001; *North Carolina Public Schools Benefits and Employment Policy*
137 *Manual* (most current version), North Carolina Department of Public Instruction, available at
138 [https://www.dpi.nc.gov/districts-schools/districts-schools-support/district-human-](https://www.dpi.nc.gov/districts-schools/districts-schools-support/district-human-capital/employee-policy)
139 [capital/employee-policy](https://www.dpi.nc.gov/districts-schools/districts-schools-support/district-human-capital/employee-policy)

140
141 Cross References: Goals and Objectives of the Educational Program (policy 3000), School
142 Improvement Plan (policy 3430), Citizenship and Character Education (policy 3530)

143
144 Adopted: November 19, 2015

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146 Revised: March 5, 2018; September 21, 2020; February 15, 2021; [DATE]

REVISED