

1 The [Transylvania County Board of Education \(the “board”\)](#) encourages all students to develop  
2 an understanding of citizenship, including the importance of a citizen’s rights and  
3 responsibilities. At a minimum, the citizenship curriculum will incorporate the civic literary  
4 requirements of the Basic Education Plan and any statutory requirements regarding the recitation  
5 of the Pledge of Allegiance and the display of flags. In addition, within the timeframe  
6 established by state requirements, the high school curriculum will meet all state standards for  
7 teaching individual responsibility and other historical founding principles of our nation.

#### 9 **BOARD CITIZENSHIP REQUIREMENTS AND OPTIONS**

11 The curriculum committee established in policy 3100, Curriculum Development, shall develop  
12 the curriculum regarding citizenship. In addition to meeting any state requirements, the  
13 citizenship curriculum also should be designed to reinforce the student behavior management  
14 plan. The curriculum shall include addressing character traits as provided in the Basic Education  
15 Plan. The character traits should include, but are not limited to, courage, good judgment,  
16 integrity, civility, kindness, perseverance, responsibility, tolerance, self-discipline, respect for  
17 school personnel, responsibility for school safety, service to others, and good citizenship.

19 The citizenship curriculum must require that: (1) the United States and North Carolina flags be  
20 displayed in each classroom, when available; (2) recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance be  
21 scheduled on a daily basis; (3) appropriate instruction be provided on the meaning and historical  
22 origins of the North Carolina and United States flags and the Pledge of Allegiance; (4)  
23 Constitution and Citizenship Day be observed on September 17 to commemorate the signing of  
24 the United States Constitution or be observed the preceding or following week if students are not  
25 in school on September 17; and (5) appropriate instruction and/or recognition be provided  
26 concerning the significance of Memorial Day.

28 The citizenship curriculum also may include appropriate instruction on the rights and  
29 responsibilities of citizenship and guidelines for the use and display of the North Carolina and  
30 United States flags. The curriculum must ensure that no student will be compelled to salute the  
31 flag, recite the Pledge of Allegiance, stand to acknowledge the flag, or stand to participate in the  
32 Pledge of Allegiance, or otherwise feel coerced to participate. In addition, the citizenship  
33 curriculum may encourage teachers to use the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance as an  
34 opportunity to teach students about the history concerning coercion and the importance of the  
35 First Amendment to the Bill of Rights. Any flags donated or otherwise made available must be  
36 displayed in the classrooms.

38 Furthermore, the citizenship curriculum may include for middle school and high school students  
39 a community volunteer service requirement in order to demonstrate the value and effectiveness  
40 of volunteer contributions to the community. To be approved by the board, the curriculum (1)  
41 must provide students with sufficient notice of the service requirement; (2) must provide students  
42 with enough options to meet the interests and transportation needs of the students; and (3) must  
43 not infringe on the constitutional rights of students by compelling or coercing a student to hold a  
44 particular viewpoint on volunteerism.

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- 46 Legal References: 36 U.S.C. 106(d); G.S. 115C-12(33), -47(29a), -81(g), (h), (h1); N.C. Session
- 47 Law 2011-273
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- 49 Cross References: Goals and Objectives of the Educational Program (policy 3000), Curriculum
- 50 Development (policy 3100)
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- 52 Adopted:
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