[Note: In accordance with S.L. 2016-94, sec. 36.1A, the board must award one-time merit-based bonuses to employees in state-funded positions in accordance with its eligibility "policy." DPI has advised that a "plan" approved by the board in lieu of a formal policy is sufficient to meet this requirement. This document provides an **optional** template for use in developing either a policy or a plan. This document cannot be used as a policy or plan "as is." Information must be added in Sections A and B as indicated. Text in brackets and the footnotes should be deleted in the final document.]

The Transylvania County Board of Education (the "board") will award one-time merit-based bonuses to eligible employees in _____ 20__ [specify month and year] in accordance with the plan outlined here and North Carolina Session Law 2016-94, section 36.1A. To be consistent with law, the allocation of these one-time bonuses will not be across-the-board. The amount of bonus awarded will not be added to the employee's ongoing base salary and will not be considered compensation for retirement purposes.

A. ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible for a one-time merit-based bonus, an employee must meet the requirements established below.

1. **Position Requirements**

[This section should identify the pool of employees who are potentially eligible for merit-based bonuses, including (1) any criteria based on source of funding, employee status, and/or position classification (state funds are provided only for state-funded employees who are school administrators, central office employees, or non-certified employees. Teachers and instructional personnel paid on the teacher salary schedule are not eligible.) This section should also address breaks in service, leaves of absence, transfers from other LEAs, and separation.]

2. **Performance Requirements**

[This section should establish performance criteria sufficient to be awarded a merit-based bonus. This could include a specified rating on the employee's performance evaluation and/or other criteria that demonstrate performance worthy of merit recognition. The board could also specify criteria that would make an employee ineligible for a merit bonus.]

3. Other Requirements

[This section is optional. It should include any other requirements established by the board. If there are no other requirements, omit this section.]

 B. Amount of Bonus

The superintendent shall ensure that the total amount of funds awarded do not exceed the amount of funds provided by the state for the purpose of providing merit-based bonuses. Bonuses shall be allocated as follows:

[This section should explain how available funding is to be allocated.]

C. POLICY SUNSET

[Omit this section if the board is not adopting this document as a policy.]

This policy is effective for the 2016-2017 school year only unless the board takes further action to continue it in effect.

[Omit the information below if the board is not adopting this document as a policy.]

Legal References: S.L. 2016-94, sec. 36.1A

Adopted: [DATE]



