



Institute for Transportation Research and Education
North Carolina State University

October 20, 2014

Jeremy R. Gibbs
Director of Human Resources
Transylvania County Schools

Mr. Gibbs:

Thank you for inviting the Operations Research and Education Laboratory (OREd) to participate in school planning for Transylvania County Schools. We look forward to the opportunity to provide long-range planning solutions that are based on data and driven by school policy. This Proposal includes a tentative timeline and cost for a 2014-15 IPSAC (Integrated Planning for School and Community) Limited Study.

OREd has taken the liberty of conducting some preliminary analysis of school membership and general population trends in Transylvania County. Based on historical data and barring other impacting events such as charter schools, it is likely that current flat or decreasing trends will continue over the next few years. The downward trend of county Resident Live Births (RLB) from a 2009 high of 316 will almost certainly have some impact on the size of kindergarten classes for a few years. However, RLB is not the only factor governing school membership trends. In-migration and the consolidation of family members in one residence can have a measurable impact on school population, especially in rural districts.

Data Collection – One Month

- Collect relevant GIS layers from County GIS and other sources.
- Build GIS database of schools and attendance zones.
- Collect digital student records for SY 2010-11 through 2014-15. The data must be suitable for address-matching.
- Collect school building capacity data including renovations, closings and openings.

Analysis and Presentation of Findings – Two Months

- Conduct analysis of student membership and residence data.
- Conduct analysis of US Census data.
- Build ten-year membership forecast by school using Cohort-Feeder forecast model.
- Deliver ten-year membership forecast by school (Out-of-Capacity table) and final report.

The cost for the 2014-15 IPSAC Limited Study for Transylvania County Schools is \$10,000 based on the minimum IPSAC rate and the 2014-15 Day-10 Membership of 3,524 supplied by TCS. Note this Proposal does not include any on-site visits; any presentation and other communication will be conducted on-line. If the terms of this Proposal are agreeable to Transylvania County Schools, I will forward an Agreement to sign and return.

Sincerely,

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