

TRANSYLVANIA COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-_____

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING APPROPRIATE BOUNDARIES BETWEEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS AND NON-EDUCATIONAL GOVERNMENTAL FUNCTIONS

WHEREAS, the primary mission of North Carolina's public schools is to educate students and provide safe, orderly, and effective learning environments; and

WHEREAS, over time schools have been assigned increasing responsibilities for reporting, certification, verification, and administration of governmental programs that are not principally educational in nature; and

WHEREAS, such requirements consume limited school resources and can place educators and administrators in the position of administering governmental consequences unrelated to their core educational responsibilities; and

WHEREAS, Session Law 2026-46 removes public schools from administering State driver-license consequences arising from academic performance, school withdrawal, or certain disciplinary matters; and

WHEREAS, the Board recognizes that the possibility of losing driving privileges may have served as a meaningful incentive for some students to remain enrolled, improve academic performance, or comply with school expectations; and

WHEREAS, the usefulness of a particular governmental sanction does not necessarily mean that its administration properly belongs within the public school system; and

WHEREAS, schools should retain meaningful authority and appropriate tools to address attendance, academics, discipline, dropout prevention, graduation, student safety, and conduct within the educational environment;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Transylvania County Board of Education:

1. **Supports the policy direction of Session Law 2026-46** removing schools from the administration of State driver-license consequences based upon academic performance, school withdrawal, or specified disciplinary matters.

2. **Affirms that schools should remain accountable for educational matters** including attendance, academic progress, discipline, graduation, campus safety, and appropriate school-based consequences.
3. **Encourages the General Assembly and the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction to review other governmental requirements imposed upon schools** that principally serve programs administered by another governmental agency.
4. **Supports a principle of institutional responsibility** under which governmental functions should, whenever reasonably possible, be administered by the agency whose primary mission relates to that function.
5. **Encourages secure interagency data sharing** when another governmental agency requires information already maintained by the public school system, rather than requiring school employees to repeatedly certify or manually transmit information already possessed by government.
6. **Requests that the State consider the tools available to schools when holding them accountable for dropout, graduation, attendance, and related outcomes**, particularly where significant factors affecting those outcomes lie outside the direct control of educators.
7. **Affirms that parents and guardians remain primarily responsible for the attendance, conduct, and educational engagement of their children**, while schools should continue to provide appropriate intervention, support, accountability, and partnership with families.
8. **Recognizes that appropriate cooperation between schools and other governmental agencies remains necessary** when required for student safety, protection of rights, compliance with law, or other responsibilities directly related to education.

The purpose of this Resolution is not to criticize school employees who carry out responsibilities assigned to them by law. Rather, it is to encourage policymakers to periodically examine whether governmental responsibilities remain assigned to the institutions best suited to perform them.

The Board respectfully encourages a public education system in which:

schools remain focused on education;
government agencies administer their respective public responsibilities;
parents remain central to the upbringing of their children;
and students are held accountable through fair, appropriate, and meaningful consequences.

DISTRIBUTION

Upon adoption, the Board directs that this Resolution be transmitted to the members of the North Carolina General Assembly representing Transylvania County, the appropriate legislative education committees, the North Carolina State Board of Education, the State Superintendent of Public Instruction, and the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction.

ADOPTED this _____ day of _____, 2026.

Chair, Transylvania County Board of Education

Superintendent / Secretary to the Board