

MINUTES - Traverse City Area Public Schools

Regular Meeting of the Board of Education

Monday, September 19, 2022 at 6:00 PM

Tompkins Boardman Administration Center, Conference Room C – 2nd Floor
412 Webster Street, Traverse City, MI 49686



Approved on October 10, 2022

A meeting of the Board of Education of the Traverse City Area Public Schools, Counties of Grand Traverse, Leelanau and Benzie, Michigan, was held at the Tompkins Boardman Administration Center, 412 Webster Street, Traverse City, Michigan, on Monday, September 19, 2022. President Newman-Bale called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Anderson, Ballenger, Kelly, Moon Mohr, Newman-Bale, Raymond

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Humphreys

ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT: Perkowski, Smith, Taylor, Thomas-Hill, VanWagoner

President Newman-Bale welcomed those in attendance.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mrs. Lijewski's Fifth Grade classroom from Blair Elementary School led the Board and those in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance.

REVIEW/APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The Board reviewed the agenda and President Newman-Bale entertained a motion for approval.

MOVED BY RAYMOND, SUPPORTED BY MOON MOHR to approve the agenda as presented.

The following vote was held:

YES: Anderson, Ballenger, Kelly, Moon Mohr, Newman-Bale, Raymond

NO: None

MOTION CARRIED.

RECOGNITION

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Northwestern Michigan

Big Brothers and Big Sisters of Northern Michigan School Liaison, Robin Smillie, thanked the Board for supporting their partnership with TCAPS. The Board watched a video about the program and the impact it has on children in our community. The Board and Administration thanked them for their commitment to students.

PUBLIC COMMENT #1 (Orange Card)

Board President Newman-Bale opened the meeting up to public comment and the following was offered:

- Genevieve Minor, 4409 Silver Valley Lane, Traverse City – Strategic Plan
- Larissa VanderZee, 3067 Lake Meadows Circle, Traverse City – Book Censorship
- Bill Weisner, 7998 E. Fouch Road, Traverse City – Promoting COVID shots is “ethically unjustifiable” and/or LGBTQ
- Mark Wagner, 1026 S. Union Street, Traverse City – Gym/Rec Facility use for City Rec Program
- Darcie Pickren, NA – Book Recommendations and LGBTQ

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

District Highlights

National Art Education Association (NAEA) Presentation

West Middle School Art Teacher, Sarah Dekett, recently was a featured presenter during a National Art Education Association (NAEA) Webinar. Title: Finding Student Voices: Photography in a Choice Environment.

SET SEG Playground Inspection

TCAPS invests a lot of resources (time and money) in our playgrounds. Facilities Managers, Elementary Lead Custodians, Grounds Technicians, and summer workers all work together to ensure the playgrounds are safe. Here is what the SET SEG inspector had to say about his most recent visit to the preschool playground at Westwoods Elementary:

"The equipment was in great shape and the fall surface/border looked fantastic. As I was planning my school visits and playground inspections for the remaining days in September, I wanted to thank you and TCAPS for your proactive commitment to your playgrounds and the safety standards that are consistently being followed. I work with 200 public schools throughout Michigan, and TCAPS is at the top of the list when it comes to playground compliance and safety. In the insurance world, we live in the "what if" situations, and I believe TCAPS commitment to safety and compliance certainly lowers the opportunity for those "what if" situations. Keep up the great work and commitment to the students of TCAPS."

TCAPS Announces Two National Merit Semifinalists

We are pleased to announce two students have been named semifinalists in the 68th annual National Merit Scholarship Program. Less than one percent of all U.S. high school seniors reach this level of academic achievement.

Traverse City Central High School students Ted Arnold and Rowin Smith were among 16,000 students named as 2023 National Merit Semifinalists. As semifinalists, students have the opportunity to continue in the competition for 7,250 National Merit Scholarships.

About 1.5 million juniors entered the 2023 National Merit Scholarship Program by taking the 2021 PSAT/NMSQT, which serves as the initial screen of program entrants. Semifinalists who qualify as finalists will be notified in February 2023.

TCAPS Accepted into National Network of Innovative School Districts

TCAPS was accepted into the League of Innovative Schools, a national coalition of forward-thinking K-12 school districts organized by Digital Promise, a global nonprofit working to expand opportunity for every learner by bringing together solutions across research, practice, and technology.

Working with educators, researchers, technology leaders, and communities, Digital Promise and the League of Innovative Schools provide an environment for superintendents and district leaders to share and learn from best practices; leverage research and participate in continuous improvement models; engage in research and development projects with peers to address education's biggest challenges; and implement new technologies and innovations in their school systems.

The League will officially welcome new members at its fall meeting on October 19-21, 2022, held in-person in Los Angeles, CA.

TCAPS Announces Virtual Day at Four Buildings on Election Day

TCAPS students who attend Long Lake, Westwoods, Traverse Heights, and the TCAPS Montessori at Glenn Loomis will attend school virtually on the November 8 Election Day to provide community polling space in the buildings while ensuring the safety and security of TCAPS students and staff is not compromised. All other TCAPS buildings remain unchanged and will continue with in-person learning.

Of the 420 compiled survey results, a majority of TCAPS families opted for a virtual school day. This data, along with November 8 being an early release day, and feedback from law enforcement, solidified the importance to host virtually. The day will remain scheduled as an early release day.

Legislative Update

Dr. VanWagoner shared that the legislature is back in session this week. He said there is a push to make some changes to the newly adopted retirement bill to allow staff to come back after 30 days of retirement for part time work, instead of the current law that does not allow them to return for 9 months.

He also shared that the General Fund and School Aid Fund are over the estimated projections.

BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS / DISCUSSION

Board members provided a brief summary of meetings held, and discuss miscellaneous topics.

Board Curriculum Committee (August 30) → Report out by Erica Moon Mohr

Board Finance and Operations Committee (August 31) → Report out by Raymond

Board Executive Committee (September 1) → Report out by Anderson

Board Office Hours 6:00pm – 7:00pm:

- July 28, 2022 – Report out by Kelly
- August 25, 2022 – Report out by Moon Mohr
- September 22, 2022 – Attending: Raymond

CONSENT

The purpose of the consent calendar is to expedite business by grouping items together to be dealt with by one Board member motion without discussion. Any member of the Board may ask that any item on the consent calendar be removed and placed elsewhere on the agenda for full discussion. Such requests will be automatically respected.

a. Personnel Recommendations

The Board considered the following Personnel Recommendations:

NEW HIRES (Acknowledgement):

<u>Name</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>	<u>Assignment</u>
Julie Brott	Elementary Education Teacher Eastern Elementary (1.0 FTE)	August 30, 2022
James “Jim” Coneset	Assistant Principal Central Grade School (1.0 FTE)	August 15, 2022
Emily Feters	Academic Interventionist Blair Elementary (0.60 FTE) <i>one year contract</i>	August 30, 2022
Lisa Hendrix	Special Education Teacher Traverse City High School (0.70 FTE)	August 30, 2022
Erica Hernandez	Special Education Teacher Long Lake Elementary Westwoods Elementary (1.0 FTE)	August 30, 2022
Sarah Keen	Special Education Teacher Eastern Elementary Willow Hill Elementary (1.0 FTE)	October 3, 2022
Nicole Kevwitch	Elementary Education Teacher Willow Hill Elementary (1.0 FTE)	August 30, 2022

Will Livingston	Special Education Teacher Traverse City Central High School (1.0 FTE)	August 30, 2022
Mary Beth Peters	School Social Worker Cherry Knoll Elementary Long Lake Elementary (1.0 FTE)	August 30, 2022
Courtney Rogers	Elementary Education Teacher Traverse Heights Elementary (1.0 FTE)	August 30, 2022
Caroline "Carrie" Urbain	Elementary Education Teacher Central Grade School (1.0 FTE)	August 30, 2022
Christon "Chris" Weitschat	Special Education Teacher East Middle School (1.0 FTE)	August 30, 2022

RESIGNATIONS (Acknowledgement):

<u>Name</u>	<u>Assignment</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
Jamie Cullen	Special Education Teacher Long Lake Elementary School Westwoods Elementary School (1.0 FTE)	June 30, 2022
Rebecca Huggard	Special Education Teacher Willow Hill Elementary School (1.0 FTE)	June 30, 2022
Jeffery May	Elementary Education Teacher Up North Virtual Live (1.0 FTE)	June 30, 2022

b. District Course Catalog with Amendments

The Board considered approval of the 2022/2023 District Course Catalog with amendments to remove UpNorth Virtual Live classes.

c. Board Policy

The Board considered the following:

- Policy 2412 - Homebound/Hospitalized Educational Services (REVISED)
- Policy 8520 – Meal Charge Policy (REVISED)

d. Acceptance of Grants

The Board considered the following:

- The Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians 2% Grant Allocation

e. Field Trip/Conferences

The Board considered the following:

- Student Support Network Coordinator to attend the National Association for the Education of Homeless Children and Youth (NAEHYC) Annual Conference, traveling to San Diego, CA; October 29 – November 2, 2022.
- Two (2) district leaders to attend the Fall 2022 League of Innovative Schools Convening in Los Angeles, CA; October 18 - October 20, 2022.

f. Bids, Purchases and/or Services

The Board considered the following:

Capital Projects

- Exterior Door Replacement
 - Purchase equipment for the Exterior Door Replacement Project as outlined in the attached bid recommendation and memo from Northern Michigan Glass for an amount not to exceed \$670,450; includes a 15% contingency; funded from the Michigan State Police (MSP) grant and School Aid funds, Section 97, or General Fund dependent upon restrictions yet to be determined.

- Esports Desktops and Monitor
 - Purchase 30 HP Omen 25L gaming desktops and monitors from STS Education for an amount not to exceed \$54,054; includes a 5% contingency; funded from Capital Bond Funds - Technology Allocation

g. **Minutes**

The Board considered Special Board Meeting minutes from the August 29, 2022.

MOVED BY BALLENGER, SUPPORTED BY RAYMOND that the Board of Education approve the Consent Calendar as presented and without discussion.

The following vote was held:

Yes: Anderson, Ballenger, Kelly, Moon Mohr, Newman-Bale, Raymond

No: None

MOTION CARRIED

DISCUSSION

a. **Certification of Board of Education Voting Delegates for MASB Assembly**

The Board considered certification of voting delegates to attend the Michigan Association of School Boards (MASB) Assembly on October 20, 2022. As a district with 5,001 – 11,000 students, TCAPS is entitled to four (4) Voting Delegates and four (4) Alternates. All delegates must be certified by September 23, 2022.

MOVED BY MOON MOHR, SUPPORTED BY ANDERSON that the Board of Education certify: Josey Ballenger and Scott Newman-Bale as voting delegates for the MASB Assembly to be held October 20, 2022 at the Grand Traverse Resort and Spa and that the Board of Education also certifies Sue Kelly and Erica Moon Mohr as alternates.

The following Roll Call vote was held:

Yes: Anderson, Ballenger, Kelly, Moon Mohr, Newman-Bale, Raymond

No: None

MOTION CARRIED

b. **Board Policy – First Reading**

Coni Taylor, Associate Superintendent of Labor Relations and Legal Services, provided the board with a first reading overview of the following Board policy language:

- Policy 5511 - Student Appearance (REPLACING)
- Policy 5600 - Student Discipline (REPLACING)
- Policy 5600.01 - Student Discipline - Due Process (NEW)
- Policy 5600.02 - Student Discipline - Students with Disabilities (NEW)
- Policy 5600.03 - Reinstatement Following Expulsion (NEW)
- Policy 5600.04 - Enrollment Following Misconduct at Another Public or Nonpublic School (NEW)
- Policy 5600.05 - Suspension from Class, Subject, or Activity by Teacher (NEW)

c. **Unified Pass System**

West Senior High School Principal Joe Esper and Central High School Principal Jessie Houghton provided an overview of the Unified Pass System that the high schools piloted in 2021-22. The high schools have written hundreds of hand-written, paper passes resulting in disruptions to learning. Putting the Unified Pass System in place maximizes learning time, increases safety and security for students, protects student privacy and dignity, and increases accessibility to student supports. The Unified Pass System is not a GPS tracker, and it offers students the ability to request passes through an app ahead of time for appointments, student services, and office visits, to name a few. There is no limit to the number of passes a student can request.

d. **School Safety Update**

Dr. VanWagoner introduced the new Safety and Security Coordinator, Patrick McManus, and shared some of the work he has been doing since joining the district. He also shared that work continues throughout the district to fix doors and limit the number of doors that are being used throughout the day. He mentioned that Secure Education Consultants (SEC) representatives have begun their work in the district. He let the Board know that he is expecting a report from SEC in October. In addition, Dr. VanWagoner mentioned that he plans to meet with a local group that is promoting gun safety.

PUBLIC COMMENT #2 (Green Card)

Board President Newman-Bale opened the meeting up to public comment and the following was offered:

- Holly T. Bird, NA – Books, Library

CLOSED SESSION

The Board went into Closed Session for the purpose of receiving Privileged Written Attorney-Client Communication (attorney communication dated July 21, 2022 and September 15, 2022) as allowed by Section 8(h) of the Open Meetings Act.

MOVED BY KELLY, SUPPORTED BY RAYMOND that the Board of Education go into Closed Session for the purposes of receiving Privileged Written Attorney-Client Communication (attorney communication dated July 21, 2022 and September 15, 2022) as allowed by Section 8(h) of the Open Meetings Act.

The following Roll Call vote was held:

Yes: Anderson, Ballenger, Kelly, Moon Mohr, Newman-Bale, Raymond

No: None

MOTION CARRIED

The Board went into Closed Session at 7:18 pm.

The Board returned to Open Session at 8:01 pm.

CLOSED SESSION

The Board went into Closed Session to consider a Student Petition for Reinstatement as allowed by the Open Meetings Act, P.A. 267 of 1976, Sections 8(b) and 8(h). Closed session requested by the parent of the student.

MOVED BY RAYMOND, SUPPORTED BY BALLENGER to go into Closed Session to consider a Student Petition for Reinstatement, as allowed by the Open Meetings Act, P.A. 267 of 1976, Sections 8(b) and 8(h), as requested by the parent of the student.

The following Roll Call vote was held:

Yes: Anderson, Ballenger, Kelly, Moon Mohr, Newman-Bale, Raymond

No: None

MOTION CARRIED

The Board went into Closed Session at 8:02 pm.

The Board returned to Open Session at 8:15pm.

DISCUSSION

a. **Student Reinstatement**

The Board considered reinstatement of a student to Traverse City Area Public Schools.

MOVED BY MOON MOHR, SUPPORTED BY ANDERSON that the Board of Education Adopt the Resolution to reinstate the student, as recommended by the Reinstatement Committee, to Traverse City Area Public Schools effective Tuesday, September 20, 2022.

The following Roll Call vote was held:

Yes: Anderson, Ballenger, Kelly, Moon Mohr, Newman-Bale, Raymond

No: None

MOTION CARRIED

BOARD PRESIDENT CLOSING REMARKS

Board President Newman-Bale reminded the Board and audience that the next scheduled meeting is October 10, 2022.

ADJOURNMENT

MOVED BY RAYMOND, SUPPORTED BY KELLY to adjourn the meeting at 8:16 p.m.

The following vote was held:

Yes: Anderson, Ballenger, Kelly, Moon Mohr, Newman-Bale, Raymond

No: None

MOTION CARRIED.

Respectfully submitted,



Board Recording Secretary

Next Board Meeting

Monday, October 10, 2022 (6:00 p.m.)

***Tompkins Boardman Administration Building – Conf. Room C, 2nd Floor
412 Webster Street, Traverse City, MI 49686***

BOARD MEMBERS:

**Matt R. Anderson, Josey Ballenger, V. Fournoy Humphreys, M. Sue Kelly, Erica Moon Mohr,
Scott Newman-Bale and Andrew R. Raymond**