

Meeting Minutes

Regular Meeting of the Board of Education

Monday, November 13, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.

Tompkins Boardman Administration Center

Conference Room C (2nd Floor)

412 Webster Street, Traverse City, MI 49686



Traverse City Area Public Schools

Great Community, Great Schools

To be approved on December 11, 2023

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, November 13, 2023.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: President Newman-Bale, Vice President Humphreys, Treasurer Raymond, Trustee Bird, and Trustee Pack
BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Secretary Ballenger and Trustee Moon Mohr
ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT: Smith, Taylor, Thomas-Hill, and VanWagoner
ADMINISTRATORS ABSENT: Perkowski

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

President Newman-Bale welcomed those in attendance and called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Ms. Brzezinski's 2nd Grade Class at Willow Hill Elementary led those in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. **REVIEW/APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

The Board welcomed staff and citizens and reviewed the agenda.

Approval of the meeting agenda as presented.

Moved by: Raymond

Seconded by: Humphreys

The following vote was held:

Ayes: Bird, Humphreys, Newman-Bale, Pack, and Raymond

Nay: N/A

MOTION CARRIED 5-0

4. **RECOGNITION**

Traverse Bay Sunrise Rotary Club

Dr. VanWagoner and the Board of Education recognized Traverse Bay Sunrise Rotary Club for their mission to increase early literacy and kindergarten readiness in our community with the Born to Read Project. Established in 2011, Born to Read is one of three signature projects of the Traverse Bay Sunrise Rotary Club. Their mission is to increase early literacy and kindergarten readiness in our community.

Working together with partner organizations, Rotary volunteers distribute books and spread the word to parents and caregivers about the importance of reading, singing, and talking with young children every day from birth on.

At Munson Medical Center, they provide a Welcome Baby gift for all new parents with a book for baby, literacy information, and connection to the library and other community resources, reaching 1500 families a year. Through their "Books from Birth" initiative, they've recently partnered with Dolly Parton's Imagination Library GTR to offer all babies from the 5- county region born at Munson the opportunity to receive Imagination Library books every month until their 5th birthday, at no cost to families.

In partnership with TCAPS, Sunrise Rotarians and other volunteers serve as Born to Read Ambassadors reading

with children at Blair Elementary and Traverse Heights Elementary Schools. Also providing age-appropriate books to early childhood programs.

They distribute children's books and literacy information to parents in partnership with Traverse Area District Library and other area libraries, 5toONE, Father Fred's Pantry to Preschool Project, United Way's United We Smile dental program, Northwest Michigan Health Services, the Grand Traverse Health Department's WIC program, Grand Traverse Baby Pantry, NMC Children's Center, and other community organizations. We also maintain 3 Little Libraries in the community.

In the past year, Born to Read volunteers have reached hundreds of families with their Message and distributed 7,000 age-appropriate books to young children in the community.

In attendance to accept this recognition were Sunrise Rotarians, Mary Kay Archer, Karen Eckhardy, Sharon Workman, Ty Schmidt, and Wayne Workman.

5. **PUBLIC COMMENT #1** (Orange Card)

President Newman-Bale opened the meeting up for public comment and the following addressed the Board:

- Scot Richards
- Bill Wiesner: See how TCAPS is banning books on LGBTQA
- Jamie Roster: TCCAPSA
- TCAPS Student: HOMES Shirt Co.

6. **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

a. **Legislative Update**

Dr. VanWagoner gave the Board an update on current legislation. He informed them that the legislators are almost done for the year and will close the session this upcoming Tuesday. Dr. VanWagoner explained updates on the administrator evaluation and student FAFSA form.

b. **District Highlights**

Gerstacker Fellowship Program

Executive Director of School Improvement and Innovative Programs, Heidi Maltby-Skodack, has been selected for Saginaw Valley State University's 2023-24 Gerstacker Fellowship Program. The Program consists of 12 education leaders from districts across Michigan committed to professional growth. As part of the initiative, fellows participate in concentrated leadership training over one year. As an extension of their study, the Gerstacker Fellows will travel to Finland and Germany in April to meet with educators from various educational institutions to learn about global educational systems and different cultures.

STEM Groundbreaking

Board members, staff, students, and many business leaders were on hand at the District's recent groundbreaking ceremonies to mark the official beginning of construction for the Manufacturing and Innovation Centers being built on the campuses of both West Senior High School and Central High School. The spaces will be used for various academic and co-curricular needs tied to science, technology, engineering, and math as well as robotics and manufacturing. These facility additions are funded through the district's 2018 capital bond.

WSH Craft Show

The West Senior High Craft Show will take place on Saturday, November 18th from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. TCAPS anticipates a large number of great vendors and some student groups.

WSH Musical - Guys and Dolls

The WSH Performance of Guys and Dolls opened Friday, November 10, next weekend's shows are:

- Friday, November 17 at 7 p.m.
- Saturday, November 18 at 7 p.m.
- Sunday, November 19 at 2:00 p.m.

Tickets are between \$15 and 25 dollars and can be purchased at tcaps.booktix.com.

CHS Debate Team

The Central High Debate team competed virtually this weekend against over 200 teams from around the country at the Groves Invitational Tournament. All 16 TCC debaters helped to score the 15 wins for the team.

CHS Students Attend MASSP Women in Leadership Summit

Eight female student leaders from Central High School had the opportunity to attend the MASSP Women in Leadership Conference in Grand Rapids with Head Principal, Ms. Houghton, and Student Senate Advisor and CHS Science teacher, Ms. Johnson.

Fall Sports Wrap-Up

Dr. VanWagoner provided the Board with an update on fall sports for Central High School and West Senior High.

c. 31AA Plan Use of Funds

Assistant Superintendent, Christine Thomas-Hill, presented on the 2023/2024 31aa Plan Use of Funds.

d. TRANE

Gwen Pettit and Phil Mikulski from TRANE presented an overview of how a performance contract could save money by addressing energy inefficiencies across the district.

e. Safer Kids, Safer Schools

Safer Kids, Safer Schools co-founders, Jay Berger and Kathleen Guy, Ph.D., presented a final report that included their recommendations on school safety and support for mental health.

Trustee Bird was absent from the table 6:57 p.m. - 6:58 p.m.

f. Audit of Financial Report

Assistant Superintendent, Christine Thomas-Hill, introduced Dave Nielsen, CPA, Principal from Maner Costerisan. Dave presented to the Board an overview of the audit process and a summary of the audit report.

Below are the Independent Auditor's Report Highlights:

- **Financial Statements:** Unmodified
- **Internal controls over financial reporting:** No material weaknesses or significant deficiencies
- **Compliance for Major Programs:** Unmodified opinion and no material weaknesses or significant deficiencies

Dave Nielsen informed the Board that TCAPS continues to see an increase in property values and this is expected to continue increasing throughout the near and mid-term future.

The full presentation can be viewed on the district website.

7. BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS / DISCUSSION

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

Board Curriculum Committee (October 30) → Report out given by Humphreys

Board Finance and Operations Committee (November 1) → Report out given by Raymond

Board Executive Committee (November 2) → Report out given by Newman-Bale

Preparing for Your Organizational Meeting Workshop → Report out given by Pack

MASB Annual Leadership Conference → Report out given by Pack

Board Office Hours 6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

- a. October 26, 2023 → Report out to be given by Ballenger at the December meeting.
- b. November 16, 2023 → Attending: Humphreys

8. **CONSENT**

The purpose of the consent calendar was 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 are automatically respected.

a. **Personnel Recommendations (Informational only per Board Policy 3120)**

The Board reviewed the following personnel recommendations that were included in their agenda packet:

NEW HIRE (Acknowledgement):

<u>Name</u>	<u>Assignment</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
Chelsea Miller	Elementary Education Teacher Traverse Heights Elementary School (1.0 FTE)	October 26, 2023

RESIGNATION (Acknowledgement):

<u>Name</u>	<u>Assignment</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
Mandy Ford	Elementary Education Teacher Traverse Heights Elementary School (1.0 FTE)	October 27, 2023

Timothy McDonald	Social Studies Teacher West Senior High School (1.0 FTE) <i>Currently on leave of absence for the 2023/24 school year</i>	June 30, 2023
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Kyle Smith	Special Education Teacher West Senior High School (1.0 FTE)	October 25, 2023
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RETIREMENT (Acknowledgement):

<u>Name</u>	<u>Assignment</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
Jenny Hetfield	Elementary Education Teacher Silver Lake Elementary School (1.0 FTE)	January 1, 2024

Benjamin Ludka	Social Studies/History Teacher Central High School (1.0 FTE)	July 1, 2024
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Lance Morgan

Secondary Principal
Traverse City High School
(1.0 FTE)

July 1, 2024

b. Field Trips/Conferences

The Board approved the following requests:

- i. Traverse City West Senior High School AP Art & Design Class (approximately 6 students) to Chicago, Illinois, November 26-28, 2023
- ii. Dr. John VanWagoner to attend the School Superintendents Association Annual Conference from February 15 -17, 2024
- iii. Traverse City West Senior High School 9-11 Grades Global Service (approximately 35 students) to Guanajuato, Mexico, June 11-30, 2024
- iv. Traverse City West Senior High School 9-11 Grades Model UN Conference (approximately 25 students) to Toledo, Ohio, April 19-21, 2024

c. Meeting Minutes

The Board approved the meeting Minutes from their October 19, 2023 Special Meeting.

Approval of the Consent Calendar as presented and without discussion.

Moved by: Humphreys

Seconded by: Bird

The following vote was held:

Ayes: Bird, Humphreys, Newman-Bale, Pack, and Raymond

Nay: N/A

MOTION CARRIED 5-0

9. DISCUSSION

a. Property Updates

The Board discussed updates on the properties listed below with administration.

- i. Boardman Administration Building, located at 412 Webster Street, Traverse City, Michigan
- ii. Bertha Vos School Building, located at 3723 Shore Road, Williamsburg, Michigan

b. Board Policy

The Board discussed the below policies with administration.

- i. Board Policy 7115 - Naming of New Facilities
- ii. Board Policy 7250 - Naming Rights

10. PUBLIC COMMENT #2 (GREEN CARD)

President Newman-Bale opened the meeting up for public comment and no request was made.

11. CLOSED SESSION - PENDING LITIGATION

The Board went into Closed Session to consider a Privileged Written Attorney-Client Communication dated September 8, 2023 (Case No. 3:19-md-2913-WHO in the United States District Court for the Northern District of California) as allowed by Section 8(1)(h) of the Open Meetings Act.

Approval that the Board of Education go into Closed Session to consider a Privileged Written Attorney-Client Communication dated September 8, 2023 (Case No. 3:19-md-2913-WHO in the United States District Court of the Northern District of California) as allowed by Section 8(1)(h) of the Open Meetings Act.

Moved by: Raymond

Seconded by: Pack

The following Roll Call vote was held:

Ayes: Bird, Humphreys, Newman-Bale, Pack, and Raymond

Nay: N/A

MOTION CARRIED 5-0

The Board entered into a Closed Session at 8:20 p.m.

The Board returned to Open Session at 8:30 p.m.

12. DISCUSSION

a. **Altria Settlement Resolution**

Approval that the Board of Education approves the Altria Settlement Resolution, as presented.

Moved by: Humphreys

Seconded by: Bird

The following Roll Call vote was held:

Ayes: Bird, Humphreys, Newman-Bale, Pack, and Raymond

Nay: N/A

MOTION CARRIED 5-0

13. BOARD PRESIDENT CLOSING REMARKS

President Newman-Bale encouraged stakeholders to reach out and join Big Brothers Big Sisters as the need for participants was expressed during a presentation earlier in the meeting.

14. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:31 p.m.

Moved by: Bird

Seconded by: Pack

The following vote was held:

Ayes: Bird, Humphreys, Newman-Bale, Pack, and Raymond

Nay: N/A

MOTION CARRIED 5-0

Board Secretary

Next Board of Education Meeting

Monday, December 11, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.

Tompkins Boardman Administration Building (Conference Room C)

412 Webster Street, Traverse City, MI 49686

Board of Education:

***Josey Ballenger, Holly T. Bird, V. Flourney Humphreys, Erica L. Moon Mohr,
Scott Newman-Bale, Beth Pack, and Andrew R. Raymond***

Draft