

Approved on October 19, 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, October 9, 2023.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Ballenger, Humphreys, Moon Mohr, Newman-Bale, Pack, and Raymond
BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Bird
ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT: Perkowski, Smith, Taylor, Thomas-Hill, and VanWagoner
ADMINISTRATORS ABSENT: N/A

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

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

2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mr. O'Hare's 3rd-grade classroom at Blair 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.

Moved by: Ballenger
Seconded by: Humphreys

The following vote was held:

Ayes: Ballenger, Humphreys, Moon Mohr, Newman-Bale, Pack, and Raymond
Nay: N/A

MOTION CARRIED 6-0

4. **RECOGNITION**

Grand Traverse Bay YMCA

Grand Traverse Bay YMCA was recognized for its partnership with TCAPS. TCAPS partners with the YMCA's Safety Around Water Program for all district 3rd graders, which was temporarily suspended during the pandemic. This program provides in-pool water safety and confidence training at no cost to families. Members of the community, TCAPS, and the YMCA have generously funded this program. TCAPS strongly believes it is important to have necessary water safety skills taught at an early age. Michigan, especially Traverse City, has great involvement in water activities. TCAPS students need to be prepared mentally, as well as physically, for the prevention of all types of water emergencies. Building confidence in and around the water is critical to the safety of students.

The West Y was also recognized for its after-school program. The after-school program at West Y has 50-60 middle school students attending daily. Two healthy snack options are provided, along with areas for games, homework, and physical activities. This program is offered Monday-Friday from 2:45 PM - 6:00 PM.

In attendance to accept the recognition was Chief Executive Officer, Andrew Page.

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

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

- Barb Shimnoski: Moving Forward
- John Scrudato: Sale of Building
- Marc Sivek: Boardman Building
- Natalie Sivek: Boardman Building
- Deni Scrudato: Sale of Admin. Bldg
- Tracey Welch: Boardman Building LLC
- Betsy Allen: Boardman Building
- Gary Schilkey: Selling Admin. Bldg
- Eric Gerstner: Boardman Bldg
- Bill Wiesner: Christians vs “LGBTQ” Religion @ TCFamily.org
- Scott Richards

6. **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

a. **Legislative Update**

Dr. VanWagoner provided a legislative update to trustees. This update included information on legislative changes being worked on in education. Currently being debated is the teacher evaluation tool and a retirement bill that would allow a retiree to return to work after 30 days with stipulations.

b. **District Highlights**

International Day of Peace

International Day of Peace was highlighted in the district with the installation of new peace poles at five schools around the district. Peace poles were funded through a generous donation from Veterans for Peace Chapter 50. On September 21, representatives from Veterans for Peace Chapter 50 unveiled the new poles and attended a school ceremony at TCAPS Montessori for a special unveiling. Additional installations were unveiled at Cherry Knoll, Courtade, Long Lake, and Westwoods Elementary schools.

Gun Safety

TCAPS Board of Education adopted a resolution in November of 2022 known as the BE SMART Gun Safety Resolution. This resolution focuses on the importance of gun safety and firearm storage. The resolution states that the Superintendent and Board of Education will continue to work with local law enforcement agencies, medical and mental health agencies, and non-profit organizations to collaborate and increase efforts on promoting the importance of secure firearm storage and gun violence prevention safety measures. The district will also make informational materials available to parents on an annual basis to coincide with Michigan’s hunting season.

Superintendent/Board of Education Student Advisory Council

The first meeting of the Student Advisory Council was held on Tuesday, October 3. There were 54 students in attendance. Discussion centered around the strategic plan initiatives, mental health, and the cell phone policy. There was also a consensus from the group for the naming of the Innovation and Manufacturing Centers.

Lunch Buddies Mentorship Program

The Lunch Buddies Mentorship Program is being expanded for the 2023/24 academic year. Following the resounding success of its pilot run at Traverse Heights and Central Grade last year, TCAPS' Health & Wellbeing Team is excited to expand this innovative mentorship initiative to all district elementary schools. TCAPS invites individuals who are passionate about contributing to the growth and success of TCAPS students to join Lunch Buddies as mentors. Mentors commit to at least one season where they will eat for one (20-minute) lunch and play for two (20-minute) recesses. Most schools have two Lunch Buddies shifts that are approximately one hour long. Consistency is crucial for success, so mentors are encouraged to commit to at least one season, attending most sessions. To become a mentor, community members will need to complete the Lunch Buddies application form, pass a background check, and attend a 30-minute training session conducted by TCAPS staff. More information about the program can be found on the district website.

Patriot Game

The 12th Annual Traverse City Patriot Game is scheduled for Friday, October 20 at 7:00 PM. Student Senators from both high schools are planning to carry on the long-standing tradition of honoring Veterans, active-duty military, and first responders through the TC Patriot Game. Proceeds from the event will go to Veterans for Peace, American Legion Bowen-Holliday Post #35, and VFW Cherryland Post #2780. All Veterans, active duty and first responders get into the game free and can enter Thirlby Field at the 13th Street rolling gate or through the 14th Street main entry. Gates open at 5:30 PM. TCAPS highly encourages buying tickets in advance through Go Fan, however, tickets can also be purchased at the game with cash or credit.

Count Day

TCAPS Count Day is complete. The preliminary number being reported is 8,679 (does not include GSRP, tuition-based preschool, or shared time). This is a slight decrease from last year. Dr. VanWagoner informed trustees that this number is close to what was budgeted.

c. Tenure Contracts

Associate Superintendent of Labor Relations and Legal Services, Coni Taylor, informed trustees that the following teachers will successfully complete their probationary period with Traverse City Area Public Schools and are eligible for tenure:

- Kevin Cram, effective October 11, 2023
- Kyle Smith, effective October 17, 2023

7. BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS / DISCUSSION

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

Board Finance and Operations Committee → Meeting canceled

Board Curriculum Committee (September 25) → Report out given by Moon Mohr

Board Executive Committee (September 28) → Report out given by Humphreys

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

- a. September 28, 2023 → Report out given by Pack
- b. October 26, 2023 → Attending: Ballenger

8. **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 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>
Christopher Morehead	Elementary Education Teacher Central Grade School (1.0 FTE)	September 5, 2023

RESIGNATION (Acknowledgement):

<u>Name</u>	<u>Assignment</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
Kim Fleming	Guidance Counselor Central High School (1.0 FTE)	October 19, 2023
James Hornyak II	Academic Resources Teacher St. Francis High School (Shared-Time) (0.20 FTE)	June 30, 2023

RETIREMENT (Acknowledgement):

<u>Name</u>	<u>Assignment</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
Juliana Forlenza	Physical Education Teacher Cherry Knoll Elementary School Central Grade School (1.0 FTE)	July 1, 2024

b. **Meeting Minutes**

The Board approved the Closed Session and Regular Meeting Minutes from the Special Meeting held on September 25, 2023.

Approval of the Consent Calendar as presented and without discussion.

Moved by: Humphreys

Seconded by: Moon Mohr

The following vote was held:

Ayes: Ballenger, Humphreys, Moon Mohr, Newman-Bale, Pack, and Raymond

Nay: N/A

MOTION CARRIED 6-0

9. DISCUSSION

a. **School Safety Update**

Dr. VanWagoner provided a school safety update to trustees. Informing them that the Safer Kids, Safer Schools final report that was originally planned for presentation at this meeting has been delayed. If completed, the presentation will be at the next Board Executive Committee meeting.

Door numbering is taking place at West Senior High School.

West Middle School has updated lighting being installed at the athletic entrance and Buffalo Ridge Trail.

Dr. VanWagoner thanked Trustee Ballenger for being in attendance at the first Cyber Security presentation. He also expressed the importance of the presentation, and although attendance was not as planned, students will receive the message at upcoming assemblies scheduled for this school year.

b. **Property Offers**

The Board discussed property offers received by the district for the properties listed below:

i. **Boardman Administration Building, located at 412 Webster Street, Traverse City, Michigan**

Trustees discussed and reviewed the presented Purchase Agreement from Boardman Building, LLC for the property located at 412 Webster Street.

Approval to accept the Purchase Agreement for the purchase of the Boardman Building at 412 Webster Street by Boardman Building, LLC.

Moved by: Humphreys

Seconded by: Moon Mohr

The following Roll Call vote was held:

Ayes: Ballenger, Humphreys, Moon Mohr, Newman-Bale, Pack, and Raymond

Nay: N/A

MOTION CARRIED 6-0

Approval to authorize Dr. VanWagoner or his designee have the ability to negotiate the closing date as defined in writing.

Moved by: Moon Mohr

Seconded by: Humphreys

The following Roll Call vote was held:

Ayes: Ballenger, Humphreys, Moon Mohr, Newman-Bale, Pack, and Raymond

Nay: N/A

MOTION CARRIED 6-0

President Newman-Bale expressed appreciation to Keel Capital, LLC for their offer. Dr. VanWagoner also expressed appreciation for Keel Capital and their effort to assist with housing in the region. Trustees also discussed the option of rejecting the Keel Capital, LLC offer or letting it expire on October 31.

Motion to reject the Keel offer.

Moved by: Humphreys

Seconded by: Raymond

The following Roll Call vote was held:

Ayes: Humphreys and Raymond

Nay: Ballenger, Moon-Mohr, and Newman-Bale

Abstain: Pack

MOTION FAILED 2-3-1

ii. Bertha Vos School Building, located at 3723 Shore Road, Williamsburg, Michigan

Trustees and administration discussed moving forward with a commercial real estate agent to list the property located at 3723 Shore Road, Williamsburg. Dr. VanWagoner has been in communication with Scott Hard (Coldwell Banker Commercial Schmidt, Realtors). Dr. VanWagoner recommended moving forward with Coldwell Banker Commercial Schmidt, Realtors, and having a listing price of \$725,000.

Trustees discussed authorizing Dr. VanWagoner, or designee, to move forward with listing the property at 3723 Shore Road with Coldwell Banker Commercial Schmidt, Realtors. Also discussed was removing Acme Township from the listing agreement because there had been prior negotiation before the hiring of Coldwell Banker Commercial Schmidt, Realtors.

Approval for Dr. VanWagoner and/or designee execute a listing contract with Coldwell Banker Schmidt on the Bertha Vos Building.

Moved by: Humphreys

Seconded by: Moon Mohr

The following Roll Call vote was held:

Ayes: Ballenger, Humphreys, Moon Mohr, Newman-Bale, Pack, and Raymond

Nay: N/A

MOTION CARRIED 6-0

10. PUBLIC COMMENT #2 (GREEN CARD)

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

11. CLOSED SESSION - SUPERINTENDENT QUARTERLY EVALUATION

The Board went into Closed Session for the purpose of conducting a periodic personnel evaluation, as allowed by the Open Meetings Act, P.A. 267 of 1976, Section 8(1)(a). This closed session was requested in writing by the employee.

Approval that the Board of Education go into Closed Session for the purpose of conducting a periodic personnel evaluation, as allowed by the Open Meetings Act, P.A. 267 of 1976, Section 8(1)(a). The closed session was requested in writing by the employee.

Moved by: Raymond
Seconded by: Ballenger

The following Roll Call vote was held:

Ayes: Ballenger, Humphreys, Moon Mohr, Newman-Bale, Pack, and Raymond

Nay: N/A

MOTION CARRIED 6-0

The Board entered into a Closed Session at 7:36 PM.

The Board returned to Open Session at 8:35 PM.

12. CLOSED SESSION - SUPERINTENDENT QUARTERLY EVALUATION

The Board went into Closed Session to consider security planning to address existing threats or prevent potential threats to the safety of the students and staff, as allowed by the Open Meetings Act, P.A. 267 of 1976, Section 8(1)(k).

Approval that the Board of Education go into Closed Session to consider security planning to address existing threats or prevent potential threats to the safety of the students and staff, as allowed by the Open Meetings Act, P.A. 267 of 1976, Section 8(1)(k).

Moved by: Raymond
Seconded by: Humphreys

The following Roll Call vote was held:

Ayes: Ballenger, Humphreys, Moon Mohr, Newman-Bale, Pack, and Raymond

Nay: N/A

MOTION CARRIED 6-0

The Board entered into a Closed Session at 8:36 PM.

The Board returned to Open Session at 8:55 PM.

13. BOARD PRESIDENT CLOSING REMARKS

President Newman-Bale thanked those who attended and expressed recognition for Indigenous Peoples' Day.

14. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:55 p.m.

Moved by: Moon Mohr
Seconded by: Humphreys

The following vote was held:

Ayes: Ballenger, Humphreys, Moon Mohr, Newman-Bale, Pack, and Raymond

Nay: N/A

MOTION CARRIED 6-0

Respectfully Submitted By,

Megan Feiss

Megan Feiss
Board Recording Secretary

Next Board of Education Meeting
Thursday, October 19, 2023 at 5:00 PM
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