

Approved on March 18, 2025

A Regular 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 TCAPS Administration at Glenn Loomis, 1009 S. Oak Street, Traverse City, Michigan, on Monday, March 10, 2025.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Bird, Ballenger, Moon Mohr, Newman-Bale, Pack, and Schmidt

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: None

ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT: Houghton, Smith, Taylor, Tiesworth, and VanWagoner

ADMINISTRATORS ABSENT: Thomas-Hill

Meeting Presentation

1. CALL TO ORDER

Board President Newman-Bale called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Ms. Parkhurst's second grade class from Cherry Knoll led those in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. REVIEW/APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The Board welcomed staff and citizens and reviewed the agenda. The following items were moved to Discussion: Unlawful Discrimination, Harassment, and Retaliation Against Student 5202, Student Discipline 5206, Title I Parent and Family Engagement 5405, Title I Funds 5406, and School Wellness Policy 5707.

Approval of the meeting agenda as amended.

Moved by: Pack

Seconded by: Ballenger

The following vote was held:

Ayes: Ballenger, Bird, Moon Mohr, Newman-Bale, Pack, and Schmidt

Nay: N/A

MOTION CARRIED 6 -0

4. RECOGNITION

The Board recognized 2025 National Merit Finalists Madeline Bildeaux and Jackson Hochstetler, both Traverse City West Senior High students.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT #1 (Orange Card)

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

- Scot Richards
- Lucy Waechter Webb - board appointment

- Briana Motley - support for candidate Jessica Forster
- Anne O'Dell - Jessie Forster TCAPS board finalist
- Jennifer Beutuin - board appointment
- Julie Delizenne - board appt.
- Beth Strauch -board member, Jessica Forster
- Erica Mastromonaco - school board appointment
- Bette Dickenson - school board appointment
- Rachel Ventimiglia - school board position
- Bill Wiesner - selection of interim board member
- Darcie Pickren - trustee position
- Mary VanValin - hope for all students
- Marcello Bette - board trustee

6. DISCUSSION

The Board welcomed the four finalists for the Board vacancy created by the resignation of Andrew Raymond. The term will expire on December 31, 2026. Jessica Forster, Scott Hardy, Becky Lent, and Peter Mooney addressed the Board and answered questions.

The Board took a five-minute recess.

The Board came back and voted for the interim Board member. Votes were as follows.

- Jessica Forster - 8
- Scott Hardy - 11
- Becky Lent - 1
- Peter Mooney - 6

Approval that Scott Hardy be named as interim Board member.

Moved by: Moon Mohr

Seconded by: Bird

The following vote was held:

Ayes: Ballenger, Bird, Moon Mohr, Newman-Bale, Pack, and Schmidt

Nay: N/A

MOTION CARRIED 6-0

New Board member Hardy was invited to sit at the table and observe, but not vote.

7. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

a. **Legislative Update**

Dr. VanWagoner presented an unsolicited \$167,000 offer for the Potter Road property to the Board, stating he was not planning on entertaining it and asking them for their thoughts. The response is due by April 18, 2025.

Dr. VanWagoner discussed the insulin lawsuit that TCAPS was part of and whether or not the Board wanted to continue to pursue it. This item was moved to discussion.

During conversations with Tim Kelly, Dr. VanWagoner expressed that while the transportation categorical funding is good, the Republican-passed bill providing \$10,025 per student is positive, but primarily a political maneuver. Nevertheless, it underscores the urgency of establishing a school budget by July 4, a sentiment shared by Representative John Roth.

Dr. VanWagoner is working to secure a "hold harmless" clause concerning 31-A funds, aiming to prevent a \$1 million reduction. He is contacting all involved entities to raise awareness and facilitate this change.

b. District Highlights

Athletics:

- Traverse City Central's Girls Alpine Ski are Division 1 State Champions.
- Traverse City Central's Girls Basketball team are the Big North Conference Champions, District Champions, and will be playing for the Regional Championship on Wednesday, March 12.
- Traverse City Central had several individual state qualifiers: Carter Banton (bowling), Michael Risinger (wrestling), Grady Rouse (wrestling).
- Traverse City West High School girls and boys Alpine Ski both finished as runners up in the Division 1 State finals.
- Traverse City West's Matthew Quigley finished third in the state at the MHSAA Wrestling finals at Ford Field.
- The VASA Ski club boys team won the state championship, including a second place finish from West's Liam Wierzba.

Central Grade Visioning

A 25-member team, composed of Central Grade stakeholders, including staff, parents, neighborhood representatives, board members, city officials, and students, convened twice to establish high-level priorities for the Central Grade project. Architectural and construction management professionals guided the discussions, and the resulting priorities will be presented at the April 14, 2025 Board of Education meeting.

Blair Elementary School

Reading Month celebrations are in full swing and staff is incorporating things learned through the Science of Reading including:

- Hosting a "March Madness" style book bracket, with daily classroom and staff voting to determine the school's favorite book.
- Second Grade Classes gathered for Cocoa and Reading time.
- Reading Night will be held March 18, the theme is Bedtime Stories. Ann Tisdale and Mighty Miss Maya are coming to read to the school. In preparation for the event, three vocabulary words were identified from the story that students may not know, each word has been assigned a week to be the "Secret Word". The goal is for students to hear that word so often

that they are able to guess the secret word of the week by Friday - and also define/use it correctly.

Robotics

The TC Titans robotics team had a strong performance in their opening competition at Lake City, including being selected as the first robot in the alliance selection.

NHS

Traverse City West student Kira Adams was named a National Honor Society Scholarship National Semifinalist.

Academic World Quest

The Traverse City West "Academic Weapons" team of Trey Stewart, Dylan Gryglewski, Ryan Goodrich, and Tucker Ballenger are 2025 Regional Academic World Quest champs! They will be heading to Washington, DC to represent Michigan.

West Middle School

Physical Education teacher Eric Quine and the TCAPS Academic Excellence Endowment helped make class even more fun at West Middle School with the purchase of the 9-Square in the Air Grant.

TCAPS Montessori

Students at TCAPS Montessori celebrated Black History month by hanging an interactive version of "R-E-S-P-E-C-T: Aretha Franklin the Queen of Soul" by Carol Boston Weatherford along the fence on the school playground, and for the public along the Buffalo Trail. Come by and share a story with your children! Many thanks to TCAPS Montessori's, Mrs. Tank, for sparking the idea, and to our student leadership for getting the work done!

Courtade Elementary

On February 27, Courtade Elementary School held a successful and well-attended Title 1 event. The theme was Bedtime Story Night. Students received a voucher to pick out a free book from the Brilliant Books Book Fair, visited six different story and activity stations, and enjoyed refreshments. The stations included a shadow puppet show, a green screen imagination station, glow stories, reading with Courtade's therapy dog Gracie, a mascot reading with Monty from the Pit Spitters, Trojje from Central High, and Courtade's very own Cougar. Vendors included The Traverse Area District Library, Farm to School, and Dolly Parton's Imagination Library

8. BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS / DISCUSSION

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

- a. **Board Curriculum Committee (February 25)** → Report out by Ballenger
- b. **Board Finance and Operations Committee (February 27)** → Report out by Moon Mohr
- c. **Board Executive Committee (February 27)** → Report out by Newman-Bale
- d. **Sustainability Committee (February 10)** → Report out by Bird

- e. **Superintendent/Board of Education Student Advisory Council (February 18)** → Report out by Bird
- f. **Nutrition and Fitness Team (March 6)** → Report out by Pack
- g. **Board Office Hours 6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.**
 - i. February 27, 2025 → Report out by Pack
 - ii. March 13, 2025 → Ballenger

Trustee Bird was absent from the meeting from 8:02 p.m.-8:06 p.m.

Chief Academic Officer Dan Tiesworth was absent from the meeting from 8:12 p.m.-8:16 p.m.

9. **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 reviewed personnel recommendations that were included in the agenda packet.

b. **Board Policy**

The Board considered the following:

- i. 5101 Student Expression
- ii. 5102 Lockers
- iii. 5103 Search and Seizure
- iv. 5104 Age of Majority
- v. 5105 Collaboration with Outside Entities
- vi. 5201 Investigations, Arrests, and Other Law Enforcement Contact
- vii. 5203 Hazing
- viii. 5204 Student Appearance and Dress Code
- ix. 5206A Student Discipline - Due Process
- x. 5206B Student Discipline - Students with Disabilities
- xi. 5206C Student Discipline - Reinstatement Following Expulsion
- xii. 5206D Enrollment Following Misconduct at Another Public or Nonpublic School
- xiii. 5206E Student Discipline-Suspension from Class, Subject, or Activity by Teacher
- xiv. 5208 Student Acceptable Use and Internet Safety
- xv. 5212 Registered Sex Offenders - Students
- xvi. 5213 Personal Protection Orders Against Students
- xvii. 5301 Compulsory Attendance, Absenteeism, and Truancy
- xviii. 5302 Enrollment in Kindergarten

- xix. 5303 Student Enrollment and Withdrawal
- xx. 5304 Nonpublic School Students; Part-Time Attendance
- xxi. 5306 Foreign Students
- xxii. 5307 Homeless Students
- xxiii. 5308 Protection of Pupil Rights
- xxiv. 5309 Student Records and Directory Information
- xxv. 5401 Parent Involvement in Education
- xxvi. 5402 Communication with Parents/Guardians
- xxvii. 5403 Rights of Non-Custodial Parents
- xxviii. 5404 Free Textbooks, Materials, and Charging of Fees and Fines
- xxix.** 5407 Instructional Program and Curriculum Development
- xxx. 5409 Academic Credits
- xxxi. 5410 Commencement
- xxxii. 5411 Student Promotion, Retention, and Placement
- xxxiii. 5413 Senior Recognition
- xxxiv. 5415 Summer School
- xxxv. 5416 Homebound and Hospitalized Instruction
- xxxvi. 5418 Grades
- xxxvii. 5419 Reading Assessments, Instruction, Intervention, and Retention
- xxxviii. 5420 Sex Education
- xxxix. 5502 Student Government
 - xl. 5503 Bulletin Boards and Other Student Postings
 - xli. 5506 Field Trips
 - xl.ii. 5507 Extracurricular Activities
 - xl.iii. 5510 Student-Initiated, Non-Curricular Clubs
- xliv. 5601 Special Education
 - xl. v. 5602 Independent Educational Evaluation
- xlvi. 5603 Section 504
- xl. vii. 5701 Child Abuse and Neglect
- xl. viii. 5702 Student Illness and Injury
 - xl. ix. 5703 Medications
 - l. 5704 Student Insurance
 - li. 5705 Emergency Anaphylaxis
 - lii. 5709 Lice, Nits, and Bed Bugs
 - liii. 5710 Student Suicide Prevention

- liv. 5711 Toilet Training
- lv. 5712 Concussion Awareness
- lvi. 5713 Immunizations and Communicable Diseases
- lvii. 5804 Work Permits
- lviii. 5805 Student Audio and Video Recording
- lix. 5806 Recording of District Meetings
- lx. 5807 Pledge of Allegiance
- lxi. 5706 Opioid Antagonist (REMOVED - replaced with Policy 3410)

c. **2024-2025 TCAPS District Course Catalog**

The Board considered approval of the 2024-2025 TCAPS District Course Catalog with amendments.

d. **Bids, Services, and/or Purchases**

The Board considered the following:

- i. Safety and Security
 - District Safety Shades
- ii. Technology
 - Art Cameras - Visual, Performing, and Applied Arts (VPAA)
 - Student Chromebooks
 - Network Wireless Upgrade (Eastern Elementary and East Middle School)

e. **Meeting Minutes**

The Board considered approval of the meeting minutes from the March 3, 2025 Special meeting.

Approval of the Consent Calendar as amended and without discussion.

Moved by: Bird

Seconded by: Ballenger

The following vote was held:

Ayes: Ballenger, Bird, Moon Mohr, Newman-Bale, Pack, and Schmidt

Nay: N/A

MOTION CARRIED 6-0

10. **DISCUSSION**

a. **Office Positions and Committee Assignments**

President Newman-Bale and the Board discussed the open Treasurer position. Scott Hardy was nominated to fill the position. President Newman-Bale asked if any member wanted changes to the Committees.

Approval that Scott Hardy serve as Treasurer of the Board of Education until the Organizational meeting in January of 2026.

Moved by: Bird

Seconded by: Moon Mohr

The following Roll Call vote was held:

Ayes: Ballenger, Bird, Moon Mohr, Newman-Bale, Pack, and Schmidt

Nay: N/A

MOTION CARRIED 6-0

President Newman-Bale asked if any member wanted changes to the Committees. No changes were requested except that Scott Hardy be part of the Board Finance and Operations Committee. A chair for this committee will be decided at the next meeting, April 3, 2025.

b. School Safety Update

- The Michigan State Police Office of School Safety is currently hosting Behavioral Threat Assessment and Management ('BTAM') training around the state, and TCAPS staff will be in attendance. Public Act 272 of 2024, recently signed by the Governor, requires all K-12 schools to have a behavior threat assessment and management team by October 1, 2026. The BTAM model is what the district currently uses when a threat is received, to safely assess, evaluate, and provide needed support services for everyone involved.
- TCAPS is currently providing CPR and AED professional development at each building across the district, training between six and ten staff members per site. This is a 2-year certification taught by current staff members in administration, transportation, and licensed child care. As you can imagine, this is a large task that requires additional training of instructors, time constraints, and oversight of current and needed recertifications. We are interested in streamlining this process, and are exploring ways to ensure that all necessary personnel are trained efficiently and effectively. This may include redistributing workloads or identifying additional resources to support these efforts.
- TCAPS school buses are currently being inspected by Michigan State Police as required by law on an annual basis.

c. Board Policy

Coni Taylor, Associate Superintendent of Human Resources and Legal Services, shared that Policy 5714 Threat Assessment and Response and 5715 Student Oral Health Assessment were both new policies. The Title IX Regulations that were to go into effect in July have reverted back to the 2021 Regulations. The changes are statutory required by the 2021 reversion.

- i. 5714 Threat Assessment and Response (NEW - optional - not required)
- ii. 5715 Student Oral Health Assessment (NEW - state law requirement)

Title IX Updates from January 29, 2025

- i. 3115 Non-Discrimination Anti-Harassment and Non-Retaliation
- ii. 3115A Definitions for 3115 Series
- iii. 3115B Designation of Coordinators

- iv. 3115C Supportive Measures
- v. 3115D Informal Resolution
- vi. 3115E Grievance Procedure and Remedies
- vii. 3115F Complaint Dismissal and Appeals
- viii. 3115G Intentionally Left Blank
- ix. 3115H Training Requirements Recordkeeping and Policy Notice
- x. 3118 Title IX Sexual Harassment Formal Complaint Form
- xi. 4101 Non-Discrimination
- xii. 4102 Anti-Harassment
- xiii. 4104 Employment Complaint Procedure for Allegations Implicating Civil Rights
- xiv. 4105A Pregnancy Workplace Accommodations for Employees and Applicants
- xv. 5202 Unlawful Discrimination Harassment and Retaliation Against Students
- xvi. 5206 Student Discipline
- xvii. 5405 Title I Parent and Family Engagement
- xviii. 5406 Title I Funds
- xix. 5707 School Wellness Policy

Approval of the Board Policies as listed above and discussed.

Moved by: Schmidt

Seconded by: Pack

The following Roll Call vote was held:

Ayes: Ballenger, Bird, Moon Mohr, Newman-Bale, Pack, and Schmidt

Nay: N/A

MOTION CARRIED 6-0

d. 2025 Bond Ratification Resolution

The Board considered the adoption of the ratification resolution detailing the terms and conditions of the Traverse City Area Public Schools competitive 2025 Bond Sale.

Approval to adopt the bond ratification resolution detailing the terms and conditions of the Traverse City Area Public Schools competitive 2025 Bond Sale.

Moved by: Moon Mohr

Seconded by: Ballenger

The following Roll Call vote was held:

Ayes: Ballenger, Bird, Moon Mohr, Newman-Bale, Pack, and Schmidt

Nay: N/A

MOTION CARRIED 6-0

e. **Acceptance of Grant**

The Board considered the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians 2% Grant for \$25,000.

Approval to accept the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians 2% Grant.

Moved by: Bird

Seconded by: Pack

The following Roll Call vote was held:

Ayes: Ballenger, Bird, Moon Mohr, Newman-Bale, Pack, and Schmidt

Nay: N/A

MOTION CARRIED 6-0

f. **Bids, Services, and/or Purchases**

The Board will consider the following:

i. Curriculum

- English Language Arts (ELA) Elementary Adoption

Approval to purchase the ELA curriculum from for \$1,119,908 which includes a 10% contingency funded using the 35J Literacy Grant and, if necessary, the Curriculum Department budget.

Moved by: Ballenger

Seconded by: Moon Mohr

The following Roll Call vote was held:

Ayes: Ballenger, Bird, Moon Mohr, Newman-Bale, Pack, and Schmidt

Nay: N/A

MOTION CARRIED 6-0

g. **TCAPS Draft 2025-2026 School Year Calendar**

The Board discussed the TCAPS 2025-2026 School Year Calendar.

h. **TCAPS Insulin Lawsuit Withdrawal**

Approval for TCAPS superintendent or its designee to withdraw or conditionally dismiss our participation in the complaint against various defendants who supply insulin coordinated by Franz Law Firm, the case being insulin pricing litigation, case number 2:23-md-03080 (BRM)(RLS) MDL no. 3080 In the United States Court of New Jersey.

Moved by: Bird

Seconded by: Pack

The following Roll Call vote was held:

Ayes: Ballenger, Bird, Moon Mohr, Newman-Bale, Pack, and Schmidt
Nay: N/A

MOTION CARRIED 6-0

11. **PUBLIC COMMENT #2** (Green Card)

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

12. **CLOSED SESSION**

The Board will 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.

Approval to 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: Schmidt

Seconded by: Ballenger

The following Roll Call vote was held:

Ayes: Ballenger, Bird, Moon Mohr, Newman-Bale, and Schmidt

Nay: N/A

MOTION CARRIED 6-0

The Board entered into a Closed Session at 9:11 p.m.

The Board returned to Open Session at 10:05 p.m.

13. **BOARD PRESIDENT CLOSING REMARKS**

President Newman-Bale thanked everyone for attending and welcomed new Board member, Trustee Scott Hardy. The next meeting will be a study session held on March 18, 2025.

14. **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:07 p.m.

Moved by: Bird

Seconded by: Pack

Ayes: Ballenger, Bird, Moon Mohr, Newman-Bale, Pack, and Schmidt

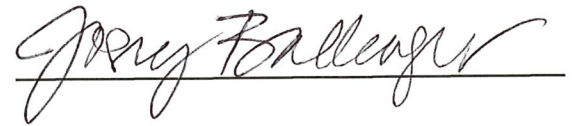
Nay: N/A

MOTION CARRIED 6-0

Respectfully Prepared By,

Tammy Brunan

Tammy Brunan
Board Recording Secretary

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Josey Ballenger", written over a horizontal line.

Board Secretary

Next Board of Education Meeting - Study Session

Tuesday, March 18, 2025 at 5:00 p.m.

Administration at Glenn Loomis

1009 S. Oak Street, Traverse City, MI 49684

Board of Education:

**Josey Ballenger, Holly T. Bird, Erica L. Moon Mohr, Scott Newman-Bale,
Beth Pack, and Ty Schmidt**