

To Be Approved June 9, 2025

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 TCAPS Administration at Glenn Loomis Building-Boardroom, 1009 S. Oak Street, Traverse City, Michigan 49684 on May 12, 2025.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Bageris, Ballenger, Hardy, Moon Mohr, Pack, and Schmidt

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Newman-Bale

ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT: Houghton, Smith, Taylor, Thomas-Hill, Tiesworth, and VanWagoner

ADMINISTRATORS ABSENT: N/A

[Meeting Presentation](#)

1. [CALL TO ORDER](#)

Vice President Moon Mohr welcomed those in attendance and called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

2. [PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE](#)

Ms. Guggemos' second-grade class from Long Lake 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. The agenda was amended to add two discussion items 9f - Resolution Designating District's Electoral Body Representative and First Ballot Candidate Choice for the Northwest Education Services June 2, 2025 Biennial Election, and 9g - Strategic Planning preparation discussion.

Approval of the meeting agenda as amended.

Moved by: Ballenger

Seconded by: Pack

The following vote was held:

Ayes: Bageris, Ballenger, Hardy, Moon Mohr, Pack, and Schmidt

Nay: N/A

MOTION CARRIED 6-0

4. [RECOGNITION](#)

Dr. VanWagoner recognized the 2024/2025 TCAPS District retirees. He explained they will be individually named later in the meeting and then recognized on May 29, 2025 at the District Employee Retirement Ceremony.

5. [PUBLIC COMMENT #1](#) (Orange Card)

Vice President Moon Mohr opened the meeting up for public comment and the following addressed the Board:

- Scot Richards
- TCAPS Student-Books at West, music and band
- Sarah Payette-Gratitude for Proclamation
- Mike Groleau-Innovation Mfg. Centers
- TCAPS Student-LGBTQ in schools
- Bill Wiesner- Chart: Potential variables creating same sex attraction and website: pathinfo.org and children's book-Rick's Home

6. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Legislative Update

Dr. VanWagoner reported that there were not a lot of legislative updates. Currently, we have to wait on the results from the consensus revenue hearing that will take place on Friday, May 16. A committee consisting of the state treasurer from Michigan, state senate and house fiscal, and professionals from Wayne State University of Michigan and Michigan State, works together to come up with what they think the revenues will be for the upcoming fiscal year. This year, they may have another meeting in June, which has not happened before, due to issues like tariffs and not knowing where federal funds are. If this happens, we may not have a budget until September. Dr. VanWagoner stated we are hoping to have a house version soon, and at the next Board meeting we will be presenting a best guess on the budget for the upcoming school year.

District Highlights

East and West Middle Schools hosted a very successful career day where members of the community came to share the many different career options in Northern Michigan and beyond.

Ms. Paige Paul and Mr. Tak Ready had Central High School and West High School students participate in congressional hearings and debates to mimic what our government does. Students are learning in real time how to interact and listen to issues and how to do so in a proper governmental debate.

The Ribbon Cuttings held at West Senior High and Central High School's Innovation and Manufacturing Centers were a big success. Thank you to everyone who participated. Students at both schools are very excited to be in this new space.

The TC Titans rolled into Houston with the goal of being selected in the playoffs. The robot worked flawlessly, and the drive team put up incredible numbers despite one of the toughest schedules on the field. They had the best showing in the history of the team, which placed them 145 out of 3500 robots worldwide and 18th in the State of Michigan out of 525 teams.

Traverse City West HS "Academic Weapons" (Ryan Goodrich, Dylan Gryglewski, Trey Stewart, Tucker Ballenger, coach Dan Rosenberg) competed in the Academic WorldQuest National Competition in Washington, DC on April 27-29, 2025, after winning their regional competition in February. The team and the trip were sponsored by the International Affairs Forum at NMC. TCAPS would like to thank the International Affairs Forum at NMC for sponsoring the regional competition for AWQ and funding our trip to DC. It was a great experience for these students. The competition took place on Monday afternoon, and the team finished 32nd in the country. Trip highlights included exploring the National Mall, various memorials, and the Smithsonian museums, presentations from people involved in foreign affairs, including those from the State Department and White House National Security team, a dinner reception sponsored by Mexico,

highlighted by a speech from the Mexican Ambassador to the US. Tuesday highlights included a trip to the Embassy of the United Arab Emirates, where several embassy staff presented their roles and took questions from students about the UAE and its relations with the USA followed by a trip to Capitol Hill and meeting with Michigan Senator Elissa Slotkin's National Security Advisor Joy Li who visited with our team answering questions about her roles and various national security issues.

Central Grade School had a "Great Book Give-A-Way" the week of April 7th. Students were given the opportunity to choose a book to keep. The books were acquired mostly through donations, and some were retired from the library collection. Thanks to Central Grade School's Mrs. Schrock and her son Oliver for organizing the event.

English Learner Program staff hosted a breakfast for Traverse Heights Elementary School families to hear about their child's learning and English progress. Parents, students, and staff enjoyed breakfast together, and students were able to check out a book to take home. The books were purchased through a grant for the TCAPS Ukrainian library. After breakfast, parents joined the students at their weekly all-school House Assembly in the gymnasium, where Mr. Kay pointed out their superpower of multilingualism. Special thanks to the district EL Program staff and interpreters Dibi Craig and Alicja Power for attending to assist families with communication.

7. BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS / DISCUSSION

Board members provided a brief summary of the meetings held.

- a. **Board Curriculum Committee (April 29)** → Report out by Ballenger
- b. **Board Finance Committee (May 1)** → Report out by Hardy
- c. **Board Executive Committee (May 1)** → Report out by Newman-Bale
- d. **Sustainability Committee (April 17)** → Report out by Schmidt
- e. **Superintendent/Board of Education Student Advisory Council (April 15)** → Report out by Schmidt
- f. **MASB Spring Conference (May 2-4)** → Report out by Ballenger and Schmidt
- g. **Board Office Hours 6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.**
 - i. April 24, 2025 → Report out by Pack (in-person meeting)
 - ii. May 22, 2025 → Attending: Newman-Bale (virtual meeting)

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. No requests were made.

- a. **Personnel Recommendations**
The Board considered personnel recommendations that have been included in the agenda packet.
- b. **TCAPS District Course Catalog with Amendments**
The Board considered approval of the 2024/2025 TCAPS District Course Catalog with amendments.

c. Field Trip Request

The Board considered the following field trip request.

- i. Traverse City West Senior High - German Exchange Partnership to Kronach, Germany - June 18, 2026 - July 10, 2026.

d. Bids, Services, and/or Purchases

The Board considered the following:

- i. Curriculum
 - Middle School STEM Equipment and Supplies
This purchase provides foundational STEM equipment for middle school programming at East and West Middle Schools.
 - Purchase from VEX Robotics through the Interlocal Purchasing Systems (TIPS) for a total amount not to exceed \$63,820, which includes a 10% contingency; funded from First Robotics grant funding.
- ii. Technology
 - Cell Phone Signal Booster Solutions
This project is for the purchase and installation of cell phone signal boosters at the Transportation and Facilities buildings, and West Senior High.
 - Purchase the cell phone signal boost solutions from Direct Network Services, Inc. and KLS Labs for a total amount not to exceed \$117,247, which includes a 10% contingency; funded from Capital Bonds Funds.
 - Staff Laptops
This project is for the planned replacement of staff laptops.
 - Purchase the staff laptops through the Regional Educational Media Center (REMC) from Sehi Computer Products, Inc. for a total amount not to exceed \$2,275,850, which includes a 15% contingency; funded from Capital Bond Funds.
 - Traverse Heights Classroom Audio
This project will replace audio systems in all classrooms at Traverse Heights Elementary.
 - Purchase Audio Enhancement Sentinel Systems from AVI Systems utilizing the HPS Contract for a total amount not to exceed \$56,632, which includes a 10% contingency; funded from Capital Bond Funds.

e. Meeting Minutes

The Board considered the meeting minutes from the April 28, 2025 Study Session.

Approval of the Consent Calendar as presented.

Moved by: Schmidt

Seconded by: Hardy

The following vote was held:

Ayes: Bageris, Ballenger, Hardy, Moon Mohr, Pack, and Schmidt

Nay: N/A

MOTION CARRIED 6-0

9. DISCUSSION

a. **Board Committee Updates and Assignments**

The Board discussed the differences between a district work group and board committee, specifically for the Sustainability and Health and Nutrition Committees, to give clarity to Dr. VanWagoner. It was decided that the Sustainability and Health and Nutrition Committees would be district work groups and removed from the website as board committees. The Sustainability Committee will report to the Board Finance and Operations Committee and the Health and Nutrition Committee will report to the Board Curriculum Committee. The open seat on the Board Curriculum Committee was discussed and Sara Bageris agreed to sit on this committee.

b. **School Safety Update**

Dr. VanWagoner reported that Assistant Superintendent Christine Thomas-Hill and Safety & Security Director Patrick McManus recently participated in a national conference focused on advancing safety and security within the K-12 educational environment. The program provided comprehensive insights into critical areas, including the development and refinement of emergency operations plans, the implementation of effective behavioral threat assessment protocols, and the exploration of state-of-the-art technology and physical safety enhancements for school facilities. The knowledge and strategies gained through their attendance, which included interactive roundtable discussions, collaborative workshops, expert-led strategy sessions, and reflections from keynote speakers who experienced the aftermath of the tragedies at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School and Oxford High School, are expected to have a positive impact throughout TCAPS. This professional development will contribute to a more secure and prepared learning environment for students and staff, ultimately strengthening the district's capacity to ensure safety and well-being.

c. **Resolution in Support of Northwest Education Services General Fund Operating Budget for 2025/2026**

The Board considered a resolution in support of Northwest Education Services General Fund Operating Budget for 2025/2026. Dr. VanWagoner stated that this recommendation is for the general fund operating budget only.

Approval of the Resolution in support of Northwest Education Services General Fund Operating Budget for 2025/2026, as presented.

Moved by: Schmidt

Seconded by: Ballenger

The following vote was held:

Ayes: Bageris, Ballenger, Hardy, Moon Mohr, Pack, and Schmidt

Nay: N/A

MOTION CARRIED 6-0

Dr. VanWagoner read the resolution.

d. **Recognition and Appreciation for 2024/2025 District Retirees Resolution**

The Board considered a Resolution for Recognition and Appreciation of 2024/2025 District Retirees. Trustee Ballenger read the resolution and then recognized alphabetically by last name each employee's name, service years, position, and most current building location.

Approval of the Recognition and Appreciation for 2025/2025 District Retirees Resolution.

Moved by: Hardy

Seconded by: Bageris

The following vote was held:

Ayes: Bageris, Ballenger, Hardy, Moon Mohr, Pack, and Schmidt

Nay: N/A

MOTION CARRIED 6-0

e. **Teen Pregnancy Prevention and Awareness Proclamation Resolution**

The Board considered a Resolution proclaiming the month of May as Teen Pregnancy Awareness Month. Trustee Pack noted that the location needed to be changed from Tompkins Building to Glenn Loomis.

Approval of the Teen Pregnancy Prevention and Awareness Proclamation Resolution as amended.

Moved by: Schmidt

Seconded by: Hardy

The following vote was held:

Ayes: Bageris, Ballenger, Hardy, Moon Mohr, Pack, and Schmidt

Nay: N/A

MOTION CARRIED 6-0

f. **Resolution Designating District's Electoral Body Representative and First Ballot Candidate Choice for the Northwest Education Services June 2, 2025 Biennial Election.**

The Board discussed a Resolution Designating District's Electoral Body Representative and First Ballot Candidate Choice for the Northwest Education Services June 2, 2025 Biennial Election. Trustee Hardy would be the representative and Trustee Pack the alternate. There are three open positions and three candidates.

Approval of the Resolution Designating District's Electoral Body Representative and First Ballot Candidate Choice for the Northwest Education Services June 2, 2025 Biennial Election.

Moved by: Pack

Seconded by: Ballenger

The following vote was held:

Ayes: Bageris, Ballenger, Hardy, Moon Mohr, Pack, and Schmidt
Nay: N/A

MOTION CARRIED 6-0

Dr. VanWagoner read the resolution.

Trustee Ballenger read the Teen Pregnancy Prevention and Awareness resolution.

g. **Strategic Plan Preparation Discussion**

The Board discussed preparations for the upcoming Strategic Plan study session occurring on June 16, 2025 at 5:00 p.m. It was decided that an overview of the current strategic plan and where the District is at with the current plan, will be presented at the June 9, 2025 regular board meeting. The June 16, 2025 study session will include the review of TCAPS' mission, vision and values and creating the new strategic plan goals. The performance goals/metrics will be decided at a later date after the new strategic plan's goals have been decided.

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

Vice President Moon Mohr opened the meeting up for public comment and the following addressed the board

- TCAPS Student-Northwest Ed funding

11. **BOARD PRESIDENT CLOSING REMARKS**

Vice President Moon Mohr thanked everyone. The next meeting will be June 9, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. at Glenn Loomis.

12. **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:04 p.m.

Moved by: Bageris

Seconded by: Pack

The following vote was held:

Ayes: Bageris, Ballenger, Hardy, Moon Mohr, Pack, and Schmidt

Nay: N/A

MOTION CARRIED 6-0

Board Secretary

Next Board of Education Meeting

Monday, June 9, 2025 at 6:00 p.m.

**TCAPS Administration at Glenn Loomis
1009 S. Oak Street, Traverse City, MI 49684**

Board of Education:

***Sara Bageris, Josey Ballenger, Scott Hardy, Erica L. Moon Mohr,
Scott Newman-Bale, Beth Pack, and Ty Schmidt***

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