

**TRAVERSE CITY AREA PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
RESOLUTION**

Traverse City Area Public Schools, Grand Traverse, Leelanau and Benzie Counties, Michigan (the "District").

A regular meeting of the Board of Education of the District was held at the TCAPS Administration Building at Glenn Loomis on the 12th day of May, 2024 at 6:00 o'clock p.m. The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Vice-President Moon Mohr.

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

Absent: Newman-Bale

The following preamble and resolution were offered by Trustee Schmidt and supported by Trustee Hardy.

**WHEREAS**, the well-being and future success of our youth are paramount to the prosperity of our communities; and

**WHEREAS**, teenage parents face unique challenges and responsibilities as they navigate the journey of parenthood while still adolescents; and

**WHEREAS**, between 2018-2022, there were 163 births in our community<sup>1</sup> (Grand Traverse, Leelanau, and Benzie counties) to teenage parents, highlighting the urgent need for support and resources earmarked for this population, (MDHHS, 2024); and

**WHEREAS**, teenage parents are often unable to complete their education (only half of teen mothers receive a high school diploma by age 22<sup>23</sup>; and teen fathers have a 25-30% lower probability of graduating high school than teen males who are not fathers<sup>4</sup>), which later results in unemployment, underemployment and dependence on public assistance; and

**WHEREAS**, teenage mothers often seek prenatal care late<sup>5</sup>, and therefore can suffer increased health risks and their babies are often born premature and with low birth weights; and

**WHEREAS**, it is imperative to promote awareness and education about the consequences of teen pregnancy, including its impact on the physical and mental health, educational attainment, and socioeconomic outcomes; and

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<sup>1</sup> Michigan Department of Health and Human Services

(<https://www.mdch.state.mi.us/osr/Nativity/RegionNumberObject.asp?Char=208&Row=MICOUNTYDET&Col=STANDARD2&Stat=N&Average=A&TableType=G&RowGroup=REGION&COLGROUP=AGE2>)

<sup>2</sup> Maynard, RA and Hoffman. S. (2008) The costs of adolescent childbearing. Kids having kids: Economic costs and social consequences of teenage pregnancy. Washington DC: Urban Institute Press

<sup>3</sup> Perper K, Peterson K, Manlove J. Diploma Attainment Among Teen Mothers. Child Trends, Fact Sheet Publication #2010-01: Washington, DC: Child Trends; 2010.

<sup>4</sup> Covington, Peters, Sabia, & Price, 2011; Fletcher & Wolfe, 2012

<sup>5</sup> <https://www.webmd.com/baby/teen-pregnancy-medical-risks-and-realities>

**WHEREAS**, empowering adolescents with the knowledge, skills, and resources to make informed decision about their sexual health and relationships is essential in preventing unintended pregnancies; and

**WHEREAS**, fostering supportive environments that encourage open communication between adolescents and trusted adults, including parents, guardians, educators, and the community, is crucial in addressing the root causes of teen pregnancy; and


**WHEREAS**, supporting teen parents in our community is essential to ensuring the well-being and success of both the parents and their children; and

**WHEREAS**, despite the challenges they may face, teen parents have the potential to thrive when provided with adequate support and opportunities.

**Now, therefore, be it resolved**, Traverse City Area Public Schools of Grand Traverse, Leelanau and Benzie Counties, does hereby proclaim the month of May as Teen Pregnancy Prevention and Awareness Month. We call upon parents, educational institutions, businesses, non-profit organizations, healthcare and human service agencies, and governmental entities to join together in raising awareness, providing education, empowering teen parents, and implementing strategies to prevent teen pregnancy.

Ayes: Bageris, Ballenger, Hardy, Moon Mohr, Pack, Schmidt -  
Nays:

Resolution declared adopted.

  
Josey Ballenger, Secretary  
Board of Education

The undersigned, duly qualified and acting Secretary of the Board of Education of the Traverse City Area Public Schools, Grand Traverse, Leelanau and Benzie Counties, Michigan (the "District"), hereby certifies that the foregoing constitutes a true and complete copy of a resolution adopted by said Board of Education meeting held on May 12, 2025, the original of which is part of the Board's minutes. The undersigned certifies that notice of the meeting was given to the public pursuant to the provisions of the Michigan Open Meetings Act, 1976 PA 267, as amended.

  
Josey Ballenger, Secretary  
Board of Education