

*Amended and approved on August 29, 2024*

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, 1009 S. Oak Street, Traverse City, Michigan, on Monday, August 12, 2024.

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:** President Newman-Bale, Vice President Humphreys, Secretary Ballenger, Treasurer Raymond, Trustee Moon Mohr, Trustee Bird, and Trustee Pack

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:** None

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

**STAFF PRESENT:** Dan McGee, Sex Education Coordinator

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](#)

President Newman-Bale led those in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. [REVIEW/APPROVAL OF AGENDA](#)

The Board welcomed staff and citizens, reviewed the agenda. President Newman-Bale recommended removing Discussion Item 9g - Superintendent Evaluation Changes.

**Approval of agenda as amended.**

**Moved by: Ballenger**

**Seconded by: Moon Mohr**

**The following Roll Call vote was held:**

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

**Nay: N/A**

**MOTION CARRIED 7-0**

4. [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

## 5. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

### a. **Legislative Update**

Dr. VanWagoner shared there are only six (6) legislative days between now and the November election. There is talk about doing something with the 31AA mental health funds, likely during lame duck. He indicated that he is still watching for the retirement rebate to be codified into law.

Additionally, he shared that the **Michigan** Supreme Court case on the Office of Retirement Services (ORS) legislation came back in favor of the plaintiffs and the district is keeping track of the changes that affect our staff.

### b. **District Highlights**

#### **Student Support Network (SSN) - Pop-Up Shop**

The SSN Pop-Up Shop is happening on August 15 and 16. The Pop-Up Shop provides new and gently used clothing, shoes, school supplies, hygiene items, and more. All items are free and shopping is open to any TCAPS student, age 3-20, by appointment only. Contact Katie Kubesh at 231-933-1789 or kubeshca@tcaps.net to make an appointment.

#### **TCAPS Enrollment Tour**

The TCAPS Enrollment Tour will join the Sunshine Bus on August 14 in the Walmart parking lot from 12:00 - 3:00 p.m. Stop by for free enrollment assistance, information about TCAPS Kindergarten, Preschool, and early childhood programs, student support information, and community information.

#### **Backpack for Kids**

The Sunrise Rotary Backpacks for Kids program will begin stuffing backpacks at Glenn Loomis on Tuesday, August 13 at 3:00 pm. Any Board or Executive Team member that would like to participate in the stuffing, please let Stacey know, if you haven't already. Distribution will be on Thursday, August 15 in the gym at Glenn Loomis.

Dr. VanWagoner informed the Board that he is working on having a representative from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and Traverse City Light and Power (TCLP) present to the Board regarding their energy program as a supplement to the Trane program.

Dr. VanWagoner also thanked the community for the support of the bond proposal. He shared that the district is moving forward with capital planning and expects to provide an overview to the Board in October.

### c. **2023-2024 Data Review**

- i. Advanced Placement (AP)
- ii. Bullying & Harassment
- iii. Discipline

Heidi Maltby-Skodack, Executive Director of School Improvement and Innovative Programs, provided a data review, including statistics on student participation in AP courses and overall scoring for all three high schools, statistics on reports of bullying/harassment and administration's process for responding to reports of bullying/harassment, and suspension and expulsion data, which included comparisons to the 2021-2022 and 2022-2023 school years. The data review reflected a decrease in long-term suspensions and expulsions which can be directly correlated to the district's investment in the whole-child system and the extensive work being done around student mental health and wellbeing.

## 6. BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS / DISCUSSION

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

- a. **Board Curriculum Committee (July 30)** → Report out by Moon Mohr
- b. **Board Finance and Operations Committee (August 1)** → Report out by Raymond
- c. **Board Executive Committee (August 1)** → Report out by Newman-Bale
- d. **Board Office Hours 6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.**
  - i. June 27, 2024 → Report out by Humphreys
  - ii. July 25, 2024 → Report out by Raymond
  - iii. August 22, 2024 → Attending: Ballenger

Trustee Bird was absent from 6:47 p.m. - 6:51 p.m.

## 7. 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 will be automatically respected.

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

The Board reviewed personnel recommendations that have been included in the agenda packet.
- b. **Elementary and Secondary Student/Parent Handbooks**

The Board considered the TCAPS draft 2024-2025 Elementary and Secondary Student/Parent Handbooks.
- c. **TCAPS District Course Catalog with Amendments**

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. Curriculum
    - AP Psychology
      - Purchase from Bedford, Freeman & Worth for a total not to exceed \$44,433, which includes a 10% contingency; funded from the Curriculum Department general fund.
  - ii. Technology

- Camera Storage and Servers  
Purchase from Bluum of Minnesota for a total not to exceed \$234,657, which includes a 10% contingency; funded from Capital Bond Funds - Technology Allocation.

iii. Capital Projects

- Innovation and Manufacturing Centers - Furniture, Fixtures, and Equipment (FF&E)  
Purchase from various suppliers for a total not to exceed \$313,075.82, which includes a 10% contingency; funded from Capital Bond Funds.

Additional project contingency of \$118,248.80; funded from Capital Bond Funds.

e. **Meeting Minutes**

The Board considered the Meeting Minutes from the July 22, 2024 Study Session.

**Approval of the Consent Calendar as presented and without discussion.**

**Moved by: Raymond**

**Seconded by: Humphreys**

**The following vote was held:**

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

**Nay: N/A**

**MOTION CARRIED 7-0**

8. **PUBLIC HEARING: SEX EDUCATION CURRICULUM**

According to Michigan Law, all school districts must conduct two public hearings on any additions or revisions of sex education curriculum or materials and have Board of Education approval before implementation. The additions and revisions of the sex education curriculum included in this material and public hearings were reviewed and approved by the Sex Education Advisory Board (SEAB) for the 2024/2025 school year.

Board President Newman-Bale declared the Public Hearing open to the public at 6:59 p.m. and deferred to Dr. VanWagoner, who introduced Dan McGee, TCAPS Sex Education Coordinator. Mr. McGee answered questions from the Board members regarding the recommended sex education curriculum changes.

a. **Public Comment: Sex Education Curriculum**

Board President Newman-Bale invited comments from the public and the following was provided:

- Bill Wiesner
- Percy Bird
- Emily Kuschell
- Community member

Board President Newman-Bale declared the Public Hearing closed at 7:14 p.m.

9. **DISCUSSION**

a. **Approval of Sex Education Curriculum**

The Board considered any additions or revisions of the sex education curriculum or materials before implementation.

**Approval of the Sex Education Curriculum for implementation beginning in the 2024/2025 school year.**

**Moved by: Humphreys**

**Seconded by: Moon Mohr**

**The following Roll Call vote was held:**

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

**Nay: N/A**

**MOTION CARRIED 7-0**

**b. School Safety Update**

Dr. VanWagoner shared that at the start of the last school year, the TCAPS Emergency Operations Team was established to ensure best practices and thorough vetting of safety and security measures across the district. This team includes principals from both elementary and high schools, an elementary staff member, a district nurse, a facilities and operations manager, a representative from the Glenn Loomis administrative team, and is chaired by Patrick McManus, TCAPS Director of School Safety and Security. The group meets at least once a quarter to review and discuss various critical topics. Some of the topics include: emergency operation plans for each school, security management technology, reunification review and planning, current legal trends related to school safety, and the best professional development training for district staff. The Emergency Operations Team will continue meeting as the next school year begins, and is expanding the group to include a mental health professional and a school safety liaison representative.

**c. Bond Update and Performance Management for Energy Efficiency**

President Newman-Bale thanked the community for supporting the recent bond proposal. He shared that now that the bond has passed, there are some items that need to be addressed by the Board. The Board considered a resolution to reimburse bond related expenses.

**Approval to adopt the bond reimbursement resolution as presented.**

**Moved by: Bird**

**Seconded by: Humphreys**

**The following Roll Call vote was held:**

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

**Nay: N/A**

**MOTION CARRIED 7-0**

Dr. VanWagoner and President Newman-Bale reviewed the process of utilizing an energy bond. The Board provided Dr. VanWagoner, or designee, the direction to continue discussions related to options in performance management and to bring back a recommendation to the Board for further discussion.

**d. Operating Millage Renewal Resolution**

Assistant Superintendent, Christine Thomas-Hill, explained that the operating millage renewal is the 18 mills non-homestead that the district is required to levy in order to get per pupil allocation from the state. Over the past few years, the district has received approval from the community on the Headlee Override, giving the district up to 20 mills, but they are only legally allowed to levy 18 mills with permission from the community. Dr. VanWagoner stated that this millage is for second homes and commercial properties and there is no change from the current levy. The resolution will allow the district to add the operating millage to the November 2024 election ballot.

**Approval to adopt the operating millage renewal resolution as presented.**

**Moved by: Raymond**

**Seconded by: Humphreys**

**The following Roll Call vote was held:**

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

**Nay: N/A**

**MOTION CARRIED 7-0**

**e. Bertha Vos Property Update**

Dr. VanWagoner shared that he received a new offer for the Bertha Vos property from North Arrow, an autism therapy clinic. They are the same group that purchased Norris Elementary from TCAPS several years ago and are interested in opening a similar facility on the east side of town. Dr. VanWagoner confirmed that the neighborhood group was not able to finalize the necessary proposal to move forward.

**Approval to give Dr. VanWagoner, or designee, permission to negotiate with North Arrow for the purchase of Bertha Vos.**

**Moved by: Humphreys**

**Seconded by: Moon Mohr**

**The following Roll Call vote was held:**

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

**Nay: N/A**

**MOTION CARRIED 7-0**

**f. Board Policy Discussion**

Associate Superintendent, Coni Taylor, reviewed and discussed recommended technical changes to the Thrun policies that will be brought to the Board at a later meeting for adoption. The Board provided direction on some of the technical changes and will continue their discussion at the next Board meeting.

**Vice-President Humphreys was absent from 7:53 p.m. - 7:55 p.m.**

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

President Newman-Bale opened the meeting up for public comment and none was offered.

11. **CLOSED SESSION**

The Board went into Closed Session to consider a Student Petition for Reinstatement as allowed by the Open Meetings Act, P.A. 267 of 1976, Sections 8(1)(b) and 8(1)(h). The Closed Session was requested by the parent of the student.

**Approval that the Board of Education meet in Closed Session under Sections 8(1)(b) and 8(1)(h) of the Open Meetings Act, P.A. 267 of 1976 to consider a Student Petition for Reinstatement as requested by the parent of the student.**

**Moved by: Raymond**

**Seconded by: Bird**

**The following Roll Call vote was held:**

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

**Nay: N/A**

**MOTION CARRIED 7-0**

**The Board entered into a Closed Session at 8:47 p.m.**

**The Board returned to Open Session at 9:20 p.m.**

Secretary Ballenger departed the meeting at 8:47 p.m.

12. **DISCUSSION**

a. **Student Reinstatement**

The Board considered the reinstatement of a student to Traverse City Area Public Schools.

**Approval that the Board of Education Adopt the Resolution for conditional reinstatement, as recommended by the Reinstatement Committee, to Traverse City Area Public Schools effective August 12, 2024.**

**Moved by: Humphreys**

**Seconded by: Raymond**

**The following Roll Call vote was held:**

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

**Nay: N/A**

**MOTION CARRIED 6-0**

13. **BOARD PRESIDENT CLOSING REMARKS**

President Newman-Bale thanked the Board for the productive discussion on Board policy. He also thanked the voters for supporting the bond and acknowledged the work of the YES for Kids community group.

14. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:22 p.m.

Moved by: Pack

Seconded by: Humphreys

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

Nay: N/A

MOTION CARRIED 6-0

Respectfully Prepared By,

*Stacey Hozak*

Stacey Hozak

Board Recording Secretary



Josey Ballenger

Board Secretary

Next Board of Education Meeting

Monday, September 9, 2024, at 6:00 p.m.

Administration at Glenn Loomis

1009 S. Oak Street, Traverse City, MI 49684

**Board of Education:**

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



Please [click here](#) to see the presentation slides from the August 12, 2024 Board Meeting. The full discussion can be viewed on the district website.