

TRITON SCHOOL CORPORATION
ADMINISTRATION OFFICE
100 TRITON DRIVE
BOURBON, IN 46504-1801

***** BOARD MINUTES *****

Executive & Regular Session

March 14, 2022

The Board of School Trustees of Triton School Corporation, Marshall and Kosciusko Counties, met in Executive and Regular Session at 6:40 PM, in the Administration Office, 100 Triton Drive, Bourbon, Indiana, on March 14, 2022. The meeting was live streamed on social media as well.

Members Present: Mr. Kevin Boyer, Mr. Ken Miller, Mr. Steve Stichter and Mr. Wes Rettinger.

Members Absent: Mrs. Terri Barnhart.

Others Present: Mr. Jeremy Riffle – Superintendent; Mrs. Anita Haines – Corporation Receptionist; Mr. Tom McFarland – Business Manager; Mr. Nate McKeand – Jr./Sr. High School Principal; Mrs. Christine Cook – Elementary Principal; and Mr. Orion Lemler – Triton Social Media.

***** EXECUTIVE SESSION *****

The Executive Session was called to order at 6:40 PM. Mr. Boyer, Mr. Stichter, Mr. Miller, Mr. Rettinger, and Mr. Riffle were present.

TOPIC OF DISCUSSION: Personnel as per I.C. 5-14-1.5-6.1(b)(9).

No other subject matter was discussed during the Executive Session other than the subject matter specified in the public notice.

Adjournment

The Executive Session adjourned at 6:55 PM.

Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. Boyer called the Regular Session to order at 7:00 PM, and The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Consensus Agenda

Mr. Stichter made a motion to approve accounts payable vouchers #3898 – #4075 in the amount of \$380,429.07, payrolls #3 – #4 in the amount of \$425,247.57 for a grand total of \$805,676.64; and to approve the minutes of the regular session held on February 14, 2022. Mr. Miller seconded the motion and it carried 4 – 0.

Patrons' Comments

Mr. Lemler expressed his appreciation to the Triton Athletic Department for hosting the sectional and regional basketball games. Mr. Riffle and Mr. Boyer thanked Mr. Lemler and the Triton Trojans Sports Network for providing outstanding service in covering the numerous athletic events and Board meetings.

Personnel

Mr. Stichter moved, Mr. Rettinger seconded, and the motion carried unanimously, to hire Ms. Gayla Lemler as a Substitute Bus Driver.

Personnel
(Cont.)

Mr. Stichter made a motion to accept the resignation of Mrs. Nancy Miller as a Day Shift Custodian at the Jr./Sr. High School. Mr. Miller seconded the motion and it carried 4 – 0.

Following Mr. Riffle's recommendation, Mr. Miller made a motion to approve the following individuals for coaching positions:

- Hire Miss Emily Nifong as the Girls' Varsity Tennis Coach; and
- Utilize the volunteer services of Mr. John Gardner and Mr. Darren Harrell in the Varsity Boys' Golf program.

Mr. Rettinger seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Other
Business

Mr. Stichter made a motion to approve the first reading of the Corporation Policies as recommended by Mr. Riffle. Mr. Rettinger seconded the motion and it carried 4 – 0.

Mr. Stichter moved, Mr. Miller seconded and the motion carried unanimously, to approve the items to be sold in the FFA timed online auction from April 9 through April 13, 2022. Some of those items are as follows: file cabinets, water reel and sprinkler, weightlifting equipment, string trimmer, gas backpack blower, floor buffer, pallet jackets, rubber mats, chain link fence and top rails, gas generator, edger, grease gun, salt spreader, desks and chairs, shop vacs, trampoline, box fans, trash cans and sewing machines.

Mr. Rettinger made a motion to approve the high school ceiling tile project for replacement and painting at a total cost of \$28,879.00 and this was followed by a second from Mr. Miller. The motion carried 4 – 0.

Mr. Stichter moved, Mr. Rettinger seconded, and the motion carried unanimously, to purchase 255 Chromebooks from Trafera in the amount of \$92,565.00.

Mr. Miller moved, Mr. Stichter seconded, and the motion carried 4 – 0, to approve the quote from Custom Fencing, Inc., in the amount of \$33,000.00, to remove and replace fencing around the south and west end of the school property. The Town of Bourbon will pay a portion of the cost which will be determined at a later date. Mr. Riffle stated the fencing will be completed during the summer months.

Mr. Miller made a motion to approve the 2022/2023 180 Day Instructional Waiver Request which allows the school year to be based on required equivalent minutes rather than days that school is in session. Mr. Stichter seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Mr. Riffle noted that April 15, 2022, remains a non-school day for staff and students.

Superintendent's
Report

Mr. Riffle identified the following core values that have been recognized since the previous meeting:

Continuous Improvement: As good as we are, we know that we can always achieve better results. We constantly try to find better ways of doing our work, and when we achieve our goals, we set higher targets.

Over the last several months there have been interviews, surveys, planning meetings, and workshops in an attempt to come up with Triton's 5 Year Strategic Plan. Our

Superintendent's
Report (Cont.)**Continuous Improvement (Cont.):**

final workshop was held on March 3. I appreciate the enFocus team and their help working through the process. I also appreciate the teachers, counselors, administrators, board members, and students who worked through this data and feedback to create a plan that will help continuously improve Triton. The three areas of focus will be:

1. Encourage Student Academic Success
2. Foster Social and Emotional Support and
3. Invest in Teacher and Staff Success

With each of these Strategic Focuses will come objectives and tactics that will be shared for staff input and along with help in accomplishing these objectives. After they are finalized, we will begin to formulate timelines for completion and how we can assemble teams to help us accomplish these goals for our corporation.

Shared Leadership: *We work as a team. Each member provides essential leadership in support of our common goals.*

The Triton High School Athletic Department inducted the eleventh class into the Triton Athletic Hall of Fame at the annual banquet on February 26. Mrs. Melissa Branam (Nifong) and Mr. Randy Hooley, Jr., were the athlete inductees; Ms. Gayle Perry was inducted as a coach; and Bill and Marcia Keyser were inducted in the contributors category.

Triton Administrators and architects from Barton-Coe Vilamaa are in the early planning stage for the 2023 bond issue that will focus on Triton Elementary and Triton Jr./Sr. High School secure entrances, auditorium upgrades, and ADA upgrades. The hope for this project is to increase the safety and security of our front entrances. We hope to allow for line of sight, updated aesthetics/functionality, and limit open access to hallways upon entry into the buildings. We will continue to work through must-haves with our office staff and try to come up with the best plan possible that fits within the budget constraints of the bond.

Social Responsibility: *We ensure that we are good partners within our community and that our students and employees support local individuals and organizations. We demonstrate wise stewardship of public resources and ensure that our graduates are ready to shoulder their civic responsibilities.*

The Elementary will have the pre-school roundup on April 13, and kindergarten roundup on April 5. These life transition events are so important to connect with families and do our best to get these students and their loved ones started out on the right foot. Thank you to everyone who has put time and effort into making Triton the best choice for these families and their child's education. We will continue to do our best to put time and effort into these transition points for our students, parents, and staff.

Accountability: *Each person affiliated with the TSC system, including students, employees, parents/family members, and community stakeholders share accountability for our performance results and for providing personal best effort in support of our goals.*

Early on there was a lot of concern about HB 1134, a toxic bill that was defeated and died in the Senate. If you like to dig into current legislation, the *Insight Newsletter* provides you the opportunity to do so. A couple of items we are watching closely for

Superintendent's Report (Cont.)

Accountability (Continued):

confirmation: No letter grades will be given this year; and the ruling on not allowing more than three E-Learning days per year. We recommended for approval the Instructional Waiver earlier tonight and will submit this to the state for approval for the 2022/2023 school year which will indeed give us more flexibility that we have enjoyed the last several years. More information will be forthcoming on this.

High Expectations: Our learning organization requires that we maintain high expectations for one another and for self.

Over the last few months, superintendents in Marshall County have been working diligently to interview and hire a new Career and Technical Education Executive Director. This individual and their team will be influential in helping support Triton students, expand offerings, and begin to better build relationships with business partners in the area in hopes of leading to quality placements for our students. We have over 70 students who have applied to take CTE courses next year, a huge increase from previous years. Career and Technical Education, Work Based Learning, Internships, and Dual Credit opportunities will continue to play an important role in providing our scholars the opportunities they need to be successful. Adjustments in career pathways and graduation requirements will make it even more important that these students have multiple options for college or career readiness. Thank you to Mrs. Faulkner and Mrs. Arvesen for the time and effort put into knowing our students and setting them up for future success.

Alignment: We are most successful when everyone in our learning organization works together to achieve common goals. We can enhance efficiency and effectiveness by achieving alignment across our system.

Congratulations and thank you to the coaches, sponsors and teams who have competed so well over the last few months. Thank you coaches and sponsors for the time and effort you have put into making this a successful winter campaign for our scholars. Mr. Riffle acknowledged the following examples of success: wrestlers to semi-state/thriving numbers in the junior high, basketball winning sectionals and participating in the regionals, successful Hall of Fame Banquet, band and choir members receiving gold ratings "with distinction" designations and state awards, robotics successes at their most recent competition, cheerleading collegiate signees and competition wins, DECA representation at the state competition, successful FFA week, strawberry sales, and upcoming consignment auction, and the list goes on. We have quality individuals who put a lot of time and effort into the investment in our young people. Along with this goes a shout out to our teachers and instructional assistants for mentoring students along, providing them accountability for their classwork, and doing everything you can to help them achieve mastery of your content area.

Patrons' Comments

There were no patrons' comments.

Building Reports

Mr. McKeand gave a report on events at the Jr./Sr. High School.

Mrs. Cook provided an update on events at the Elementary.

Other

Mr. Riffle informed the Board of other summer projects that will be completed this year. These include masonry work in the High School courtyard, and power washing the exterior of the Elementary building. The quotes for these projects have already been approved.

Mr. Riffle presented The Crossings School Services Agreement for the 2022/2023 school year for approval. Mr. Stichter moved, Mr. Miller seconded, and the motion carried unanimously to approve the agreement as presented.

Adjournment

There being no other business to come before the Triton Board of School Trustees, Mr. Boyer declared the meeting adjourned at 7:39 PM.

Mr. Steve Stichter, Secretary

Approved: _____ April 11, 2022

President: Lee Bayhact

Secretary: Steve Stichter

Kevin R. Boyer

Wesley M. Ruff

Ken Miller