

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

**\*\*\* BOARD MINUTES \*\*\***

**Regular Session**

**September 9, 2019**

The Board of School Trustees of Triton School Corporation, Marshall and Kosciusko Counties, met in Regular Session at 7:00 PM, in the Administration Office, 100 Triton Drive, Bourbon, Indiana, on September 9, 2019.

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

Members Absent: None.

Others Present: Mr. Jeremy Riffle – Superintendent, Mr. Tom McFarland – Business Manager, Mrs. Anita Haines – Corporation Receptionist, Mrs. Laura Baker – Transportation Director, Mr. Robert Ross – Jr./Sr. High School Principal, Mrs. Christine Cook – Elementary Principal, Mrs. Samantha Phenix – Elementary Teacher, and Mrs. Carol Anders – Reporter.

Mrs. Barnhart called the Regular Session to order at 7:00 PM.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Consensus  
Agenda

Mr. Stichter made a motion to approve accounts payable vouchers #734 - #951 in the amount of \$422,517.89, payrolls #16 – #18 in the amount of \$504,337.23, for a grand total of \$926,855.12; and to approve the minutes of the regular session held on August 12, 2019. Mr. Miller seconded the motion and it carried 5 – 0.

Patrons'  
Comments

None.

Personnel

Subsequent to Mr. Riffle's recommendation, Mr. Stichter made a motion to approve the following personnel items:

- Approve the Superintendent's contract and addendum for Mr. Jeremy Riffle for the 2019/2020 school year;
- Approve the following ECA Positions:
  - Art Club Sponsor – Miss Emily Thomas;
  - DECA Sponsor – Miss Tracie Knisley;
  - FFA Sponsor – Miss Dakota Cook;
  - Spanish Club Sponsor – Mrs. Kandace Haines;
  - National Honor Society Sponsor – Mrs. Christina Hartman;
  - Yearbook Advisor – Miss Emily Thomas;
  - Junior High Robotics Coach – Mr. Adam Heckaman;
  - Student Council Sponsor – Miss Carrie Orlowski;
  - Little Hoosiers Sponsors – Mrs. Shawna Shively and Miss Casi Painton;
  - Approve Junior High Football Co-Head Coaches - Jim Snyder and Jeremy May;
- Hire Mr. Joe Scott as a Substitute Bus Mechanic;
- Approve the request from Mr. Curt Kreft to utilize his accumulated sick days for the period of September 3 through October 11, 2019, in order to foster relationships with his four newly adopted children; and
- Approve the high school girls' basketball fundraiser request for a dodgeball tournament on November 16, 2019.

Mr. Rettinger seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Other  
Business

Following Mr. Riffle's recommendation, Mr. Boyer moved, Mr. Stichter seconded, and the motion carried 5 – 0, to approve the "Deed of Easement" for access and utility lines (as per attached) for the property located at 901 Triton Drive, Bourbon, Indiana, which is currently owned by Mrs. Carol Carlberg. *(It should be noted that approval from the Triton Board of School Trustees for access and utility easements was granted previously on July 19, 1994. However, due to an oversight of Mrs. Carlberg's previous attorney, the easement documents were not provided to the Marshall County Recorder's Office for processing. Finalization of the sale of her property cannot be completed until the Deed of Easement is properly approved, notarized, and recorded.)*

Mrs. Baker provided a report on our bus routes. All of our routes have been reviewed and are now door side pick-up/drop off. Mrs. Baker requested permission for buses to be allowed to travel out-of-district to designated locations for student pick-up and drop off in the town of Argos and the town of Mentone. Discussion occurred. Mr. Stichter made a motion to approve Mrs. Baker's request for out-of-district, designated bus stops in Argos and Mentone. Mr. Rettinger seconded the motion and it carried 5 – 0.

Following Mr. Riffle's recommendation, Mr. Stichter moved, Mr. Boyer seconded, and the motion carried unanimously, to approve the first and only reading and adoption of Board Policy 3220.01 pertaining to Teacher Appreciation Grant Allocations.

Mr. Boyer made a motion to open the public hearing on the Bus Replacement Plan, the Capital Projects Plan, and the 2020 Budget. Mr. Stichter seconded the motion and it carried 5 – 0. Mr. McFarland gave a report on the various aspects of the budget plan that's being proposed for calendar year 2020. Mr. Boyer moved, Mr. Rettinger seconded, and the motion carried unanimously, to close the public hearing.

Mr. Stichter moved to approve the resolutions to adopt the Bus Replacement Plan and the Capital Projects Fund Plan for budget year 2020 as presented by Mr. McFarland. Mr. Miller seconded the motion and it carried 5 – 0.

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. Updated emergency maps have been placed in the Jr./Sr. High School. We are working with Descon to make them even more detailed for tornado routes. Triton School Corporation received the Secured Safety School Grant that affords the Corporation \$50,000.00 to update the bus cameras, including stop arm cameras, and employ a School Resource Officer.

**Shared Leadership:** We work as a team and each member provides essential leadership in support of our common goals. Mr. Riffle expressed his appreciation to Mr. Mason McIntyre, Mr. Todd Zeiger, and Attorney Tim Shelly for working together to come up with a plan for moving forward with the Old Gym, a timeline for an RFP, and how best to work with our community in the process. We had an Old Gym Community Meeting on August 14th at 6:00 PM along with a presentation we allowed time for questions from the community. The timeline for the Request for Proposals was also presented. Proposals are due by 4:00 PM on March 13, 2020. Proposals will be reviewed and a decision will be made by April 30, 2020. The decision could be acted upon at the May 11, 2020 School Board Meeting.

**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. Triton School Corporation will engage in our first ever Triton Gives Back Day on September 20<sup>th</sup>. Students in every grade level will be involved in various types of service projects here at the school as well as out in the community. I continue to meet with local businesses to look for sponsors for the K-12 Trojan PRIDE initiative and NG3, both of which will continue to stress the importance of character development and explicitly teaching what it looks like to be men and woman of high character. Thank you for Swanson's Cars and Trucks for their latest investment in NG3 and the Trojan PRIDE initiative. Mr. Riffle expressed his gratitude to Miss Lana Ball and the class of 1988 for their \$450.00 donation to Triton School Corporation to purchase signage for the Triton Athletic Center.

**Accountability:** Each person affiliated with Triton School Corporation, including students, employees, parents/family members, and community stakeholders share accountability for our performance results and for providing their personal best effort in support of our goals. ILEARN scores

Superintendent's Report (Cont.)

were released at the end of last week. Overall, our corporation ranked second compared to all of the other Marshall County Schools in the areas of Math, and English/Language Arts.

**High Expectations:** Our learning organization requires that we maintain high expectations for one another and for self. Jeremiah Farrell was recognized at the game at LaVille, and Coach Younis was recognized at the Caston game for showing outstanding sportsmanship and class during their athletic contests. Emails were received from officials after each of these two games thanking our athletic department and administration for their efforts.

**Evidence Based Decision Making:** We make decisions after careful consideration of the most compelling research and data analysis. The Elementary is piloting reading textbooks in order to make the best decision moving forward for next year. SAT teams are meeting in each building to identify student needs and how best to meet those needs. Data is being used to determine interventions for scholars' academic needs in reading and math.

**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. The Triton Gives Back Service Day is being planned for September 20<sup>th</sup>. This will allow our staff and students to live out the Trojan Way and give back to so many who continue to support us. Triton students and staff will have the opportunity to serve our local communities in a variety of different ways, such as card making, park clean up, tie blankets, visit area nursing homes, Operation Quiet Comfort, Bread of Life food pantry, and helping local churches. We are having a "Triton" tee-shirt drive, canned food drive, Bird Feeder Project, and Animal Treats for the Humane Society which consists of pumpkin puree and oats as part of the Triton Gives Back Service Day.

Patrons' Comments

Mrs. Anders asked for clarification on the bus cameras that are being purchased. Mr. Riffle advised that stop arm cameras are being purchased with funds from the school safety grant. All buses will be equipped with a total of four cameras; three cameras will be mounted inside the bus and one on the stop arm.

Building Reports

Mrs. Cook provided a report on events at the Elementary.

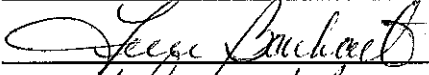
Mr. Ross reported on happenings at the Jr./Sr. High School.

Adjournment

There being no other business to come before the Triton Board of School Trustees, Mrs. Barnhart declared the meeting adjourned at 7:40 PM.

Steven D. Stichter, Secretary

Approved: October 14, 2019

President: 

Secretary: 