

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

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

**Executive Session & Regular Session**

**February 10, 2020**

The Board of School Trustees of Triton School Corporation, Marshall and Kosciusko Counties, met in Executive Session at 6:30 PM; and in Regular Session at 7:00 PM, in the Administration Office, 100 Triton Drive, Bourbon, Indiana, on February 10, 2020.

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. Christine Cook – Elementary Principal, Mr. Bruce Gephart – Maintenance Director, Mrs. Melissa LaShure – Director of Curriculum and Assessment, Mr. Brandon Young – Secondary Teacher, Mrs. Carol Anders – Reporter, and the following High School students: Jacob Verdugo, Haley Riggins, Bryce Coppes, Connor Pitney, Haley May, Madison Stetzel, Haley Hooley, Caitlyn Ihnen, and Tyler Heckaman.

\* \* \* \* **EXECUTIVE SESSION** \* \* \* \*

The Executive Session was called to order at 6:30 PM. Mrs. Barnhart, 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 6:50 PM.

\* \* \* \* **REGULAR SESSION** \* \* \* \*

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

**Consensus  
Agenda**

Mr. Stichter made a motion to approve accounts payable vouchers #1394 – #1573 in the amount of \$655,419.62, and payrolls #1 – #3 in the amount of \$569,147.96, the voided vendor check #31595 in the amount of (-\$100.00) for a grand total of \$1,224,467.58; and to approve the minutes of the finance meeting, reorganization session and regular sessions held on January 13, 2020. Mr. Miller seconded the motion and it carried 5 – 0.

**Patrons'  
Comments**

There were no patrons' comments.

## Personnel

Subsequent to Mr. Riffle's recommendation, Mr. Boyer moved, Mr. Stichter seconded, and the motion carried unanimously, to approve the following personnel items:

- Hire Mr. Tyler Hensley as the Varsity Baseball Coach;
- Hire Mr. Robert "Jake" Burnett as the Varsity Baseball Assistant Coach;
- Hire Ms. Shannon Houlihan as the Varsity Softball Coach;
- Hire Mr. Earl Barger as the Varsity Assistant Softball Coach;
- Hire Ms. Madi Anderson as the Junior Varsity Softball Coach;
- Hire Mrs. Justina Faulkner as the Junior High Girls' Track Coach;
- Hire Ms. Amy Chizum as the Boys' Varsity Track Coach;
- Hire Mr. Gregory "Joe" White as the Boys' Junior High Track Coach;
- Hire Mr. Jeremy May as the Girls' Varsity Track Coach;
- Hire Mr. Matt Arvesen as the Boys' Junior High Golf Coach;
- Accept the resignation of Mrs. Victoria Whirledge as a Substitute Bus Driver; and
- Accept the resignation of Mr. Robert Ross as the Principal at the Jr./Sr. High School. Mr. Riffle expressed his appreciation for Mr. Ross' 15 years of service to Triton School Corporation.

Other  
Business

Mr. Stichter moved, Mr. Rettinger seconded, and the motion carried 5-0, to approve the following items as recommended by Mr. Riffle:

- Approve the quote in the amount of \$18,604.45 from Pemberton-Davis Electric to replace the fiber optic cable between the Administration Office, Elementary, and Jr./Sr. High School buildings;
- Approve the quote from MNW Telecom in the amount of \$8,300.00 to provide a wireless connection from the Elementary to the Bus Garage;
- Approve the quote from Tepe Sanitary Supply in the amount of \$12,556.80 for a new Windsor Chariot 3 floor scrubber;
- Approve the quote from Ferguson Facilities Supply in the amount of \$9,285.99 for a new Windsor Chariot vacuum;
- Approve the school calendar as presented for the 2020/2021 school year (*Note: the first student day will be on August 5, 2020*);
- Approve a wrestling club for Elementary students (*Note: Mr. Matt Arvesen will be in charge of implementing the program and there is no salary to be paid by Triton School Corporation for this position.*);
- Approve the use of a Triton activity bus by Youth Leadership Marshall County on February 22, 2020, for a service project by Marshall County students, which includes five Triton students;
- Approve the Elementary textbook adoption recommendation for the McGraw Hill *Wonders* reading curriculum;
- Approve the use of Triton School Corporation buses to transport chaperones and middle school aged children July 7 – 10, and chaperones and high school aged children July 11 – 15, to an out-of-state summer camp at Beulah Beach located in Vermillion, Ohio;
- Approve the Summer School Program;
- Approve the national contract bid (#110814-HSC) from Lee Company, Inc., in the amount of \$223,752.24, to replace the bleachers in the gymnasium at the Jr./Sr. High School;
- Approve the quote from D & D Electric in the amount of \$6,361.00 to install electrical power to the new location of the washer and dryer in the Jr./Sr. High School gym; and
- Approve the quote from Central Restaurant Products in the amount of \$63,856.40 for cafeteria equipment for the Elementary and Jr./Sr. High School.

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. Triton School Corporation has been chosen to receive the 16 News Now/Martin's One School at a Time Award. Funds from this \$1,000.00 grant will be utilized to pay for the student convocation speaker, Mrs. Becky Savage from the 5/25 Foundation. She will be talking with our junior high and high school students about the dangers of opioids and how they affected her family. This is a personal investment in our Triton Scholars by Mrs. Savage. Mr. Nelson Chipman, Marshall County Prosecutor, has agreed to fund the remaining \$1,500.00 for the speaker fee. This event will take place on April 16 at 9:10 AM. Officer Jason Faulstich, who is a member of the Indiana State Police, will be on site to introduce her and then Mrs. Savage will offer a 30 minute presentation, followed by a 30 minute question and answer session which will be moderated by the Triton Senior Squad.

**Shared Leadership:** We work as a team. 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. In addition to 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. In addition, Indiana Landmarks published a nice article recently asking for a Champion for the Old Gym. This was posted on our Facebook page to continue to remind interested individuals of the timelines for submitting an RFP to the Board. That deadline is 4:00 PM on March 13, 2020.

**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 Triton Transportation Department had a visit from Matt Sarber, Marshall County Deputy Prosecuting Attorney, on February 7 to discuss stop arm violations and the bus driver's role in helping catch those who egregiously violate these policies. Over the last two weeks Mrs. Baker and I have met with prosecuting attorneys in both Kosciusko and Marshall County to discuss stop arm violations. I am happy to announce that each county is taking the same action and protocol to keep our scholars and bus drivers safe. In addition, members of the Triton Transportation Department and the Triton Leadership Team met with Mr. Nelson Chipman, Marshall County Prosecuting Attorney, and Mr. James Phiebush from the Marshall County Probation Department, to discuss security protocol and how best to record offenses to the prosecutor's office.

**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. Multiple staff members and I will be conducting interviews with the four candidates who submitted an application to be voted in as the Bourbon Town Council Youth Member. Eight students expressed an interest, and four completed the required applications. Interviews will be held on Wednesday and Thursday of this week, followed by a staff vote for both a senior and a junior delegate to represent Triton School Corporation on the Bourbon Town Council. Board members have been provided the list of expectations.

**High Expectations:** Our learning organization requires that we maintain high expectations for one another and for self. Last Saturday, choir students had an excellent day in competing in the ISSMA Solo & Ensemble contest at Plymouth. We had seven ensembles and four soloists participate. Eight received a gold rating and three received a silver rating. Congratulations to Madolyn Scott for receiving a gold rating and for advancing to the State competition later this month. Triton Pride was exhibited strongly in choir!

Superintendent's Report (Cont.)

The following band students will be performing at the State Competition:

Brass Ensemble: Delaynie Albright, Courtnie Doll, Dylan Fear, Issac Lemler and William Weissert. In addition to performing with the brass ensemble, Dylan Fear will be performing a solo at State on his tenor saxophone. Gretta Stotler also advances to State with her clarinet solo. Mr. Seel is quoted saying: "I'm extremely proud of ALL band students today. Like the choir students, they demonstrated Trojan Pride in everything they do."

Three Triton Elementary Robotics teams reached the finals on Saturday at the Riverside Tourney. One team has already inked their bid to the State VEX Robotics Competition at Lucas Oil Stadium in March.

**Evidence Based Decision Making:** We make decisions after careful consideration of the most compelling research and data analysis. Just today, Mrs. Brittney Schori, Mrs. Sarah Arvesen, Bourbon Police Officer Carl Amsden, Orion Lemler and I created a video outlining the dangers of vaping and steps Triton School Corporation is taking to educate, inform, and help prevent this epidemic threatening our young people. This video was in response to the January 9th Community Wellness Night and wanting to make sure the message was more clear and concise.

**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 to Triton Scholars and staff! Judges from Bethel University interviewed 88 Triton students who completed Science Fair projects from grades 4-6. Top winners advancing to Notre Dame are Dolan Berkeypile, Nathan Berke, Gavin Riffle, and Darrin King. Braylon Williamson is the alternate. Mr. Riffle expressed his appreciation for Mrs. Teresa Watkins' effort in organizing the event and to all teachers for supporting students as they worked through their projects.

Patrons' Comments

There were no patrons' comments.

Building Reports

Mrs. Cook gave a report on happenings at the Elementary and she also reported on events at the Jr./Sr. High School in Mr. Ross' behalf.

Adjournment

There being no other business to come before the Triton Board of School Trustees, Mrs. Barnhart declared the meeting adjourned at 7:27 PM.

Steven D. Stichter, Secretary

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_ March 9, 2020

President: Lee Bayha

Secretary: Steve Stichter

Kevin R. Berger

William M. King

Ken K. Fell