

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

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

Executive Session & Regular Session

May 11, 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 May 11, 2020. Due to the Center for Disease Control's direction on COVID-19 to not gather in groups, the Regular Session was live streamed on social media as well.

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, and Mr. Nathan McKeand -- Jr./Sr. High School Principal Candidate.

****** 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.

****** 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 #1703 – #1842 in the amount of \$361,617.86, and payrolls #8 – #9 in the amount of \$373,874.74 for a grand total of \$735,492.60; and to approve the minutes of regular session held on April 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:

- Accept the retirement notice of Mrs. Kimberly Bilinski as an Elementary Teacher;
- Accept the retirement notice of Mrs. Mollie Kintzel as an Elementary Teacher;
- Accept the resignation of Miss Cassie Sears as an Elementary Teacher;
- Hire Mr. Nathan McKeand as the Principal of Triton Jr./Sr. High;
- Hire Mr. Daniel Anglemyer as a full-time Custodian at the Jr./Sr. High School for the evening shift, retroactive to his start date of May 4, 2020;
- Hire Ms. Raquel Teutle as the Color Guard Instructor;
- Mr. Riffle expressed his sincere appreciation for Mrs. Bilinski's 41 years of service and Mrs. Kintzel's 33 years of service to students of Triton School Corporation.

Other
Business

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

- The Board held a public hearing to allow input on the Superintendent's contract. There were no comments.
- The first reading of new and revised Corporation policies as recommended by NEOLA was held;
- Approve the base bid in the amount of \$210,700.00 from Roche Constructors, Inc., for replacement of the tennis courts;
- Approve the quote from Spin Techs, Inc., in the amount of \$8,348.15, for the purchase of an electric dryer for the athletic department (Note: the quote includes moving the washing machine to its new location.);
- Approve the quote from McGraw Hill in the amount of \$75,378.60 for the Studysync curriculum for English and Language Arts at the Jr./Sr. High School;
- Approve the quote from S & K Construction in the amount of \$18,460.00 for removal of ceiling tile and grids and preparing hallways for new lighting to be installed at the Jr./Sr. High School;
- Approve the quote of Matteson Acoustics in the amount of \$36,025.00 to install new grid and ceiling tile at the Jr./Sr. High School;
- Approve the quote from Five Star Technology Solutions in the amount of \$29,685.00 for the purchase of servers for the technology department; and
- Discussion occurred and permission was given to the Administration Office to advertise for bids to demolish and remove the old gym, as no proposals were received from community members for alternative uses of the building.

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.

Mr. Riffle complimented Triton teachers and scholars for continuing to work hard at the Alternative Learning Plan. He also thanked the building level leaders and teachers who continue to reach out to scholars to keep them on track and getting things turned in. Bus routes will be run on the morning of May 12th during the normal route times to pick up work and drop off graded assignments at our students homes. School buildings will be open from 4:00 to 6:00 PM as has become customary on Tuesday evenings for those who do not utilize Triton transportation.

Superintendent's
Report (Cont.)

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

Administrators, Teachers, Bus Drivers, Cafeteria Staff, Instructional Assistants, and Secretaries have all lived out the Trojan Way during these difficult times. Each Monday and Thursday, meals have been delivered to over 200 Trojans, and Tuesday pick up and deliveries have gone smoothly due to everyone doing their part. Mr. Riffle expressed his appreciation to our staff, parents and community for sharing this leadership and doing what is in the best interest of Triton scholars. He also thanked the Northern Indiana Foodbank for their partnership in the free meal distribution last Thursday. The next Northern Indiana Foodbank free meal distribution will take place on Thursday, May 28th from 10:00 AM until Noon on the south side of Triton Jr./Sr. High School. Mr. Riffle maintained that as a result of lost state revenue, we will continue to monitor the impact that this will have on our school budget. Current state forecasts show nearly a 46% decrease in state revenue compared to forecasted numbers which will undoubtedly be a concern in the coming budget years, especially in the 2021-2022 school year.

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.

Mr. Riffle expressed his appreciation to Mrs. Margo Lemler and Mrs. Jami McIntyre and the rest of the Triton food service department for their continued support of our scholars through the ongoing lunch program. Lunches continue to be served each Monday and Thursday in all three of our communities and beyond.

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

Mr. Riffle thanked the parents for their work at home with their children as they try to make progress through virtual lessons and packets. This is definitely a new way of learning and it continues to take some getting used to from all of us. Mr. Riffle also expressed his gratitude to our teachers for the good faith effort they are making to reach out to our students, ensuring their safety, security, and well-being during this turbulent time.

High Expectations: Our learning organization requires that we maintain high expectations for one another and for self. Triton School Corporation understands the high expectations that our scholars and community deserve and expect.

On Monday, May 4, final interviews were conducted for the Triton Jr./Sr. High School Principal. There were 25 participants in the interview process that included teachers, secretaries, clergy, bus driver, parent, scholar, and administration that interviewed and hired from a group of four very capable candidates. Mr. Riffle noted that Mr. McKeand comes to Triton with 13 years of administrative experience and is excited to build relationships, be an instructional leader, and most importantly to serve the Triton community to the best of his ability.

Superintendent's Report (Cont.)

Evidence Based Decision Making: We make decisions after careful consideration of the most compelling research and data analysis.

Mr. Riffle asserted that Triton School Corporation continues to listen carefully to the direction from the Governor, the Marshall County Health Department, and county officials to do what is in the best interest of our school corporation. He also stated that Triton School Corporation will schedule its 2020 Graduation Commencement Exercise for July 12, 2020, at 2:00 PM. More details will follow as we continue to monitor the five-stage process that is currently in place. Kindergarten registration will take place at Triton Elementary School on Thursday, June 3 from 4:00 to 7:00 PM. Physical distancing guidelines will be followed as we continue to do our best to keep everyone safe and therefore, we are requesting that only one individual come to register their kindergarten student.

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.

Mr. Riffle affirmed that the common goal we share at this time is the need to listen, trust, and model what it looks like to deal with conflict for our children and scholars. In addition, he noted that not everyone will agree with the decisions that are made in our current reality, but we can respect one another enough to know we are doing what we think is in the best interest and safety of our scholars. He asked, "How can we, or how are we modeling how best to deal with conflict for those in our sphere of influence?"

Patrons' Comments

There were no patrons' comments.

Building Reports

Mr. Riffle provided reports for both of the buildings.

Adjournment

There being no other business to come before the Triton Board of School Trustees, Mrs. Barnhart declared the meeting adjourned at 7:22 PM.

Steven D. Stichter, Secretary

Approved: _____ June 8, 2020

President: [Signature]

Secretary: [Signature]

[Signature]

[Signature]