

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

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

Executive and Regular Session

September 13, 2021

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 September 13, 2021. 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. Ken Miller, Mr. Steve Stichter and Mr. Wes Rettinger.

Members Absent: None.

Others Present: Mr. Jeremy Riffle – Superintendent; Mr. Tom McFarland – Business Manager; Mrs. Anita Haines – Corporation Receptionist; Mr. Nate McKeand – Jr./Sr. High School Principal, Mrs. Christine Cook – Elementary Principal, Mrs. Sarrah Arvesen and Mrs. Ashli Faulkner – Guidance Counselors, Mr. Brandon Young – High School Social Studies Teacher, Mr. Kenny Barnhart – Triton Social Media, and Valerie Eib, Trace Schuh, Tayla Lynd, Sarah Weber, Melissa Slabaugh, Makenna May, Lucy Cormican, Connor Large, Tyler Amsden, and Madeline Doll – High School Students.

****** 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 ******

Pledge of Allegiance The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Consensus Agenda Mr. Stichter made a motion to approve accounts payable vouchers #3348 – #3457 in the amount of \$373,196.95, payrolls #16A, #16 and #17 in the amount of \$329,743.60, for a grand total of \$702,940.55; and to approve the minutes of the regular session held on August 9, 2021. Mr. Boyer seconded the motion and it carried 5 – 0.

Patrons' Comments There were no patrons' comments.

- Public Hearing** The public hearing was held for the School Bus Replacement Plan for the years 2021 – 2025, the Capital Projects Fund Plan, and the 2022 Budget. No patrons (in person or via virtual attendance) offered any comments on the Bus Replacement Plan, the Capital Projects Fund Plan or the 2022 Budget.
- Personnel** Mr. Stichter moved, Mr. Miller seconded, and the motion carried unanimously to accept the resignation of Mr. Joshua Moore as a Freshman Basketball Coach.
- Mr. Boyer moved to accept the resignation from Miss Dakota Cook as the Agriculture Teacher and FFA Sponsor effective September 10, 2021. Mr. Stichter seconded the motion and it carried 5 – 0.
- Subsequent to Mr. Riffle's request, Mr. Miller made a motion to grant permission to the Administration to hire an Agriculture Teacher and FFA Sponsor prior to the next Board meeting if a suitable replacement is found and the recommendation for employment that will be presented at the regular meeting on October 11 will be retroactive to the employee's start date. Mr. Rettinger seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.
- Mr. Stichter moved, Mr. Rettinger seconded, and the motion carried 5 – 0, to accept the resignation from Mrs. Chelsea Hedington from her position in the Elementary cafeteria and to hire Ms. Amber Kreft as her replacement in the Elementary cafeteria.
- Mr. Boyer moved to hire Miss Alyxa Viers as the Sixth Grade Volleyball Coach. Mr. Miller seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.
- Mr. Rettinger moved, Mr. Stichter seconded, and the motion carried 5 – 0, to approve utilizing Miss Sasha West as a volunteer for Trojan Singers.
- Mr. Stichter made a motion to utilize the volunteer services of Mr. Brandon Stuart in the high school football program. Mr. Boyer seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.
- Mr. Stichter moved to hire Mrs. Robin Smith as a special purpose bus driver for the Plymouth vocational program and to hire Mrs. Julie Whitehurst as a substitute special purpose bus driver for the vocational program. Mr. Miller seconded the motion and it carried 5 – 0.
- Mr. Boyer made a motion to approve Mrs. Tina Zechiel as the Science Club Sponsor for the 2020/2021 school year and to accept her resignation from this position for the 2021/2022 school year. Mr. Rettinger seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.
- Following Mr. Riffle's recommendation, Mr. Miller made a motion to approve the request of Mrs. Jodie Vermillion to use 15 days from the sick leave bank for her maternity leave. Mr. Rettinger seconded the motion and it carried 5 – 0.
- Other Business** Mr. Stichter moved, Mr. Rettinger seconded, and the motion carried 5 – 0, to approve the Resolutions to Adopt the Capital Projects Fund Plan and the Bus Replacement Plan.
- Mr. Stichter made a motion to approve the Resolution of the Board of School Trustees delegating authority to the Superintendent and/or his designee to take action as deemed necessary that pertains to COVID protocol and noting that this resolution expires at the time of the first Board meeting following the conclusion of the 2021/2022 school year. Mr. Boyer seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Other
Business (Cont.)

Mr. Stichter moved to approve the 2021/2022 Clinical Services Memorandum of Understanding between Triton School Corporation and Four County for assignment of clinical service provider(s) who can provide therapeutic mental health services to Triton School Corporation students. This was followed by a second from Mr. Boyer and the motion carried 5 – 0.

Mr. Stichter made a motion to approve/accept the 2020/2021 Annual Financial Report from the Corporation and the Annual Financial Reports from the Jr./Sr. High School and the Elementary. Mr. Rettinger seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Mr. Boyer moved, Mr. Rettinger seconded, and the motion carried 5 – 0, to approve increasing the capital asset threshold to \$5,000.00.

Mr. Stichter made a motion to approve utilizing Kids Kingdom Day Care as the latch key provider for the 2021/2022 school year. Mr. Miller seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Mr. Miller moved to accept the official notice from Mrs. Laura Baker, Transportation Director, noting that all of the bus routes and the transportation safety policy has been reviewed. Mr. Rettinger seconded the motion and it carried 5 – 0.

Mr. Stichter made a motion to approve the quote from Thompson Concrete in the amount of \$28,500.00 for the concrete work for the football bleachers on both the “home” and “visitor” sides. Mr. Miller seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

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.

The Triton Board of Trustees and directors began providing information for enFocus Fellows who are helping Triton School Corporation work on our Strategic Plan for the future. Initial Interviews have been completed (Discover phase), the next step includes surveys, focus groups, and targeted interviews. This will be followed by two workshops in December and January, with the report and final strategic plan being delivered in February. Jeremy and Megan were very pleased with the first round of interviews. We will be meeting every other week to make sure we are staying focused on the process and product.

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

The Guidance Counselors' discussed the great things that are happening under new leadership in this department. There is likely no better example of shared leadership than what is happening here. Mrs. Arvesen and Mrs. Faulkner are sharing the guidance and counseling duties for all of the Jr./Sr. High School students. They are being diligent in their effort to be present in the hallways and during the lunches and encouraging students to feel welcome to ask for assistance whenever they need it.

Superintendent's
Report (Cont.)

Shared Leadership (continued):

Senior students will participate in Senior Audit Day on September 22. Senior students' credits will be verified that day to be sure they are on track for graduation. A number of local colleges, businesses, employment agencies and military personnel will be on site to meet with students to discuss the options that are available to them after graduation. Students in grades eight through eleven will also have "audit days" on different days throughout the school year.

Mrs. Arvesen and Mrs. Faulkner are planning to place a greater emphasis on the CTE and Vocational Programs that are offered to our students by inviting Mr. Albert Hanselman and the CTE Instructors in October to present the different programs that are available. They're planning visits to the various CTE programs in November and having CTE be a part of the freshman orientation.

The counselors are planning to have Senior Squad Members mentor seventh and eighth grade students and then during second semester, the juniors' that will be on the Senior Squad next year will mentor sixth grade students. We are partnering with Beacon Health/Tobacco Coalition and The Voice of Indiana to establish programs for students in grades six through twelve for tobacco prevention assemblies and interventions if needed. Students are able to receive assistance with their assignments by going to Study Table after school.

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.

On October 1st, Triton School Corporation will once again look to serve our community in our annual, Triton Gives Back Day. The counselors are having grade level and SLC meetings to discuss options and opportunities for our scholars and staff to get involved.

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.

Mrs. Melissa LaShure led data meetings to review beginning of the year data and continues to push to make great gains before the middle of the year data is collected in January. Changes have been made in adaptive assessment (NWEA) and a new data platform (Pivot). We are excited to better pinpoint needs and begin to intentionally instruct to those needs. This information will also drive Student Learning Objectives Goals for teachers to monitor throughout the year.

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 thanked C3 for investing in Triton Scholars, especially during the last couple of weeks that have proven to be difficult. He stated, "Your empathy, compassion and display of thinking of others has been remarkable, thank you."

Superintendent's Report (Cont.)

Alignment (continued):

Mr. Riffle expressed his appreciation to our staff, coaches, parents, scholars, and community, all of whom have pitched in to support Cameron Fairchild's family following his death. His parents, Ashley Carpenter and Billy Fairchild, have been so appreciative of all the efforts that have gone into remembering Cameron well.

Mr. Riffle reported that the Town is getting new signage at the town entrances. The current memorabilia is being removed from the signs and will be placed in alternate locations. Planning is going on for items to be placed on the new signs.

Patrons' Comments

There were no patrons' comments.

Building Reports

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

Mr. McKeand gave a report on events 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 7:49 PM.

Mr. Steve Stichter, Secretary

Approved: _____ October 11, 2021

President: *Laura Barnhart*

Secretary: *Steve Stichter*

Kevin R. Bogen

Kenneth W. Mill

Wm M. [Signature]

