

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

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

**Regular Session**

**November 11, 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 November 11, 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, Mr. Robert Ross – Jr./Sr. High School Principal, Mrs. Melissa LaShure – Director of Curriculum and Assessment; and Mrs. Samantha Phenix – Elementary Teacher.

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

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 #997 – #1249 in the amount of \$395,638.98, payrolls #21 – #22 in the amount of \$402,613.85, less a voided vendor check #31328 in the amount of (\$120.00) for a grand total of \$798,132.83; and to approve the minutes of the executive and regular sessions held on October 14, 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:

- Hire Mrs. Amy Middaugh for a part-time position in the Jr./Sr. High School cafeteria;
- Hire Mrs. Ali Rohrer as a substitute support staff member in the Jr./Sr. High School cafeteria;
- Accept the resignation from Mr. Joshua Moore as the Eighth Grade Boys' Basketball Coach;
- Accept the resignation from Mr. Allen Peckham effective November 6, 2019, as a Day Custodian at the Jr./Sr. High School and as the Varsity Tennis Coach for the boys' and girls' teams;
- Hire Mr. Matt Arvesen as the Varsity Wrestling Coach;
- Hire Mr. Jason Thompson as the Varsity Assistant Wrestling Coach;
- Utilize the volunteer services of Mr. Andy Barker and Mr. Brock Vermillion in the wrestling program;
- Hire Mr. Joe White as the Sixth Grade Girls' Basketball Coach;
- Utilize the volunteer services of Mrs. Lisa Bemish in the sixth grade girls' basketball program;
- Hire Miss Becca Kennedy as the Seventh Grade Girls' Basketball Coach;
- Utilize the volunteer services of Mr. Chad Kennedy in the seventh grade girls' basketball program;
- Hire Mrs. Lindsay Shively as the Eighth Grade Girls' Basketball Coach;
- Utilize the volunteer services of Mr. Sam Stutzman in the junior high girls' basketball program;
- Hire Mr. Jeremy May as the Eighth Grade Boys' Basketball Coach;

## Personnel (Cont.)

- Approve the maternity leave request of Mrs. Kandace Haines beginning approximately December 9, 2019, with a return date of January 27, 2020, providing there are no complications prior to or after the birth of the baby; and also to approve her request to utilize 20 days of leave from the sick bank;
- Approve the distribution of funds from the Teacher Appreciation Grant; and
- Approve the revised wage scale for the custodial staff. (NOTE: There is no longer a distinction between day shift and night shift custodians, and they will all be paid at what was previously considered the higher night shift rate).

Mr. Miller seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Other  
Business

Following Mr. Riffle's recommendation, Mr. Boyer moved, Mr. Rettinger seconded, and the motion carried 5 – 0, to approve the Memorandum of Understanding with the Town of Bourbon for the Student Resource Officer.

Mr. Stichter made a motion to approve the agreement with Go Solutions Group, Inc., for their assistance in streamlining special education student data and Medicaid billing. This was followed by a second from Mr. Miller. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Rettinger moved to approve the quote from PlaygroundEquipment.com in the amount of \$123,255.00 for the purchase and installation of equipment on the Elementary playground with a completion date of July 31, 2020. Mr. Stichter seconded the motion and it carried 5 – 0.

Superintendent's  
(Report)

Mr. Riffle expressed appreciation the Veterans of The United States Armed Forces. It is our great honor to thank the brave men and women who have and continue to fight for the freedoms that we are able to enjoy today. Veterans Day is a day set aside to honor the brave men and women, who have given of their time, talents, and treasures to keep our nation free and able to enjoy the freedoms we enjoy today. Veterans Day is intended to honor and thank all military personnel who served the United States in all wars and that is exactly what we did today at both Triton Elementary and Triton Jr/Sr. High School.

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 Raptor System has been installed and is working as hoped. Reunification information was sent out and continues to near completion. Harmony "Parent Access" has been communicated and parents are signing up. Eventlink Corporation Calendar information is nearing completion with an expected role out of All Corporation Events to go live after Thanksgiving Break.

**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 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. On November 7, sixth grade scholars and high school scholars joined together to serve others through the Feed My Starving Children program. I am excited to continue to make Triton School Corporation a safe and inviting campus. The partnership between the Town of Bourbon Police Department and the Triton School Corporation will continue to work towards keeping our scholars, staff, and community safe.

Superintendent's Report (Cont.)

**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. Teacher appreciation grant funds will be distributed this week. Triton received \$33,900 from the state for its good standing and continued high performance. This money will be distributed in the form of a stipend to teachers in our corporation who were rated "effective" or "highly effective" on their personnel evaluation for the 2018/2019 school year.

**High Expectations:** Our learning organization requires that we maintain high expectations for one another and for self. Winter athletics are under way and our scholar athletes are working hard and preparing for what should be a successful sports campaign. The robotics teams are continuing to practice and prepare for their weekend competitions. Both buildings put on a great tribute to our Veterans today.

**Evidence Based Decision Making:** We make decisions after careful consideration of the most compelling research and data analysis. "Trojan Trade" is an example of using the information we have, coming up with a solution, and working hard to meet our students where they are at. Several students, over the last couple of weeks, have sent thank you notes to staff members thanking them for coming up with a practical way to bless Triton Scholars.

**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. Over 130 scholars from Triton School Corporation served in the annual Feed My Starving Children Event in Nappanee. Sixth grade scholars, FFA scholars, and senior squad scholars all served together to continue to live out the Trojan Way. These Students packed 336 boxes, equaling 72,576 meals which will feed 198 children for a year. Overall, the event packed 2,109,888 meals.

Patrons' Comments

None.

Building Reports

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

Mr. Ross provided 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 7:23 PM.

Steven D. Stichter, Secretary

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_ December 9, 2019

President: Lee Buchart

Secretary: Steve Stichter

Kevin R. Boyer

Wm M A

Karen Hill