

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

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

Regular Session

August 12, 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 August 12, 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. Melissa LaShure – Data & Assessment Coordinator, Mr. Robert Ross – Jr./Sr. High School Principal, Mrs. Samantha Phenix – Elementary Teacher, Mrs. Nancy Miller, Mrs. Tina Watkins, Mrs. Amy Middaugh, Mrs. Ashley Doll, Mrs. Johna Snyder, and Mr. Jeff Snyder – Patrons, and Mrs. Carol Anders – Reporter.

NOTE:

The annual Board/Administrative Retreat was held in the Elementary Media Center, at 5:00 PM.

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

Consensus  
Agenda

Mr. Stichter made a motion to approve accounts payable vouchers #700 - #840 in the amount of \$493,006.35, payrolls #14 – #15 in the amount of \$325,164.69, and to release the retainage fee to Michael Kinder and Sons (MKS) in the amount of \$201,439.17, for a grand total of \$1,019,610.21; and to approve the minutes of the regular session held on July 8, 2019. Mr. Boyer seconded the motion and it carried 5 – 0.

Patrons'  
Comments

None.

Personnel

The public hearing was held on the Superintendent's contract for 2019/2020. No questions or comments were made, therefore the hearing was closed.

The public hearing was held on collective bargaining with no comments or questions from the audience. The hearing was closed.

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

- Approve the status quo teacher contracts and the contracts for all new teaching staff members;
- Approve all of the ECA contracts;
- Approve the transfer of Ms. Sarrah Davis as a Special Education Teacher at the Jr./Sr. High School to Guidance Counselor position for grades seven through nine;
- Hire Miss Elizabeth Erne as an Elementary Teacher;
- Hire Mr. Brandon Young as a Junior Class Sponsor;
- Approve the transfer of Mrs. Jenny Mevis as an Elementary Teacher to a Special Education Teacher at the Jr./Sr. High School;
- Hire Mr. Joshua Higgins as a Social Studies Teacher at the Jr./Sr. High School;
- Hire Mr. Blake Schori as the Varsity Golf Coach for the Boys' and Girls' golf teams;
- Hire Mrs. Terrin Meister-Robbins as the Seventh and Eighth Grade Volleyball Coach;
- Hire Mrs. Stacy Stuart as the Sixth Grade Volleyball Coach;

## Personnel (Cont.)

- Hire Mrs. Judy Gallinger as an Activity Bus Driver for students enrolled in the vocational classes in Plymouth;
- Hire Mrs. Kimberly Berger as a Substitute Bus Driver;
- Hire Mr. Joe White as the Varsity Cross Country Coach; and
- Accept the resignation of Mrs. Sandy Mercer as a Cafeteria Worker at the Jr./Sr. High School, and allowing her to continue working as a substitute in the cafeterias.

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 following:

- Approve the changes for the 2019/2020 Jr./Sr. High School Student Handbook;
- Approve the Redesigning School Counseling Portfolio;
- Grant permission to advertise the Bus Replacement Plan and the Capital Projects Fund Notice;
- Approve the Teachers Retirement Fund Reduction Resolution;
- Approve the purchase of two (2) bus cameras from Pro-Vision Video Systems in the amount of \$6,160.00 to equip the new buses that are being purchased;
- Approve the Student Transportation Safety Policy as required; and
- Approve the fund raiser request from the Sixth Grade to sell Airbeads.

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. In addition, 1st Source Bank donated backpack lights to the largest majority of our elementary students to make them safer during their commutes. Additional lights were ordered due to larger numbers at enrollment. They also donated money to go towards training tables that will be another update to our training room that is coming along quite nicely.

**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 will have an Old Gym Community Meeting on August 14th at 6:00 PM. There will be a presentation at the meeting and we will allow time for questions from the community. The timeline for the Request for Proposals will be 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 worked diligently in making the switch of the Bourbon Summerfest locations a positive experience for all involved. We heard a lot of positive feedback. I will be setting a debriefing meeting for Friday to discuss what went well, and how it can be improved. An enormous thank you to Bruce Gephart for his tireless effort this weekend to make sure everything was in order for the Summerfest itself, but also for our students this morning as they came back to school. Mr. Ross reported that everything was picked up and you would not have known all of the activities that took place here this weekend. Mr. Riffle continues 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 women of high character.

**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. Students are in the process of completing benchmark assessments to be able to show growth throughout the year. Triton was once again recognized by NICHE as the highest rated school in Marshall County!

**High Expectations:** Our learning organization requires that we maintain high expectations for one another and for self.

Superintendent's Report (Cont.)

**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. Customer service of the two companies has been very different so far and is going to be a determining factor.

**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. A goal this year as we "Transform as a School Corporation", is to transform our actions, attitudes, and behaviors with a growth mindset. The purpose of this transformation is to continue to be a great school corporation, one that is uncommon in our approach and how we value relationships, and character development with our students, staff and our community. On August 9<sup>th</sup> we had an All Corporation Assembly to introduce new staff, students, have some fun as a corporation, and introduce what it means to be a Trojan. We also explained what and how Trojan PRIDE is and how we will continue to think of others over self, The Trojan Way! On September 20, 2019, a "Triton Gives Back Service Day" is being planned. 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. Service projects include card making, park clean up, tie blankets, visiting area nursing homes, Operation Quiet Comfort, Bread of Life food pantry, and assisting local churches. There will also be a t-shirt drive leading up this service day so that every Triton student has a Triton t-shirt to wear on September 20<sup>th</sup> whether they have been at Triton School Corporation for years or not.

Patrons' Comments

Mrs. Anders inquired about the bus cameras that are being purchased.

Several parents inquired about the dress code that is being adhered to. Mr. Riffle responded.

Building Reports

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

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

Mr. Riffle commented on the upcoming old gym community meeting and he gave a brief PowerPoint presentation.

Adjournment

There being no other business to come before the Triton Board of School Trustees, Mrs. Barnhart declared the meeting adjourned at 7:45 PM.

Steven D. Stichter, Secretary

Approved: September 9, 2019

President: *Laura Barnhart*

Secretary: *Steven D. Stichter*

*Kevin R. Boze*

*Wayne M. ...*

*Ken Hill*