

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

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

**Executive and Regular Session**

**July 12, 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 July 12, 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. Ken Miller, Mr. Steve Stichter and Mr. Wes Rettinger.

Members Absent: Mr. Kevin Boyer.

Others Present: Mr. Jeremy Riffle – Superintendent; Mr. Tom McFarland – Business Manager; Mrs. Anita Haines – Corporation Receptionist; Mr. Nate McKeand – Jr./Sr. High School Principal, and Mr. Orion Lemler – Triton Social Media.

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

The Executive Session was called to order at 6:30 PM. Mrs. Barnhart, 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)(5).

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 #3040 – #3256 in the amount of \$1,124,690.39, payrolls #12 – #13 in the amount of \$459,835.36, for a grand total of \$1,584,525.75; and to approve the minutes of the regular session held on June 14, 2021. Mr. Rettinger seconded the motion and it carried 4 – 0.

**Patrons' Comments**

There were no patrons' comments.

## Personnel

Mr. Stichter moved, Mr. Miller seconded, and the motion carried unanimously to approve the following personnel items:

- Accept the resignation of Ms. Makayla O'Dell from her position in the Elementary Cafeteria; and
- Accept the resignation from Mrs. Beth Linvill as a Crossing Guard.

Mr. Stichter moved, Mr. Miller seconded, and the motion carried 4 – 0, to accept the retirement notice from Mr. Jack Carpenter as the Elementary Physical Education Teacher. Mr. Riffle and the Board expressed their sincere gratitude for Mr. Carpenter's 35 years of service to Triton scholars.

Mr. Miller made a motion to accept the resignation of Miss Emily Thomas as the Jr./Sr. High School Art Teacher. Mr. Rettinger seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Following Mr. Riffle's recommendation, Mr. Rettinger moved, Mr. Stichter seconded, and the motion carried 5 – 0, to approve the following personnel items:

- Hire Miss Victoria Hughes as an Elementary Teacher;
- Hire Mrs. Courtney King as an Elementary Instructional Assistant;
- Hire Mrs. Kimberly Kelley as a Pre-School Teacher;
- Transfer Mr. Taylor Long from his position as a Sixth Grade Teacher to the Elementary Physical Education position;
- Hire Mr. Derek Eveland as an Art Teacher at the Jr./Sr. High School;
- Hire Mr. Paul Williams, Jr., as a Junior High Social Studies Teacher; and
- Approve the "Independent Contractor Agreement" with Ms. Rachelle Maybee for her services as a School Psychologist.

Other  
Business

Mr. Miller moved, Mr. Rettinger seconded, and the motion carried 5 – 0, to approve the the following fund raisers for the Jr./Sr. High School, noting that others might be presented at a later date due to staffing changes:

- High School and Junior High Football: pizza cards;
- Yearbook/Art Club: cookie dough sales, popcorn sales and coffee sales;
- Junior Class: magazines and candle sales;
- DECA: Ben's Pretzel sales;
- Cheerleaders: mini cheer clinics;
- FFA: meat/snack sticks, barn dance, fruit and nuts sale, the consignment auction, and a drive-in movie night;
- Boys' Basketball: apparel sales, and a dodgeball tournament;
- High School Wrestling: Krispy Kreme Donuts;
- Performing Arts: seasonal items, miscellaneous items, and boxed candy;
- Athletic Department: Golf Scramble
- Trojan Singers: Scratch-off cards, Auntie Anne's Fundraising,;
- Spanish Club: Pulsera Project (Bracelets); and
- Senior Class: Spaghetti Dinner.

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.**

Capital projects are beginning to wrap up in preparation for the new school year. Sidewalk repairs and new sidewalks will make our campus safer. New ceiling tiles are being installed at the high school.

The annual Board Retreat was held on June 18<sup>th</sup>. This is always a great time to hear from our department and building level leaders about progress and goals for the new school year. Triton School Corporation will be undergoing a Strategic Planning process this year in hopes of giving even more focus and direction to our goal of continuous improvement. This process will involve community members, community surveys, revisions to our mission and vision statements and an overall look at how we can continue to improve and provide the best possible education in our region.

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

The Triton Leadership Team continues to plan for a successful start to the new school year. In cooperation with the Marshall County Health Department, Triton will use a mask optional approach for the upcoming school year. We want our patrons to know that this is subject to change, as we never know what the status of our county or school may be at any given time, but for now, we are planning to go mask optional. However, we will be mandated to have students mask up on the buses as this is a federal requirement for public transportation and schools are included in this expectation. More information and recommendations will be forthcoming. The documents I will share on social media over the next couple of weeks are simply to keep our community informed as to state and local recommendations. We will not be the vaccination police, however the state has come out with very clear guidelines as it relates to masking up, contact tracing, and quarantines. Parents should be aware of more information coming from the school buildings, updates at registration, and social media/school messenger posts with the latest information.

**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 Town and County leaders continue to work collaboratively to create a plan for grant monies that are available due to our "Stellar" designation. Currently the LLN Board is looking into investments to be put towards a Career Innovation Center in Marshall County that will bless our county cradle to career. We are currently in the process of engaging key stakeholders in our community in preparation for the REDI Grant (Rural Economic Development Innovation) and ARP (American Rescue Plan) Funds.

We plan to once again host the Bourbon Summer Fest on the grounds of Triton School Corporation. This event will take place on August 7th and 8th.

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.**

Mr. Riffle congratulated Coach Jason Groves, the varsity basketball team and the future 8th grade basketball team for winning their super hoops division.

We wish our 4H Scholars their best as they prepare their projects for the upcoming county fairs. Mr. Riffle requested pictures of Triton students who are competing to be emailed to him at [jriffle@triton.k12.in.us](mailto:jriffle@triton.k12.in.us) so they can be recognized for their efforts and show they are living out the personal responsibility it takes to complete a project.

Mr. Riffle congratulated Boy Scout Troop 251 on a safe and successful hike of the Appalachian Trail. They were unable to complete the whole trail due to bad weather and trail conditions, however they had a goal, and they completed their mission to the best of their ability and control. Thank you to Mr. Shawn Hooley and Mr. Ben Firestone for keeping us up-to-date and for sharing pictures that will be posted next week along with highlights of their trip.

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

Mr. Riffle expressed his appreciation to Mr. Bruce Gephart and our maintenance team who continues to make outstanding progress in our buildings in preparation for a successful start to the new school year. He also thanked the building level leaders who are working hard to complete the hiring process and put high character individuals in key positions to continue to invest in our students academically, socially, and emotionally.

**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.**

Today we had an organizational meeting with Mr. McKeand, Mr. Yarbrough, and several members of the NG3 committee to persist in laying the framework on how we can continue to be even more intentional with our scholars and their character development. We will continue to work with NG3 leaders on how to best move forward with this much needed initiative and how we can continue to make it stronger into the future.

Patrons'  
Comments

There were no patrons' comments.

Building  
Reports

Mr. McKeand gave an update on events at the Jr./Sr. High School.

Mr. Riffle reported on events at the Elementary.

Adjournment

There being no other business to come before the Triton Board of School Trustees, Mrs. Barnhart declared the meeting adjourned at 7:18 PM.

Mr. Steve Stichter, Secretary

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_ August 9, 2021

President: Lucy Barnhart

Secretary: \_\_\_\_\_

Kevin R. Bogen

Wanda M. A.

Ken M. H.

