

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

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

Regular Session

August 10, 2020

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 10, 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, Mrs. Christine Cook – Elementary Principal, Mr. Nate McKeand – Jr./Sr. High School Principal, Mrs. Laura Baker – Transportation Director, Mrs. Melissa LaShure – Director of Curriculum and Assessment, Mr. Mason McIntyre – Athletic Director/Dean of Students, Mr. Bruce Gephart – Maintenance Director, Mr. Jordan Breeden – Technology Director, Mrs. Carol Anders – Reporter and Mr. Orion Lemler – Triton Social Media.

NOTE: The annual Board/Administrative work session was held at 5:00 PM in the Administration Office.

***** REGULAR SESSION *****

Mrs. Barnhart called the Regular Session to order at 7:00 PM and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Consensus
Agenda

Mr. Stichter made a motion to approve accounts payable vouchers #1953 – #2123 in the amount of \$788,878.49, and payrolls #15 – #16 in the amount of \$320,133.60 for a grand total of \$1,109,012.09; and to approve the minutes of regular session held on July 13, 2020. Mr. Boyer seconded the motion and it carried 5 – 0.

Patrons'
Comments

There were no patrons' comments.

Public Hearing

The public hearing for collective bargaining was held to allow for public input. No patrons commented.

Personnel

Mr. Stichter moved, Mr. Miller seconded, and the motion carried 5 – 0, to approve the following personnel items:

- Accept the resignation of Mr. William (Ted) Fisher as the Technology Director;
- Accept the resignation of Mrs. Sarah Kauffman from her part-time position in the Elementary cafeteria;
- Accept the resignation of Mr. Greg Olejniczak as an evening Custodian at the Jr./Sr. High School;
- Accept the resignation of Mrs. Jessica Firestone as a Substitute Bus Driver;
- Accept the resignation of Mr. Jason Groves as a Junior Class Sponsor;

Mr. Rettinger made a motion to utilize Mrs. Christen Ritchison as a Substitute Teacher to fill a maternity leave of absence for Mrs. Brea Montalbano from approximately October 26 through December 18, 2020. Mr. Boyer seconded the motion and it carried 5 – 0.

Personnel
(Cont.)

Mr. Stichter moved, Mr. Rettinger seconded, and the motion carried unanimously, to hire Mr. Jordan Breeden as the Technology Director.

Following Mr. Riffle's recommendation, Mr. Stichter made a motion to approve the Master's incentive adding \$2,000.00 to the base pay for Mr. Brandon Young, Mrs. Sarrah Arvesen, and Mrs. Samantha Phenix. Mr. Boyer seconded the motion and it carried 5 – 0.

Mr. Miller moved to hire Ms. Ashley Freed as a Substitute Bus Driver and Mr. Stichter seconded the motion. It carried unanimously.

Subsequent to Mr. Riffle's recommendation, Mr. Stichter moved to approve hiring Ms. Naomi Olesen as a part-time Nurse's Assistant. Mr. Boyer seconded the motion and it carried 5 – 0. (NOTE: This is a new temporary position and the pay rate is \$20.00 per hour.)

Mr. Stichter moved, Mr. Rettinger seconded, and the motion carried unanimously, to hire Miss Morgan Hall as a Junior High Volleyball Coach, and Mrs. Jodie Vermillion as the Sixth Grade Volleyball Coach.

Mr. Boyer made a motion to hire Miss Casi Painton and Mrs. Samantha Phenix as Technology Integration Coaches at the Elementary. Mr. Stichter seconded the motion and it carried 5 – 0.

Mr. Riffle recommended that Ms. Terrin Meister-Robbins be hired as a Junior High Volleyball Coach. Mr. Stichter moved to approve the recommendation and Mr. Miller seconded the motion. It carried 5 – 0.

Other
Business

Subsequent to Mr. Riffle's recommendation, Mr. Stichter made a motion to allow the Administration to place a legal advertisement for the Capital Projects Fund Plan and the 2021 – 2025 Bus Replacement Plan. Mr. Miller seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Mr. Rettinger made a motion to approve the quote that was received from National Asphalt Solutions LLC in the amount of \$12,587.30 for seal coating, crack sealing and line striping in asphalt areas around the Elementary and Jr./Sr. High School. Mr. Stichter seconded the motion and it carried 5 – 0.

Mr. Stichter moved, Mr. Miller seconded, and the motion carried unanimously, to approve the sale of two scale server nodes to Penz Products, Inc., for a total of \$1,800.00.

Mr. Boyer made a motion to approve Ball Auction and Realty, Inc., as the auctioneering company for the sale of surplus property from the old gym. Mr. Miller seconded the motion and it carried 5 – 0.

Subsequent to Mr. Riffle's recommendation, Mr. Miller moved, Mr. Rettinger seconded, and the motion carried unanimously, to approve the following:

- Approve the high school girls volleyball team fund raiser request for "Bruce's Big Grill" with funds being used for equipment and team jackets; and
- Approve the revised Master's Degree incentive program for Triton teachers.

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 stated, "Today's administrative retreat confirms that we are always trying to continuously improve, whether that be with people we hire, or programs we work to put in place, this is constantly on our mind and continues to be the focus behind every decision."

Superintendent's
Report (Cont.)

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

We could not be at the place we are at today, in preparation for inviting our scholars back to school in just one week, without a lot of time, effort, and focus on how best to make this happen in an efficient and safe manner. Again, our administrative retreat very quickly shows we have the right people, in their strength area, and never before I have been so confident that we have the right people on our team. These are people we trust and will prove to benefit Triton School Corporation in the very near future.

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 has been in communication with our town and will continue to be as it relates to their presence in our school building, during the start of school and dismissal, and how we can continue to work together for the safety of our students. The Town of Bourbon provided the Corporation and the community with signage to remind people to slow down on their commute. They have also put time and effort into helping us implement the new traffic pattern which includes newly painted crosswalks, solar powered signage, and assistance with how best to route cars in the morning and afternoon pickup and drop off.

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.

Triton School Corporation teachers and staff have put a lot of time and effort into being prepared for many different scenarios, knowing that things have been known to change in a matter of minutes. Over the last week, since receiving the news of us pushing back the start date, they have continued to work towards being as proficient as possible in order to best present their lessons to students who will be opting out. I think it is imperative to once again state that we do not have a desire to become a virtual school, however we will be prepared if called upon to do so.

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

Newly hired Technology Integration Coaches, under the direction of Mrs. LaShure, have continued to prepare and proactively plan for parent communication as it relates to Google Classroom, and teacher communication in the area of digital learning and professional development for implementing digital lessons in an efficient manner.

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

Many of the decisions our corporation has made over the last four months, as it has related to digital learning, came from parent feedback. Group meetings, individual meetings, and planning sessions showed that communication was an area that could improve and we are confident that steps are being taken to make this better for our scholars and their families if/when needed.

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.

Triton Transportation and Maintenance departments have worked hard to ensure that the type of cleaning solution is consistent with what is being used in the classroom. Time and effort has and will continue to be put into training staff in effective cleaning strategies, consisting of but not limited to: sit time of solution, technique for spraying, whether to wipe or not to wipe, etc.

Superintendent's Report (Cont.)

Tonight we approved the auction that will take place in late September or Early October. As time gets closer, we will advertise this sale and ensure that our community has the ability to get a piece of Triton history. Patrons will have the opportunity to bid on many of the salvageable contents of the Old Gym but will also be given the opportunity, when advertised, to take a brick or a small piece of the floor if possible. Demolition will likely happen leading up to or during our fall break which is scheduled for October 19 through October 23, 2020.

Patrons' Comments

There were no patrons' comments.

Building Reports

Mrs. Cook provided a report for the Elementary, and Mr. McKeand provided a report for 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 7:32 PM.

Steven D. Stichter, Secretary

Approved: September 14, 2020

President: *Jean Barnhart*

Secretary: *Steve Stichter*

Kevin R. Berger
Walter M. Johnson
Ken Hill