

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

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

Executive & Regular Sessions

April 12, 2021

The Board of School Trustees of Triton School Corporation, Marshall and Kosciusko Counties, met in Executive Session at 6:40 PM and in Regular Session at 7:00 PM, in the Triton Jr./Sr. High School Media Center, 300 Triton Drive, Bourbon, Indiana, on April 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. Kevin Boyer, Mr. Ken Miller, Mr. Steve Stichter, and Mr. Wes Rettinger (attended remotely).

Members Absent: None.

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

****** EXECUTIVE SESSION ******

The Executive Session was called to order at 6:40 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 6:55 PM.

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

Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Consensus Agenda

Mr. Stichter made a motion to approve accounts payable vouchers #2809 – #2922 in the amount of \$496,036.14, payrolls #6 – #7 in the amount of \$397,923.06, for a grand total of \$893,959.20; and to approve the minutes of the executive and regular sessions held on March 8, 2021. Mr. Boyer seconded the motion and it carried 5 – 0.

Patrons' Comments

There were no patrons' comments.

Personnel

Mr. Boyer made a motion to rehire Mr. Steven Linvill as an Evening Shift Custodian at the Elementary. This was followed by a second from Mr. Miller. The motion carried unanimously. (NOTE: Mr. Linvill's first day of employment was March 10, 2021.)

Mr. Miller moved, Mr. Stichter seconded, and the motion carried 5 – 0, to transfer Mrs. Melanie Overmyer from a 2 ¼ hours per day cafeteria position to a 5 ½ hours per day Cook position in the Jr./Sr. High School Cafeteria effective at the beginning of the 2021/2022 school year.

Following Mr. Riffle's recommendation, Mr. Stichter moved, Mr. Boyer seconded, and the motion carried 5 – 0 to utilize Mrs. Tabetha Lisek, Mrs. Beth Linvill, Mrs. Holly Sellers, Mrs. Nancy Nordmann, Mrs. Johna Snyder and Mrs. Lisa Kreft as Instructional Assistants in the summer school program.

Personnel
(Cont.)

Mr. Boyer moved, Mr. Miller seconded, and the motion carried unanimously, to approve Mrs. Sarah Melling, Ms. Jill Finley, Ms. Diane Murphy, Mr. Cur Kreft, Mrs. Aimee Blue and Mrs. Susan Shaffer as Summer School Teachers.

Mr. Miller made a motion to accept the retirement notices from Mrs. Cindy Yoder as an Elementary Cook, and from Mrs. Tammy Grubbs as a Cook at the Jr./Sr. High School. Mr. Stichter seconded the motion and it carried 5 – 0. Mr. Riffle and the Board expressed their sincere appreciation for Mrs. Yoder's and Mrs. Grubbs' service to Triton School Corporation.

Mr. Stichter made a motion to accept Mrs. Amanda Shively's resignation from her position in the Elementary Cafeteria at the end of the 2020/2021 school year. Mr. Boyer seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Miller moved, Mr. Stichter seconded, and the motion carried 5 – 0, to approve the following for extra-curricular positions:

- Mrs. Holly Sellers as the Girls' Assistant Tennis Coach;
- Mr. Jeremy Hepler as a volunteer coach in the varsity tennis program;
- Mr. Beau Hepler as a volunteer coach in the varsity golf program;
- Mr. Joe White as the Junior High Boys' Track Coach; and
- Mr. Reese Gallop as a volunteer coach in the baseball program.

Following Mr. Riffle's recommendation, Mr. Stichter made a motion to hire Mr. Rick Yarbrough as the Assistant Principal/Athletic Director at the Jr./Sr. High School. Mr. Miller seconded the motion and it carried 5 – 0.

Other
Business

Mr. Stichter moved, Mr. Boyer seconded, and the motion carried unanimously, to approve the summer school contracts for teachers.

Mr. Miller made a motion to reappoint Mr. Jordan Fuller to serve on the Bourbon Library Board for a four-year term beginning on May 1, 2021 through May 1, 2025. Mr. Stichter seconded the motion and it carried 5 – 0.

Mr. Stichter moved to approve the Northern Indiana Educational Services Center Shared Dietitian Consortium Services Contract for the period of August 1, 2021, through June 1, 2022. Mr. Miller seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Mr. Boyer moved, Mr. Stichter seconded, and the motion carried 5 – 0, to grant the Administration permission to apply for all grants that will be of aid to Triton scholars.

Discussion occurred regarding the town installing a new lift station on the south end of the school property which borders Lincoln Highway. Mr. Stichter made a motion to approve the Deed of Easement between Triton School Corporation and the Town of Bourbon (as per attached) granting permission for the town to install a lift station. Mr. Miller seconded the motion and it carried 5 – 0.

Mr. Stichter moved, Mr. Miller seconded, and the motion carried 5 – 0, to approve the quote from Bontrager Concrete Specialties, Inc., in the amount of \$20,455.00, for concrete work from the concession stand to the home side bleachers at the football field, and for sidewalk repairs at the Elementary and the Jr./Sr. High School.

Mr. Stichter made a motion to approve the quote from D & D Electric in the amount of \$6,166.00 for electrical installation and maintenance of the school sign located on west side of the Jr./Sr. High School. Mr. Miller seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Following Mr. Riffle's recommendation, Mr. Boyer moved to approve the first reading of updates of Corporation Policies and Administrative Guidelines. Mr. Stichter seconded the motion and it carried 5 – 0.

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.

Ms. Amy Watt shared with current and past biomedical science students about what it looks like and what it takes to be an emergency room nurse. This was in response to our quarterly meetings with the community outreach coordinators at the Lutheran Health Network and the hard work of Ms. Lesley Rohrbaugh.

Mr. McFarland, Mr. Gephart, Mr. McKeand, and Mr. Riffle toured some of the Plymouth school buildings in an effort to gain ideas of how to best create secure entrances at both Triton Elementary School and Triton Jr./Sr. High School. This research is in preparation for the 2023 tax neutral bond that will allow us to look at needed facility upgrades at both buildings. This includes but is not limited to secure entrances, code recommendations, auditorium/classroom upgrades, etc.

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

Mrs. Laura Baker who is the Triton Transportation Director, Mr. Joe Scott, Mr. Terry Scott and several of our bus drivers pulled together to get the buses washed and ready for inspection. Officer Travis Herrold from the Indiana State Police gave great feedback and expressed how well maintained Triton's buses are. Thank you to our transportation department for being the first and the last to greet our scholars and for getting them safely to and from school each day.

Triton FFA currently has their annual auction going on. It can be found on the Triton Facebook page or by going to www.tritonffa.club/auction. The auction ends on April 14.

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 expressed his appreciation to the Bourbon Police Department and local fire departments for their efforts on the morning of April 7th as they responded to a fire on Liberty Avenue. We were apprised of the situation allowing us the opportunity to communicate with our employees, patrons and students to avoid traveling on Liberty Avenue en route to school.

We welcomed Mr. Nathan Harmon today, to speak with Triton Jr./Sr. High School scholars and sixth graders. He was able to participate in three breakout sessions and continue his message with our students to live out their why, think small/aim small, and remind them that they are the only ones in control of their actions, attitudes and behaviors.

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 scholars will begin ILEARN testing this week. This assessment is given to all third through tenth grade students. All students in grades three through eight are required to be tested in the subject areas of English/ Language Arts and Math. Students in grades four and six will have additional testing in science, while fifth grade students will have additional testing in Social Studies. Tenth grade students will be assessed in Biology and US Government.

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

Mr. Riffle congratulated the junior high band and junior high choir for receiving gold ratings in the virtual ISSMA competitions recently.

Superintendent's Report (Cont.)

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

Mr. Riffle stated that spring sports have begun. He expressed his appreciation to our coaches for maintaining high expectations and continuing to invest in our scholar athletes both in the classroom and in their particular sport.

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.

All Triton students and most faculty members will participate in Triton Gives Back on Thursday, April 23. This is the second annual event that puts students in a place to succeed and give back to those who constantly give to others. Students and staff will be visiting parks, nursing homes, food pantries, washing staff members' cars, cleaning up around the community and school, making treats for the humane society, candy bags for healthcare workers, making blankets for nursing home residents, creating care packages for our troops at Operation Quiet Comfort, and much more.

Patrons' Comments

There were no patrons' comments.

Building Reports

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

Mr. McKeand reported 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 7:40 PM.

Mr. Steve Stichter, Secretary

Approved: _____ May 10, 2021

President: *Jay Barnhart*

Secretary: *Steve Stichter*

Kevin R. Boyer

Wesley M. Adams

Ken Miller