

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

*** BOARD MINUTES ***

Regular Session

June 14, 2021

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 June 14, 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 (attended remotely), and Mr. Wes Rettinger.

Members Absent: None.

Others Present: Mr. Jeremy Riffle – Superintendent; Mr. Tom McFarland – Business Manager; Mrs. Anita Haines – Corporation Receptionist; and Mr. Ken Barnhart – Triton Social Media.

Pledge of
Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Consensus
Agenda

Mr. Stichter made a motion to approve accounts payable vouchers #2956 – #3128 in the amount of \$494,388.42, payrolls #10 – #11 in the amount of \$500,297.96, for a grand total of \$994,686.38; and to approve the minutes of the regular session held on May 10, 2021. Mr. Rettinger seconded the motion and it carried 5 – 0.

Patrons'
Comments

There were no patrons' comments.

Personnel

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

- Accept the resignation of Miss Liska Shilling as the High School Guidance Counselor;
- Accept the resignation of Mrs. Annie Cline as an Elementary Instructional Assistant;
- Accept the resignation of Mrs. Adam Heckaman as the Girls' Varsity Tennis Coach;
- Accept the resignation of Mr. Blake Schori as the Girls' Varsity Golf Coach;
- Accept the resignation of Ms. Lana Hostrawser as the Sixth Grade Girls' Basketball Coach;
- Accept the resignation of Mrs. Jodie Vermillion as the Sixth Grade Volleyball Coach;
- Accept the resignation of Mrs. Susan Dietzel as the Drama Co-Director, and also as the Musical Productions Co-Director;
- Accept the resignation of Mrs. Tabetha Lisek as the Pre-School Teacher and Elementary Robotics Coach;
- Accept the resignation of Mrs. Shannon Houlihan as the Varsity Softball Coach; and
- Accept the resignation of Mr. Rick Collins as a High School Instructional Assistant.

Mr. Miller made a motion to approve utilizing Mr. Mason McIntyre as an Athletic Director Consultant. Mr. Rettinger seconded the motion and it carried 4 – 0 – 1 (Mr. Boyer recused himself from voting).

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

- Hire Mr. Mark Elliott, Mr. Ryan Kaufman, and Mr. Ty Ferry as Junior High Baseball Coaches (NOTE: The salary for this position will be split evenly between the coaches with each of them receiving 1/3 of the pay);

Personnel (Cont.)

- Transfer Mrs. Ashli Faulkner from Junior High Social Studies Teacher to Jr./Sr. High Counselor;
- Transfer Ms. Diane Murphy from Second Grade Teacher to Fourth Grade Teacher;
- Hire Ms. Raquel Teutle as the Color Guard Instructor;
- Hire Ms. Courtnie Heckaman as a Dishwasher/Cashier in the Jr./Sr. High School cafeteria;
- Hire Ms. Chelsea Hedington as a Part-Time Elementary Cafeteria Worker;
- Hire Ms. Mikayla O'Dell as a Part-Time Dishwasher in the Elementary Cafeteria;
- Utilize the volunteer services of Mr. Aaron Norris in the High School Football Program; and
- Hire Ms. Kennedy Krull as a Jr./Sr. High School Social Studies Teacher;

Mr. Miller moved, Mr. Rettinger seconded, and the motion carried unanimously, to approve hiring the following individuals for extra-curricular positions:

- **FOOTBALL COACHES:** Mr. Rodney Younis – Varsity Head Coach; Mr. Zach Whittaker – Varsity Assistant; Mr. Jeremy May – Varsity Assistant; Mr. Kyle Bell and Mr. Lee Bragg – Shared Varsity Assistant (pay will be split equally between Mr. Bell and Mr. Bragg); Mr. Brock Vermillion and Mr. Brandon Haines – Shared Varsity Assistant (pay will be split equally between Mr. Vermillion and Mr. Haines); Mr. Matt Arvesen – Junior High Head Coach; Mr. Bryon Overmyer – Junior High Assistant Coach; and Mr. Jason Lemler – Junior High Assistant Coach;
- **CROSS COUNTRY COACHES:** Mr. Joe White and Mrs. Justina Faulkner – Varsity Head Coach (pay will be split equally between Mr. White and Mrs. Faulkner); Mrs. Nancy Nordmann – Junior High Head Coach; and Mrs. Jenny Mevis – Junior High Volunteer Assistant;
- **VOLLEYBALL COACHES:** Mr. Derek Eveland – Varsity Head Coach; Mr. Tony Plothow – Varsity Assistant; Mrs. Jamey Baker – Varsity Assistant; Miss Morgan Hall – Junior High Coach; and Ms. Terrin Meister-Robbins – Junior High Coach;
- **BOYS' TENNIS COACH:** Mr. Brad Gardner – Varsity Head Coach;
- **BOYS' BASKETBALL:** Mr. Jason Groves – Varsity Head Coach; Mr. Blake Schori – Varsity Assistant Coach; and Mr. Taylor Long – Junior Varsity Coach;
- **GIRLS' BASKETBALL:** Mr. Adam Heckaman – Varsity Head Coach; Mrs. Paige Miller – Varsity Assistant Coach; and Mrs. Justina Faulkner – Junior Varsity Coach;
- **WRESTLING:** Mr. Matt Arvesen – Varsity Head Coach; and Mr. Andy Bass – Junior High Head Coach; and
- **BOYS' GOLF:** Mr. Blake Schori – Varsity Head Coach.

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

- A maternity leave request from Mrs. Jodie Vermillion beginning on approximately August 25, 2021, and continuing through November 17, 2021, barring complications;
- Approve the Social Worker/Administrative Assistant contract for Mr. Joshua Van Houten; and
- Approve the Speech/Language Pathologist contract for Mrs. Sheryl Hochstetler.

Other
Business

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

- Grant the Administration Office permission to place a legal advertisement for the Annual Financial Report; and
- The NIESC annual food procurements for dairy and bread/bakery for the 2021/2022 school year. (NOTE: Prairie Farms will be the milk and dairy distributor under the “firm” pricing structure, and Aunt Millie’s Bakery will be the bread and bakery distributor).

Mr. Riffle presented the Triton Blueprint for re-entry to school effective on August 11, 2021. Mr. Rettinger moved to approve the Triton Blueprint as presented. Mr. Boyer seconded the motion and it carried 5 – 0.

Subsequent to Mr. Riffle’s recommendation, Mr. Miller moved, Mr. Stichter seconded, and the motion carried unanimously, to approve the following items:

- Free student meals through June 30, 2022;
- Increase the price for adult breakfast to \$2.50, and adult lunches to \$4.60;

Business (Cont.)

- Changes as recommended for the 2021/2022 Elementary Student Handbook;
- Changes as recommended for the 2021/2022 Jr./Sr. High School Student Handbook;
- The 2021/2022 Elementary textbook rental amounts; and
- The 2021/2022 Jr./Sr. High School textbook rental amounts.

Mr. Boyer moved, Mr. Rettinger seconded, and the motion carried unanimously, to approve the following items:

- The request from the Marshall County 4-H Council for Corporation transportation to be provided for 4-H members in Marshall and Saint Joseph Counties to go on an out-of-state camping trip to Camp Amigo located in Sturgis, Michigan, June 8 through June 10, 2021; and
- To waive transportation costs for extra-curricular activities and field trips for the 2021/2022 school year.

Following Mr. Riffle's recommendation, Mr. Rettinger made a motion to approve the 2021/2022 wage scales as presented. Mr. Stichter seconded the motion and it carried 4 – 0 – 1 (Mr. Miller recused himself from voting). *Note: Wages reflect a 3% increase and are effective on July 1, 2021.*

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

- The quote from C & S Masonry Restoration, LLC, in the amount of \$96,140.00 for tuck-pointing, damaged/cracked brick replacement, replace expansion joint seal, wash and seal the Elementary and Jr./Sr. High School for this year and preceding years until the project is complete;
- The quote from S & K Construction in the amount of \$11,985.00 for 15,568 square feet of ceiling grid to be cleaned and painted;
- The quote from Matteson Acoustics in the amount of \$20,485.00 to remove and replace 15,568 square feet of ceiling tiles; and
- The fifth grade fund-raiser requests for the 2021/2022 school year (Note: Proceeds from the T-shirt fundraiser, Texas Roadhouse, and Hacienda night fundraisers will be used for the Camp Amigo trip and fifth grade supplies.)

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 noted that building level leaders are in the process of making quality improvements to our teaching staff, handbooks, schedules, and doing everything they can to finish the school year strong and begin to plan for a successful 2021/2022 school year.

Mr. Riffle congratulated the 2021 graduates and wished them the best in the future.

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

Summer months are an extremely busy time for schools. A common goal of providing Triton scholars with remediation and an extended school year is accomplished during summer school, while at the same time, routine maintenance and capital improvements are being completed in the nine weeks from the end of one year to the beginning of the next.

Superintendent's Report (Cont.)

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.

We have been asked by Rediscover Bourbon to allow the Culpepper/Merriweather Circus to utilize the north side of the campus for this community event on June 22. On this same evening, we will also host an EKG night at Triton Elementary School for any high school scholars going into ninth through twelfth grade. In addition, we plan to once again host the Bourbon Summerfest on the grounds of Triton School Corporation.

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 read the following community message: On Sunday, June 13th at 2:00 PM, the Triton School Corporation senior class accomplished a goal set some 18 years ago. They graduated from high school, something that seems so common and often taken for granted, but this is a milestone that needs to be celebrated. This day is not just about them, it is about the love, care, support, encouragement, discipline and courage that has gone into each individual. This is a celebration of the scholar for sure, but it is also a celebration of the parents, pastor, aunt, uncle, grandparents, mentor, teacher, coach, and friends. The Triton School Corporation Board of Trustees, Administrators, and Staff congratulate you on this tremendous accomplishment! We wish you the best as you live out your dreams of becoming your best, and we pray for your safety, success, and that you will strive to have a positive impact on those around you. Great job, we are proud of you, and go change the world for good!

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

As we wrap up another school year, we quickly shift our focus to the 2021-2022 school year and the promise it brings. We are reviewing data and taking the steps necessary to make up for the lost instruction time both from the end of the 2019 school year and throughout this school year. Acquiring Pivot and NWEA will help us better focus on areas of need, provide clear expectations to our teachers, and better help us provide even more focused instruction in the future.

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.

Mr. Riffle met with the administrative team to review goals, set new goals, discuss an agenda for the opening day professional development on August 9th, and finally review some of the success in 2021. Providing 175 days of in person instruction topped the list of what we felt was the greatest success of 2021. Hearing our Salutatorian and our Valedictorian both express the fact that they were able to participate in all activities was confirmation that the time and effort was worth the hard work it took to get there.

Patrons' Comments

There were no patrons' comments.

Building Reports

Mr. Riffle provided a report on events/happenings for the Elementary and 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 7:21 PM.

Mr. Steve Stichter, Secretary

Approved: _____ July 12, 2021

President: Lee Barnhart

Secretary: Steve Stichter

Ken Mill

Wesley M. A.

