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

* * * BOARD MINUTES * * *

Regular Session

July 14, 2025

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 July 14, 2025. The meeting was live streamed on social media as well.

Members Present:

Mr. Kevin Boyer, Mr. Ken Miller, and Mr. Wes Rettinger

Members Absent:

Mrs. Terri Barnhart and Mr. Steve Stichter

Others Present:

Mr. Jeremy Riffle – Superintendent; Mr. Tom McFarland – Business Manager; Mr. Nate McKeand – Jr./Sr. High School Principal; Mrs. Melissa LaShure – Elementary Principal/Curriculum Director; Mr. Mason McIntyre- Elementary Administrative Assistant; Mr. Orion Lemler – Triton Social Media; Mr. Josh Taylor- Fifth Grade Teacher; Ms. Lexie

Albright- 4th Grade Teacher; Ms. Jackie Gorski

Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Consensus Agenda Mr. Miller made a motion to approve accounts payable vouchers #8033-#8066 and #8077-#8134 in the amount of \$1,866,767.82, payrolls #12 and #13 in the amount of \$602,881.36 and voids/other in the amount of -\$2,344.01 for a grand total of \$2,467,305.17; and to approve the minutes of the regular session held on June 09, 2025. Mr. Rettinger seconded the motion and it carried 3-0.

Patrons' Comments

There were no comments from any patrons.

Personnel

Mr. Rettinger moved, Mr. Miller seconded, and the motion carried unanimously, to approve the resignation of Stephanie Andrews as an elementary instructional assistant, Brandy Hall as an elementary instructional assistant, Steve Linvill as an elementary custodian, and Troy Sherk as a computer technician. Mr. Miller made a motion to approve Krystalyn Mondy and Rick Yarbrough Sr. as elementary instructional assistants, Mr. Rettinger seconded, and the motion carried 3-0. Following Mr. Riffle's recommendation, Mr. Rettinger made a motion to approve Lisa Hammond and Stephanie Andrews as substitute teachers. It was followed by a second from Mr. Miller, and the motion carried 3-0. Mr. Miller moved to approve Denise Terry, Rodger Terry, and Aaron Haines as show choir volunteers, Mr. Rettinger seconded, and the vote carried 3-0. Mr. Miller moved to approve the status quo Wage Scale for hourly and salary staff, Mr. Rettinger seconded, and the vote carried 3-0. Mr. Rettinger moved to approve the resignation for Hannah Baker as a 5th grade teacher, Mr. Miller seconded, and the vote carried 3-0. Mr. Rettinger motioned to approve Joshua Taylor as 5th Grade Teacher and Lexie Albright as 4th Grade Teacher, Mr. Miller seconded, and the vote carried unanimously. Mr. Miller moved to approve Grace Pierson using 20 days from the sick bank, Mr. Rettinger seconded, and the vote carried 3-0. Mr. Rettinger moved to approve the fall ECA coaches, Mr. Miller seconded, and the vote carried 3-0. Mr. Rettinger motioned to approve administrative contracts, Mr. Miller seconded, and the vote carried 3-0.

Other Business Mr. Miller moved, Mr. Rettinger seconded, and the motion carried 3-0 to approve the 25-26 high school fundraisers and the 25-26 elementary student council fundraisers. Mr. Rettinger moved to approve the resolution to raise the micro-purchase threshold up to \$50,000, Mr. Miller seconded, and the motion carried 3-0. Mr. Miller motioned to approve paying Morris & Sons from the rainy day fund, Mr. Rettinger seconded, and the motion carried 3-0. Mr. Rettinger moved to approve the Hostetler Lawn & Landscaping JV baseball field quote, Mr. Miller seconded, and the vote carried 3-0. Mr. Miller moved to approve the Classified Employees and Directors Handbooks, Mr. Rettinger seconded, and the vote carried 3-0. Mr. Rettinger moved to approve the public official bonds, Mr. Miller seconded, and the vote was unanimous.

Superintendent's Report

Continuous Improvement - The tennis courts are complete and look great. Fences are being installed and repaired from the tornado. The elementary roof is complete. The fire suppression upgrade is installed. Elementary desk/cabinets are installed. Risers are purchased and are being used. A used floor scrubber was purchased and has been used on the Trench Court. New buses are ordered. Devices have been ordered and are ready for students. Practice Baseball/Softball fields are up for approval and will be worked on this summer/fall (Donated tile work from Craig Hawley and donated tile from his distributor). Upgrades to the corporation wifi are complete. Landscape, grounds, and interior of buildings are looking great thanks to Barry and Brian's leadership and maintenance crew's hard work. Elementary Gym sound and railing is complete. Teacher Trial devices being distributed. Elementary Blinds have been installed. High School English Desk Replacement is done.

Shared Leadership - Thank you to Barry and Brian, and their summer work crews for making campus look great in preparation for summer activities, registration, and the upcoming school year. It takes a team, working together, to maximize outcomes and prepare for students each year. Thank you all for your diligent work and willingness to work together for the common cause, our students.

Melissa, Mason, and support staff continue to work diligently to prepare schedules and placement of staff in order to maximize impact on student learning and safety. We are working hard to put into practice some of the valuable research we have read about in the Anxious Generation research based text. These adjustments may be seen in your child's schedule, recess times, and lunch times this year. As with any change to the master schedules, there will be things to work through, but we feel it is worth a look at this to make sure we are giving our students adequate time outside, adequate time to eat, and adequate time to be able to prepare to focus and do their best during instruction.

Thank you Nate for working through scheduling and student placement changes to ensure we are setting our students up for success. This includes utilizing data to figure out what is the best SLC placement for students who could benefit from extra supports in a specific subject area. This is leadership but also puts into practice the use of data, accountability and evidence based decision making to drive productive change.

Social Responsibility - Eight Triton Staff members took part in the Bourbon 4H Club Dunk tanks yesterday afternoon and evening. This was to raise funds for the Bourbon 4H Club and the many active students included in this club. Thank you to all who participated and gave to this great cause.

Accountability- The Campus to Community dates in July were a success. Information about registration was shared. Handouts included calendars, registration dates, and important dates to come. Goodies included pencils, stickers, mini footballs, and a discounted scoop of ice cream from The Standard. Registration: **July 23-24** - Triton Elementary & Triton Jr/Sr High School Registration - In Person

July 23 - 10:00 AM - 8:00 PM July 24 - 12:00 PM - 6:00 PM

High Expectations - Purpose of Campus to Community Events and moving forward:

To emphasize and continue to remain visible and accessible to Triton patrons, focusing on the importance of the home/school partnership to maximize student learning and growth. Model and create the expectations and value of one-on-one communication with parents or guardians for the sole purpose of supporting learning and growth. There has been a growing trend in our nation of parents and schools not being on the same page for the betterment of the child. Parents saying it is solely the schools responsibility to educate their child could not be further from the truth. In order to maximize a child's growth, it takes the home and school working together to help the child grow and reinforce the skills needed to help them be their best. We, as a school corporation, will continue to commit to being a partner, look for the win, and do everything in our power to help connect resources and help in the area of instruction and safety.

Alignment - Melissa and teachers continue to work toward alignment of curricular materials, specifically reading textbook adoption of Smekens Playbook for the upcoming school year. Using data to have discussions on best practices will continue as there will be a need to refocus in some content areas to maximize our potential.

Evidence Based Decision Making - Based on IREAD passage rates, we were able to make the decision to add a 4th grade teacher to this larger class of 84 students. The third grade class, having had almost half of the students passing the IREAD 3 assessment in second grade, we will move down to three teachers. The average class size in the elementary at this moment is 20.5 students per teacher. This will fluctuate once registration is complete on July 24th at which time we will report out the update to this ratio. Our focus is always to keep a smaller student to teacher ratio at grades Kindergarten to third grade, knowing that the earlier intervention the better and smaller class sizes can impact that.

Patrons' Comments

None.

Building Reports

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

Mr. McKeand gave a report 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 7:33 PM.

Mr. Steve Stichter, Secretary

Approved:

August 11, 2025

President:

Secretary:

Klein R. Boron