

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

Regular Session

November 10, 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 November 10, 2025.

Members Present: Mrs. Terri Barnhart, Mr. Kevin Boyer, Mr. Steve Stichter, Mr. Rettinger and Mr. Austin Davis

Members Absent: None

Others Present: Mr. Jeremy Riffle—Superintendent; Mr. Tom McFarland—Business Manager; Mr. Orion Lemler—Triton Social Media; Mr. Mason McIntyre Elementary Administrative Assistant; Mr. Nate McKeand—High School Principal; Gage Riffle; Vicent Prater; Rhett Stouder; Hannah Holland; Lydia Miller

Pledge of Allegiance

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 #8404–#8439 and #8446–#8495 in the amount of \$463,515.90, payrolls #21 and #22 in the amount of \$500,214.74 and voids/other in the amount of \$0 for a grand total of \$963,730.64; and to approve the minutes of the public and regular sessions held on October 6, 2025 and November 3, 2025. Mr. Boyer seconded the motion and it carried 5–0.

Patrons' Comments

None

Personnel

Following Mr. Riffle's recommendation, Mr. Stichter moved, Mr. Rettinger seconded, and the motion carried unanimously, to approve winter coaches. Mr. Boyer moved to approve Rachel Watkins as winter, spring and summer weight room supervisor, Mr. Stichter seconded and the vote carried 5-0. Mr. Boyer moved to approve Riley Linville as the boys Tennis Head Coach and Kaitlin Linville as the boys Tennis Assistant Coach, Mr. Davis seconded and the vote carried 5-0. Mr. Stichter moved to approve Jill Rackley as temporary 1st Grade Teacher to fill medical leave for Grace Pierson, Mr. Rettinger seconded, and the vote carried 5-0. Mr. Rettinger moved to approve the Collective Bargaining Agreement, Administration Contracts, and the Shared Leadership Stipends, Mr. Davis seconded, and the vote carried 5-0. Mr. Barnhart moved to approve the Superintendent Contract, Mr. Boyer seconded, and the vote carried 5-0.

Business

Mr. Stichter moved to approve providing transportation for Nappanee Missionary Church camps for the summer of 2026, Mr. Boyer seconded, and the vote carried 5-0. Mr. Stichter moved to approve the quote from Siders Asphalt to crack fill and seal coat parking areas, Mr. Davis seconded, and the vote carried 5-0. Mr. Stichter moved to approve providing bus transportation for South Haven Amish School, Mr. Boyer seconded, and it carried 5-0.

Superintendents Report

Continuous Improvement: Formal Negotiations went smoother this year than it has in years. This was not a process that anyone was looking forward to due to the current state of state funding, a 22% increase in our insurance trust costs, the upcoming Senate Bill 1 property tax legislation and a slight decline in enrollment, it made for a tough landscape to bargain in. We were fortunate enough to get Triton to the state recommended \$45,000 minimum teacher salary, and cushion the blow of insurance. With that being said, as promised, we tried to continue to improve this starting teacher salary for our teachers and appreciate the respectful collaboration that has took place throughout the process. This agreement is for 2 years as the second half of the biennium leverages even less available money.

Superintendents
Report
Continued

Accountability- Two topics that are continuing to be on the minds of educators and school corporations include the new School Accountability Framework (Handout) and the Teacher Appreciation Grant (Handout). The Teachers appreciation grant has taken on a new, more business model approach this year, restricting this grant to no greater than 20% of our teaching staff (13 staff members). This application is heavy on teacher mentoring, significant impact on standardized assessments, along with an emphasis on high need areas.

High Expectations- Congratulations to our Triton Volleyball Team that won their regional at Homestead to earn a berth at Semi State. They had a great season and should be very proud of the effort given.

Evidence Based Decision Making- This is a heads up that the Triton Teachers Association and the Triton Admin team are working together to prepare a recommendation for the 2026-2027 calendar. Likely this will be brought to the board in December. One item of note is the start date, due to the later Memorial Day it will be a week later. Also a note of importance will be the discussion surrounding an earlier graduation, instead of waiting a full week in between the last day and the ceremony. More to come on this.

Triton Teachers and administrators continue to utilize data to drive their instruction. Checkpoint 1 for ILearn is in the books, and we are seeing some positive results compared to last year. We will use this data to inform instruction and reteach deficient skills as needed.

This Thursday, November 13th is a scheduled two hour delay professional development day.

Shared Leadership- This morning was an example of shared leadership, not only within our district but within our county. Since last evening at 5pm, the Emergency Management Director and Marshall County Superintendents were in communication about the weather and what was happening in our districts. Since so many services and resources are shared, we were in constant communication until 8am this morning when a decision on school needed to be made. I shared an outline of how School delays and cancellation decisions are made on our Facebook page, especially for new families in our district, so they have a better understanding of when and how that communication will happen during weather events or school related topics.

Social Responsibility- The Triton National Honors Society and other organizations continue to serve in the Triton Community, their last service being Feed My Starving Children at Nappanee Missionary Church. I also want to thank the local food pantries for how they continue to selflessly serve our communities, especially in the recent days when there was a concern of food insecurity in our communities.

Alignment- There has been a concerted effort put on building morale and a positive attitude at the buildings. I appreciate the time and effort that has been put into this by our building level leaders but also thank our staff for bringing a positive attitude each day and their focus on being a good teammate. I also want to give a shout out to our kids and especially the Spirit Club for their incredible support of our students and athletics this fall. I am hopeful that this will continue throughout out winter sports seasons into our spring season. It has been a great start to the year, and I am confident that this will continue.

Patrons'
Comments

There were no comment patron comments.

Building
Reports

Mr. McKeand gave a brief building report for the high school. Mr. McIntyre gave a brief building report for the elementary.

Other

There were no other comments.

Adjournment

There being no other business to come before the Triton Board of School Trustees, Mrs. Barnhart declared the meeting adjourned at 7:34 PM.

Mr. Steve Stichter, Secretary

Approved: _____ December 8, 2025

President: _____

Secretary: _____

Steve Stichter

Steve Stichter

William R. Boyer

Wm M. Boyer

Ann M. Boyer