

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

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

Regular Session

July 13, 2026

The Board of School Trustees of Triton School Corporation, Marshall and Kosciusko Counties, Regular Session at 7:00 PM, in the administration building, 100 Triton Drive, Bourbon, Indiana, on July 13, 2026. The meeting was live streamed on social media as well.

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

Members Absent: Mr. Kevin Boyer

Others Present: Mr. Jeremy Riffle – Superintendent; Mr. Tom McFarland – Business Manager; Mr. Nate McKeand– Jr. Sr. High School Principal; Mr. Orion Lemler– Triton Social Media; Jacki Gorski; Megan Shafer; Jerad Crooks

Pledge of
Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Consensus
Agenda

Mr. Stichter made a motion to approve accounts payable vouchers #87639-#87640, #87702-#87750, and #87757-87819 in the amount of \$942,132.85, payrolls #12 and #13 in the amount of \$609,702.84, and voids/other in the amount of -\$9,107.37 for a grand total of \$1,542,728.32; and to approve the minutes of the regular session held on June 08, 2026. Mr. Rettinger seconded the motion, and it carried 4 – 0.

Patrons'
Comments

There were no comments from any patrons.

Personnel

Mr. Davis moved, Mr. Rettinger seconded, and the motion carried unanimously, to approve Jedidiah (JD) Feaster as Substitute Teacher and Girls' Basketball Coach. Mr. Stichter made a motion to approve Gina Westafer as instructional assistant, Mr. Rettinger seconded the motion, and it carried 4-0. Following Mr. Riffle's recommendation, Mr. Rettinger made a motion to approve Julie Roahrig as Full-Time Elementary Custodian, Mr. Stichter seconded, and the vote carried 4-0. Mr. Rettinger motioned to approve Dan Semonis as Transportation Director and Ashley Stayton as Payroll/HR Coordinator, Mr. Stichter seconded, and the vote carried 4-0. Mr. Stichter moved to approve the resignation of Laura Baker as Transportation Director and Corporation Secretary effective July 17, 2026, Mr. Davis seconded, and the vote was unanimous. Mr. Stichter moved to approve Amanda Shively as Bus Driver, Mr. Davis seconded, and the motion carried 4-0. Mr. Stichter moved to approve the termination of Janis Kaufman as Full-Time Elementary Custodian, Mr. Rettinger seconded, and the vote carried 4-0. Mr. Stichter moved to approve Bus Driver Rates, Salaried Rates, and Hourly Rates for the 26/27 school year, Mr. Rettinger seconded, and the vote carried 4-0. Mrs. Barnhart moved to approve Substitute Rates for the 26/27 school year, Mr. Rettinger seconded, and the vote carried 2-0-2. Mr. Davis moved to approve Erin Proskey as Primary Special Education Teacher, and Lisa Andrews as Intermediate Special Education Teacher (Move), Mr. Stichter seconded, and the vote carried 4-0. Mr. Stichter moved to approve Christine Cook as Consultant for the 25/26 school year, Mr. Rettinger seconded, and the vote carried 4-0. Mr. Stichter made a motion to approve the resignation of Rachel Watkins as Weights Instructor/Weight Room Supervisor and Diane Murphy as JH English Teacher, Mr. Davis seconded, and the vote carried 4-0. Mr. Stichter moved to approve Fall ECA Coaches, Mr. Rettinger seconded, and the vote carried 4-0. Mr. Davis moved to renew Administrative Contracts, Mr. Stichter seconded, and the vote carried 4-0.

Other
Business

Mr. Rettinger moved, Mr. Stichter seconded, and the motion carried 4-0 to approve the 26/27 High School Fundraisers. Mr. Davis motioned to approve the 26/27 Jr./Sr. High School Student/Parent Handbook and 26/27 Athletic Handbook, Mr. Stichter seconded, and the vote carried 4-0. Mr. Stichter moved to approve the purchase of 14 passenger Mini Bus, Mr. Rettinger seconded and the motion carried 4-0. Mr. Stichter moved to approve the 1st Reading of Special Update – Artificial Intelligence- June 2026, Mr. Rettinger seconded, and the vote carried 4-0. Mr. Davis moved to approve NIESC Food Service Bid Recommendations for 26/27, Dairy Proposal Awards, Snack and Beverage Proposal Renewal, and the Member Annual Contract for 26/27, Mr. Rettinger seconded, and the vote carried 4-0.

Superintendent's
Report

This year's theme for Triton School Corporation is Forward Together, Learn, Refine, and Serve

Executive Summary on Continued Improvement

After our conversations last month and after several good conversations with patrons, there was a consistent ask to simply share what we do and how we can continue to improve as a school corporation as it relates to partnerships and programs to keep our students safe. Our district is committed to safe, supportive schools for students and staff. This report highlights key partnerships, trauma-informed practices, and safety systems that strengthen prevention, response, and student wellbeing.

Handle with Care Community Partnership Program

Handle with Care alerts school staff when a student has experienced law enforcement contact or another significant difficult event. This helps schools respond with timely, trauma-informed support.

When notifications are received, staff can adjust their response to meet student needs through compassion, flexibility, and connection to support services.

- Emotional support and encouragement
- Flexibility and grace in expectations

The program helps schools become a source of stability for students experiencing trauma, reducing added stress and improving support during vulnerable times.

Character Development and Trauma Informed Care - Trust-Based Relational Intervention (TBRI), Character Strong (HS), Second Steps (Elem), and this year we will be introducing Craftsman with Character authored by David Hataj

TBRI is a trauma-informed framework that helps staff build trust, increase felt safety, and support student regulation and growth.

Its core practices focus on connection, empowerment, and correcting with compassion so students can learn while maintaining dignity and accountability.

Staff training strengthens understanding of trauma's impact on behavior and equips educators to respond with support rather than punishment. TBRI Focus - Brain, Biology, Body, Beliefs, Behavior

Cassie Center and Department of Child Services Partnership

Partnerships with Cassie Center and the Department of Child Services strengthen student protection, staff readiness, and prevention efforts.

Mandatory Reporting Training and Protocols

All staff receive mandatory reporting training to recognize warning signs, follow protocols, and report concerns promptly and appropriately.

Body Safety Education

Students receive age-appropriate body safety education that teaches autonomy, recognition of unsafe behavior, and how to seek help from trusted adults.

Superintendent's
Report Continued

Creating a Culture of Prevention and Awareness

Awareness campaigns, family education, and staff training reinforce a shared culture of prevention and responsibility.

Anonymous Reporting Systems (HS)

Anonymous reporting systems give students a safe, confidential way to report concerns about themselves or others.

Students are encouraged to report bullying, threats, and unsafe situations, and all reports are reviewed promptly by school leaders and partners as needed.

Innovative Safety Strategies

Our district uses a layered safety approach that combines prevention, relationships, training, and operational readiness.

Mental Health and Wellness Support

Emotional safety supports physical safety. Schools provide counseling, early intervention, crisis response, and community referral pathways.

- Counselors and social workers available to students
- Community mental health referral partnerships (Student/Employee Assistance Program)

School Resource Officer Programs

School Resource Officers provide security, relationship-building, DARE (2nd and 5th Grade), developmentally appropriate safety supports

Emergency Preparedness and Safety Drills

Regular safety drills prepare students and staff for emergencies, with plans reviewed alongside first responders and implemented with attention to student wellbeing.

Threat Assessment Protocols

Threat assessment teams identify concerning behavior early, evaluate risk, and connect students to supports before issues escalate.

Positive School Culture Initiatives

A positive school climate is a critical safety strategy that promotes belonging, accountability, and strong relationships.

- PBIS and restorative practices
- Leadership council
- Inclusive, welcoming school environments

Staff Training and Professional Development

Ongoing staff training builds capacity in trauma-informed care, de-escalation, crisis response, reporting, and inclusive practices.

- Trauma-informed practices (TBRI)
- De-escalation and conflict resolution (CPI)
- Mental health crisis recognition and response (QRP/Suicide Prevention Training)

Technology Solutions for Safety

Technology supports school safety through access control, emergency communication, monitoring, and digital safety tools.

- Visitor management, controlled access, Phone notification (Navigate 360)
- Rapid emergency communication systems (School Guard)
- Surveillance cameras throughout campus
- ParentSquare - transition from School Messenger, more dependable, will work to utilize across campus and extra-curricular activities for safer and more accountable communication between school/home, teachers/home, and coaches/home

Superintendent's
Report Continued

Community Partnerships

Community partnerships expand our safety network and strengthen prevention, response, and student support.

- Law enforcement and School Resource Officer partners
- Department of Child Services and child advocacy partners
- Community mental health providers (Bowen Center)
- Cassie Center for child advocacy (Trauma Prevention, Body Safety, Forensic Interviews)

Commitment and Next Steps

Student and staff safety remain our highest priority, and we will continue improving practices based on data, feedback, and best practice.

Next steps include:

- Continue to strengthen partnership programs and prevention efforts
- Expand health and wellness supports
- Increase restorative discipline knowledge and practice

We appreciate our staff, families, and community partners for helping create schools where every child feels safe, valued, and supported.

Dates to Remember:

July 29-30 - Triton Elementary & Triton Jr/Sr High School Registration - In Person

Wednesday, July 29 - 10:00 AM - 8:00 PM

Thursday, July 30 - 12:00 PM - 6:00 PM

In the meantime, if there are questions please contact the Triton Administration Building at 574-342-2255 or by email at jriffle@triton.k12.in.us and we will be glad to relay the message to building level leaders if needed.

Patrons'
Comments

Mr. Crooks shared positive feedback regarding the Super Hoops trip.

Building
Reports

Mr. Riffle 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 7:47 PM.

Mr. Steve Stichter, Secretary

Approved: August 10, 2026

President:

Secretary:

Steve Stichter
Kevin R. Boyer
Wesley A. A.