

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

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

Regular Session

May 13, 2024

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 May 13, 2024.

Members Present: Mrs. Terri Barnhart, Mr. Steve Stichter, Mr. Kevin Boyer, Mr. Ken Miller, and Mr. Wes Rettinger

Members Absent: None

Others Present: Mr. Jeremy Riffle—Superintendent; Mr. Tom McFarland—Business Manager; Mr. Orion Lemler-Triton Social Media; Mrs. Christine Cook-Elementary Principal; Mr. Nate McKeand- High School Principal; Grace Miller, Javan May, Elias Lucas, Cole Shively, Evan Renforth, Addyson Viers, Isaiah Burns, Alex Brown, Gracey Motz, Karmen Holland, Jacob Hudson, and Hunter Schaeztle

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 #6581–#6586, #6649-#6680, and #6688- #6745 in the amount of \$502,420.41, payrolls #8, and #9 in the amount of \$486,639.70 for a grand total of \$989,060.11; and to approve the minutes of the executive and regular sessions held on April 08, 2024. Mr. Rettinger seconded the motion and it carried 5-0.

Patrons' Comments

None.

Public Hearing

Mrs. Barnhart moved on to the additional appropriations public hearing. Mr. Boyer moved to open the public hearing, Mr. Stichter seconded and the vote carried 5-0. There were no public comments. Mr. Miller moved to close the public hearing, Mr. Boyer seconded, and it carried 5-0.

Bond Procedure

Mr. Boyer moved to adopt the additional appropriation resolution, adopt the final bond resolution, and adopt the resolution accepting amended and restated post issuance procedures, Mr. Stichter seconded, and the vote carried 5-0.

Personnel

Following Mr. Riffle's recommendation Mr. Stichter moved, Mr. Miller seconded, and the motion carried unanimously, to approve the resignation of Amber Kreft as Elementary Cafeteria Worker, Casey Yarbrough as Pre-k Instructional Assistant, Abby Drebelbis as Elementary Instructional Assistant, Brandon Young as JH Baseball Head Coach, Paul Williams as JH Baseball Assistant Coach, Adam Heckaman as JH Robotics Coach, Tori Kistler as JH Cheer Coach and Jr. Sr. High Instructional Assistant, and Linzi Polk as Part-time Corporation Nurse. Mr. Miller moved to approve Matt Arvesen as JH Baseball Head Coach and Riley Linville as JH Baseball Assistant Coach, Mr. Stichter seconded and the vote carried 5-0. Mr. Stichter moved to approve Bethany Riffle as Elementary Part-time Cook, Mr. Boyer seconded and the vote carried 5-0. Mr. Stichter moved to approve Kathy Anglemeyer as Elementary Part-time Aide, Mr. Miller seconded and the vote carried 5-0. Mr. Boyer moved to approve David Cook as Jr. Sr. High English/Language Arts Teacher, Mr. Rettinger seconded, and it carried 5-0. Mr. Stichter moved to approve Lilee Stetzel as Substitute Teacher, Mr. Boyer seconded, and the vote carried 5-0. Mr. Boyer moved to approve Brayden Cunningham as JH Assistant Football Coach, Mr. Stichter seconded, and it carried 5-0. Mr. Miller moved to approve Connor Pitney and Blake Hoffer as Volunteer Assistant Wrestling Coaches, Mr. Rettinger seconded, and the vote carried 5-0. Mr. Boyer moved to approve Jessica Yoder as JH Head Cheer Coach and Varsity Assistant Cheer Coach as well as Sydney Scarberry as Elementary Cheer Coach, Mr. Stichter seconded, and the vote carried 5-0.

Mr. Stichter moved to approve Jason Arvesen as Girls' Head Varsity Wrestling Coach, Mr. Miller seconded, and it carried 5-0. Mr. Boyer moved to approve Wendy Ickes and Ryan Frick as Volunteer JH Softball Coaches, Mr. Miller seconded, and it carried 5-0. Mr. Stichter moved to approve Ashli Faulkner as JH/Elementary Summer League Basketball Head Coach, Jeremy Bules, Amanda Bailey, Jaela Meister, Sam Stutzman, and Erin Feldman as JH Summer League Basketball Volunteer Coaches, in addition to Courtney King as Elementary Summer League Basketball Volunteer Coach, Mr. Miller seconded, and it carried 5-0. Mr. Boyer moved to approve a medical leave of absence for Marion Ebersole, Mr. Miller seconded, and the vote carried 5-0.

Other Business

Mr. Stichter moved to approve NIECS Shared Dietitian Consortium Services Contract, Mr. Rettinger seconded, and it carried 5-0. Mr. Miller moved to approve Corporation Policy 8210 of Volume 26, No.1 March 2024 School Calendar Waiver, Mr. Stichter seconded, and the vote carried 5-0. Mr. Boyer moved to approve SNK Construction's quote for new doors, Mr. Stichter seconded, and it carried 5-0.

Superintendents Report

Continuous Improvement – The new curtains are in Jr/Sr High School Performing Arts Center and look great. We are looking forward to putting the final touches on this space. There will be some smaller improvements coming to this space this summer that may include but are not limited to new pulleys on the curtains, painting of a cyclorama, and quotes for a new railing.

Ryan Sloan from Sweetwater was on site on Friday to look at adjustments needed to our sound systems in the Trench, TAC, and Tundra. All of these improvements will be paid for out of the 2023 Bond and will be completed in early June. Unfortunately, they will not be completed for graduation as we had hoped. Multiple circumstances on Sweetwater's end have pushed back the completion of these three areas.

Multiple Laws will impact school policies this upcoming school year. Some of which are the new Literacy expectations that have been placed on those with an Elementary Teaching License. The state did a pretty poor job of rolling this out and legislatures have a better understanding of why teachers and administrators have had such a negative reaction to this plan. The content is good, the rollout and misinformation has caused many to react in a not so positive way. Triton has teachers engaged in this new requirement that will pay them \$1200 for completion. It sounds as if more teachers will be given the same opportunity with possibly less stringent timelines in the near future. We will keep you posted on this.

Cell phones in the classroom is another bill that has drawn a lot of attention. As an administrative team, we will continue to look for the pros and cons of cell phone use in our High School. A more restrictive policy is likely in our school, however the rumor of banning phones is just that, a rumor. There is a time and place for phones, however our society tends to have an obsession with phones that can get in the way of the instruction process and achievement. Once again we will keep our high school parents and student posted on this as we get closer to a solution that we think is best for our school, students, and teachers.

Shared Leadership – The end of the year sprint is on: testing, field trips, recognition banquets, field days, finals, etc. Over the last couple of weeks, we have had the honor to recognize the CTE/Internship Scholar, and just last Friday we had a tremendous Academic Awards Banquet that recognized 34 students who received over \$77,000 in scholarship money. This year we have 30 Triton Scholars who will be graduating with at least 15 dual credit hours through Ivy Tech. We have an additional 13 seniors who have earned at least 3 dual credits through Ivy Tech. I want to thank the Triton Student Life Foundation for their early support of this banquet and for the desire to support the Triton Scholars that have set themselves apart as future leaders.

Social Responsibility- Thank you to Work ONE for putting on a community resource fair. The attendance was poor but we are thankful for the effort and the people who came out to share the work that is going on in our town.

On July 27th, the town will utilize the Triton Parking lot for the inaugural Touch a Truck event. We thank Maci Helton and the town for putting on this event and asking us to help host for the community who will attend. If it is good for our kids and town, you can count us in.

Accountability - I thank Georgia Watson from the State Department of Education for working with us on our 1003 Flexibility Waiver and helping make sure Triton is in compliance with state statute for our minutes and days in school. Triton was just approved last week for its 1003 Flexibility Waiver last week, however we will ask for an amendment due to the fact that through policy review, in cooperation with Neola and Ryan Snoddy, our policy now allows for our school year to be determined by minutes instead of days. We will work on this plan in the coming weeks in cooperation with Georgia Watson on the best way to amend this waiver.

High Expectations - On May 7th, Author, Mentor, Major League Baseball Chaplain, and Motivational Speaker Tom Roy joined our Triton Football Leadership Council for a time of reflection and discussion about his book Flock. This is an incredible read about how a Shepherd takes care of his flock, using these leadership principles to refine our own leadership philosophy, and how to apply this to leading peers in preparation for a season or in the midst of conflict.

- Lady Trojan Tennis goes undefeated in the HNAC regular season and Tournament to capture the 2024 Hoosier North Conference Title!
- Triton All-Conference Tournament Champions:
 - 1s - Danica Kuntz, 2s - Jenna Bules, 3s - Cheyenne Hawley,
 - 1d - Kate Howell & Nadia Stetler, 2d - Allie Westafer & Sierra Hawley
- 2nd in Conference as a Team
- 1st Place All-Conference Champs:
 - Javan May, 200m race at 23.78.
 - Cole Shively, in High Jump at 5' 8" (Ties PR)
 - Caden Large, 300 Hurdles setting a new PR at 42.52.
 - Cameron Callahan, in Long Jump at 19' 9".
 - The 4x100 Relay Team of; Antonio Johnson, Cole Shively, Cam Callahan, & Javan May. Setting a time of 45.90 on the night.
- 2nd Place All-Conference Honorable Mention Champs:
 - Javan May, 100m race at 11.52.
 - Cole Shively, in Long Jump at 19' 9" which is a new PR.
 - Caden Large, 110 Hurdles at 17.83.
 - Dante Workman, in High Jump at 5' 6".
 - Isaac Quintana, 200m race at 24.31 (which was the first time he has ever run this race)
 - Isaac Quintana, 400m race setting a new PR at 51.99.

Alignment - ILearn scores continue to pour in. There is some really good growth in some areas and there is still a need for intervention in others. We will continue to look at this data, along with our local data, and evaluations to make sure the proper adjustments are being made to planning, curriculum, and instruction. We ended the year at 75% of students reading at or above their grade level. As of right now, math is up about 4% but it is not all in yet.

Patrons'
Comments

There were no comment patron comments.

Building
Reports

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

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 7:36 PM.

Mr. Steve Stichter, Secretary

Approved: June 10, 2024

President: *Jane Barnhart*

Secretary: *Steve Stichter*

Kevin R. Bogen

Wesley M. Allen

Ken Miller