

December 1, 2023

TO: Media

FROM: Mr. Patrick Culp, Tri-County School Corporation

RE: Regular School Board Meeting, Monday, November 13, 2023

The Tri-County School Board met for their Regular meeting on Monday, November 13, 2023.

The following topics were covered:

1. The board approved the agenda.
2. The board approved the minutes for the Work Session, Regular Board Session on October 9, 2023 and the Public Meeting on November 1, 2023.
3. There were no visitor's comments.
4. Mr. McCracken announced the Jr/Sr High School Students of the Month: Students of the Month for Junior High— Kyra Sizemore 7th, Graham Scherer 8th, Senior High - English / Language Arts: Makinzee DeWitt, Math: Emma Grimes, Social Studies: Addison Douglas, CTE (Mechanical and Architectural Design): Aidan McMorrow, Science: A.J. Robertson and Emily Tressler, PE (Lifeguarding): Johnathan Pearson, Fine Arts (Band): Ben Alberts
5. Students of the Month from Mrs. McQuinn 4th grade class at TCI: Grace Umana and CJ Bahler
6. Students of the Month from Mrs. Jennifer Bryant 1st grade class at TCP: Eduardo Saravia Marquelli and Charleigh Clark
7. Under visitor's comments, Mr. Dick Kochert presented a follow up about inclusion for cross country and track to the board.
8. Mr. Culp reported to the board for Chief Sweney that there was nothing to report from any of the schools. She will be attending the required School Safety Specialist Class in Indianapolis on November 21 and 22. She attended a course called "Hiding in Plain Sight-Current Drug Trends" which outlined current drug trends in Indiana and across the country. The course also discussed less orthodox methods that kids are sneaking drugs into school. Current trends show students are using common and easily accessible medications such as Robotussin, Benadryl and Imodium to mimic the effect of "harder" drugs. Synthetic cannabis products which are legally sold in smoke shops and gas stations are on the rise again also. Stash compartments in backpacks are also being used to sneak guns and other illegal contraband into schools and can be easily and legally bought online. There was not a report submitted at this time from Chief Sweney.
9. Under the Construction Report, Mr. Culp reported that the track is almost complete. Painters are being asked to come back again to paint the lines again. The shot put and discus area is being worked on. The garage door was put on the storage shed.
10. Mr. Culp discussed the idea of moving the 6th grade back to the Jr/Sr. High School. Mr. Culp stated several topics for discussion in this matter again.
11. Mr. Culp also discussed information from the Skillman Group.
12. Under the Board Committee Reports, Mr. Geib reported on the school improvement team meeting. Mrs. Cantrell discussed the park board meeting. Mr. Gerber reported on the school's business class meeting.
13. Ms. Hall reported to the board that TCP had parent/teacher conferences on October 24th. TCP had very good attendance from our families. Ms. Hall thanked the certified staff for all the work and time they put into preparing for that night. TCP also had an artwork raffle to help Michele Bullington with her medical expenses. Each classroom collaborated on a piece of artwork that was then raffled off. TCP

raised almost \$600. The Remington Volunteer Fire Department visited to talk about fire safety. Lastly, mark your calendars for December 14th for the Elementary Christmas program.

14. Mrs. Pearson reported to the board that TCI currently has 6th grade boys and girls' basketball teams as well as our Robotics team that are working in their respective areas. Spell Bowl team is traveling to a competition tonight in Logansport. TCI would like to thank the American Legion and the Veterans who attended our program on Friday. Some of the classes made Thank-you signs for our veterans. Mrs. Williams is helping us celebrate National Young Readers week with dress up days. Wolcott Main Street Committee is having their craft Bazaar in TCI's gym on the 18th from 9-3
15. Mr. McCracken stated the attendance goal is meant to provide insight into attendance tendencies, to monitor student struggles and to help respond to emotional and social problems that can lead to poor attendance. View daily attendance reports and collaborate with the attendance secretary about students who are missing school too much. Students who we may need to communicate with and also reach out to parents. The negative side, but sometimes necessary, speak to probation. Posting daily attendance percentages by grade level can generate more interest and sends the right message that school attendance is important. Bottom line is that this goal helps to stay more informed on a daily basis and allows for timely awareness and action of persistent attendance issues.
16. Mr. Haskins reported to the board that last Friday the Jr/Sr. High had the Veterans Day program. There were 46 veterans and guests that were served. Thank you to Ms. Mosier's culinary students. Tri-County was awarded as being a Purple Heart School. Only 1 of 64 new schools to be awarded. The way to be a Purple Heart school is to have an internet presence on the corporation website. Have some type of recognition on school grounds and have the Veterans Day program. This past Friday and Sunday was the fall play. There was a great crowd and our students did a great job at both performances. The PSAT testing is complete. Scores in both math and ELA were above state average. ASVAB testing is complete. This still may be used to fill a graduation requirement. Finals will begin on Friday, December 15, 2023. The High school's Band and Choir Christmas program is Monday, December 4, 2023. The Junior High Christmas program is Tuesday, December 12, 2023. Winter sports have started, this includes Varsity boys and girls' basketball, wrestling and junior high boys' basketball. Friday is substitute appreciation day. Thank you to community members who help out in filling classrooms.
17. Mrs. Pearson gave an update that TCI's spell bowl team received first place and was second overall.
18. Under New Business, the board approved the 2023-2025 Master Teacher Contract as presented.
19. The board approved the Salary and Insurance Increases for Support Staff and Administrators.
20. The board approved the 2024 Board Meeting Dates.
21. The board approved the transfer of funds from one Major Budget Classification to another Fund.
22. The board approved the resignation of Ms. Andrea Ruiz, TCHS Guidance Counselor and Mrs. Nyonda Shields, TCHS Evening Custodian. The employment of Mrs. Kylene McMullen, 5th Grade Maternity Leave and Mr. Richard Hall, Jr., TCHS Evening Custodian.
23. The board approved the 2024-2025 Course Description Book as presented
24. The board approved the Tri-County School Cafeteria Stipend of \$350 to Mrs. Cheryl Scriptor and Mrs. Pam Schnelle.
25. Mr. Culp stated that Mrs. Demerly and Mrs. Luebcke have been covering at TCI. They are pitching in where needed. The Guidance Department is in good hands.
26. Under the Superintendent's Report, Mr. Culp stated April 8, 2024 there will be a solar eclipse. He discussed that there will be a meeting to have dialogue on busing and drivers.
27. Mr. Culp stated that there will be an organizational meeting in January.

28. Mrs. Tieke stated that she felt that bargaining was the smoothest and most conversational she had been a part of. She thanked Mr. Culp and the board for their support and open dialogue during bargaining.
29. Next board meeting will be December 11, 2023.