

December 23, 2024

TO: Media

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

RE: Regular School Board Meeting, Monday, December 9, 2024

The Tri-County School Board met for their Regular meeting on December 9, 2024.

The following topics were covered:

1. The board approved the agenda.
2. The board approved the minutes for the Work Session and the Regular Board Session on November 11, 2024.
3. Mr. Haskins announced the Jr/Sr High School Students of the Month- Junior High School- Olivia Overbeck 7th, Ava Voors 8th; High School Math: Anya Turza, Social Studies: Murphy Misch, Science: Vance Tyler, Spanish II: Evelyn Gretencord, Fine Arts (Choir): Samantha Lawson, Health: Wynter Perry and Kendall Anderson, CTE (Welding): Lilly Jones Cobb
4. Students of the Month from Mrs. Kettleborough's 6th grade class at TCI: Mercy Pacheco and Harry Hall
5. Students of the Month from Mrs. Geswein's 1st grade class at TCP: Zoey Rentfrow and Harrison Alberts
6. At this time Mr. Culp recognized Sara Gomez, Emma Grimes, Elizar Aldaz, Jose Medina Garcia, Sydney Stoller and Aidyn Froehling, Culinary Art Students, for the dinner they prepared for the board.
7. Mr. Culp presented Mrs. Rachel Cantrell with a plaque for her 16 years on the Tri-County School Board. Mrs. Cantrell will retire from the school board at the end of December. Mr. Culp went on to thank her for her years of service with Tri-County and wished her nothing but the best!
8. During Visitor Comments, Mr. Chad Dahlenburg came to speak about Jr High practices being held on Wednesdays. Mr. Dahlenburg states that he has approached 3 administrators over the years about having Jr high practices on Wednesdays. He was told "that would be a hard thing to change." With games being on Tuesdays and Thursdays and only practicing on Monday and Fridays that's not a lot of time to work on things. Players build their base skills during practices in Jr high. The Varsity is allowed to practice on Wednesday. Mr. Dahlenburg went on to say that he was also told they couldn't practice on Wednesday due to a religious thing, which I respect but why can varsity if they can be exempt why can't Jr high? He has one student that participates in FFA and they have practice on Wednesdays so aren't education and sport the same? He feels that kids are losing out by not practicing on Wednesday working on their skill.
9. Officer Aaron Page reported to the board that he continues to do daily interior and exterior perimeter walks, checking doors, windows looking for safety concerns. Documented security concerns as well as items needing attention by maintenance. Assisted with crossing guard duties in the Town of Wolcott. Coordinated security and emergency services, as well as staff, for TCI and TCP Christmas Program. He has been working on developing an emergency action plan for events being held at Tri-County. He has been speaking with and getting to know staff and students. Step up meetings with Mr. Haskins, Mrs. Pearson and Ms. Hall concerning the relocation and safety plans for this coming January. He has conducted a vehicle crash investigation, 3 reports of vehicle slide offs and a supplemental report was filed. Has been handling matters with students such as reckless driving/dangerous driving, possible telephone harassment case (student ended up not being one of our students), a check well-being on a parent of a student, suspicious behavior at the high school and speaking to them about the effects of alcohol in health class. He also is attending several home sporting events.
10. Under the Construction Report, Mr. Culp gave an update of the construction projects at TCP/TCI. Gibraltar came on December 18 and 19 to talk with staff about room placements, parking and how to identify workers.

11. Mr. Culp also informed the board that he and Mr. Bell met with Gibraltar to go over the blueprint for the Jr/Sr High School. Technology was also involved in the meeting. Bids for the project are anticipated to go out in January.
12. The board approved to issue bids for the Jr/Sr High School.
13. Under Board Committee Reports, Mr. Kilmer gave an Industrial Technology report. Mr. Geib gave a high school improvement report. Mr. Culp reminded the board that in January the board committees will be reassigned.
14. Mr. Culp reported to the board for Ms. Hall that the TCP staff is completing middle of the year testing with students to get an update on their skills and what progress they are making. That data will be used to adjust the reading intervention groups and plan math intervention groups to start after Christmas. Last Friday TCP had their December High Five Friday. TCP would like to thank the staff from Farney's and Remington Farms for giving the students such a positive start to their day. One visitor even dressed up as Santa and brought a lot of excitement to the building! One final reminder that the elementary Christmas program is this Thursday at 1:00pm at the high school.
15. Mrs. Pearson reported to the board that the 6th-grade band and choir concert is this Wednesday, December 11th at 7:00 pm. TCI's 6th graders also had the pleasure of singing at the Wolcott Library today during their scheduled choir class. The Christmas Program is Thursday, December 12th at 1:00 pm. TCI would like to thank Mrs. Ewen and Ms. Sweetman for all of their hard work as well as the team of teachers, custodians, and transportation department for making it possible. The 6th grade girls and boys basketball are finishing up their season on December 16th. So if you haven't been out to support our sixth-grade students we would love to see you at 6:00 pm for the girl's game. TCI is planning a wrestling call-out for Friday at 12:30 for our 5th and 6th graders interested in wrestling. Last week TCI completed a math screener and a reading screener that is given to all of our students and have seen a tremendous improvement in students' scores. TCI started the second round of ILEARN checkpoints this week. Teachers will be able to take the results from the test and target more specific skills that students need to work on in the intervention groups.
16. Mr. Haskins reported to the board that regular classes end this Friday, 12/13. Finals schedule is set and there will be two finals each day with Red Day blocks/Blue Day blocks. Wednesday was kept normal with no finals. It is a nice day for teachers to see all their students before the holiday. The junior high Christmas Program is on Wednesday, 12/11, at 6PM in the main gym. The high school Christmas Program is on Tuesday, 12/17, at 6PM in the auditorium. The ASVAB results came in with 63% passing on the first attempt. This is no longer used as a graduation pathway but it is a great opportunity for kids who still want to join the military. The ILEARN - 2nd checkpoint is scheduled for the end of January. A senior scholarship meeting is scheduled for the first Friday back in January. Representatives from Jasper, Newton, and White County foundations will be attending. CTE teachers will be signing up students in dual credit courses for the second semester. They have until February 6th. Mr. Scherer is taking 12 students to Purdue Aviation later this week for drone certification. Good luck to our 2 FFA entomology teams competing at Purdue this weekend. The iCAP U.S. History course through Ivy Tech finals are today and tomorrow. Grades will be finalized on the first teacher day back on January 3rd. Well wishes to Pam Schnelle, HS Cook, and Christine Spangler, Indian Trails employee, who are both recovering from procedures at the end of last week. Thoughts and prayers to them.
17. Under Old Business, the board approved the eleven NEOLA policies as presented.
18. The board approved the resignation of Ms. Kelsey Barnes, 3rd grade, Mr. Jake West, Social Studies teacher and Varsity football coach and Mrs. Andrea Gretencord, Varsity volleyball coach.
19. The board approved the transfer of funds to Rainy Day, if needed.
20. The board approved using Wind Funds to pay the certified staff, who were not eligible for the TAG grant, a similar stipend.
21. The board approved the FFA's Overnight/Out of State Field Trip to Oklahoma City, OK for the National Soils Judging Competition on April 28-May 2, 2025.
22. The board approved the payroll ratification and claims docket.

23. Under the Superintendent's Report, Mr. Culp reminded the board that the Organizational meeting will be held in January and the committee assignments will change. The Facilitated Board Workshop is scheduled for Saturday, February 8, 2025.
24. Under Visitor Comments on Agenda items, Mrs. Tieke asked some clarifying questions on agenda topics.
25. Dr. Schemerhorn thanked Mrs. Rachel Cantrell! The board will miss her. Dr. Schemerhorn will miss her and her force for good! Mr. Gerber seconded those words.
26. Mrs. Cantrell thanked the board for their comradery over the years! Even if we didn't agree they were still able to work together. It's always for the best interest of the kids.
27. Next board meeting will be January 13, 2024.