

January 23, 2025

TO: Media

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

RE: Regular School Board Meeting, Monday, January 13, 2025

The Tri-County School Board met for their Regular meeting on January 13, 2025.

The following topics were covered:

1. The board approved an addition to 8.2 on the agenda.
2. Board Officers are as follows: Mr. Jason Kilmer, School Board President; Mr. Bob Gerber, School Board Vice President; Mr. Spencer Geib, School Board Secretary.
3. The Board approved the reappointments of Mrs. Tammy Seward as Treasurer and Mrs. Kristin Dreblow as Deputy/Assistant Treasurer with the amount of bond currently set as \$75,000.
4. The Board approved keeping Lewis-Kappes and Mrs. Monica Conrad as the Corporation attorney.
5. Board Committees are as follows: Negotiations – Spencer Geib, Brandi Schemerhorn, Bob Gerber; Superintendent/Board Evaluations – Cheyenne Suitors, Renee Overbeck; NEOLA Policy Review – Jason Kilmer, Brandi Schemerhorn; Facilitated Work Session – Spencer Geib, Bob Gerber; Remington Park Board – Cheyenne Suitors; Tri-County Community/Development & RWCDC – Bob Gerber, Renee Overbeck; Technology – Brandi Schemerhorn, Frank Zussman; School Improvement Teams: JR/SR– Spencer Geib; TCP–Renee Overbeck; TCI–Brandi Schemerhorn; Public Relations – Jason Kilmer, Bob Gerber, Cheyenne Suitors; Legislative Liaison – Bob Gerber; Investment – Bob Gerber; Advisory Boards: FACS – Renee Overbeck, Cheyenne Suitors; Ag – Jason Kilmer, Spencer Geib; Business – Bob Gerber, Frank Zussman; Industrial Technology – Jason Kilmer; High Ability – Jason Kilmer, Brandi Schemerhorn
6. The board approved the minutes for the Regular Board Session and Executive Session on December 9, 2024.
7. Mr. McCracken announced the Jr/Sr High School Students of the Month- Junior High School- Bronx Young 7th, Cristian Pacheco 8th; Math: Connor Northup; Social Studies: Graham Scherer; Science: Austin Prater; English: Chloe Dickson; Fine Arts (Band): Ben Alberts; Culinary: Mariah Anstett; CTE (Food Science): Rose Kaeb
8. Students of the Month from Mrs. Kirby Carney's 6th grade class at TCI: Bella Robertson and Dawson Iseminger
9. Students of the Month from Mrs. Lexi McClure's 2nd grade class at TCP: Peyton Clark and Hank Hensler
10. There were no visitor comments.
11. Mrs. Shannon Kelly reported to the board that the camera's were successfully updated at Tri-County Jr/Sr High School. Everything came in earlier than expected and technology was able to complete the final walk through of the project on November 20th. Technology completed their Category I and Category II E-Rate projects, ENA will be used for Tri-County's internet and WAN services, but will be moving to 1GB from 500 MB. The Category II project was very competitive, and technology will replace the AP's across the district this summer with CDWG as the winning vendor. Mrs. Kelly also gave a PowerSchool Breach update.
12. Officer Aaron Page reported to the board that he continues to do a daily routine of 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. He continues to handle student related matters either during school or after school hours. He has been attending home sporting events. He has been completing several training hours in different aspects of his position. Conducting regular meetings with Mr. McCracken. Checked weather and road conditions in the area of the schools.

13. Under the Construction Report, Mr. Culp shared information with the board in regards to reimbursements and payments for the Intermediate and Primary school renovations. The transparency of sharing the financial information is recommended by the bond counsel, Ice Miller. The bids for the Jr/Sr high school were pushed to February but it does not affect the timeline.
14. Mr. Culp also gave an update on the findings at the Primary school from a report that was provided by Skillman. Asbestos was found in the gym at the Primary school, however a company came in and stabilized the area with a sealant immediately. All staff and Ms. Hall were notified. The gym is safe at this time. Skillman is working on a more permanent plan for when the renovation continues. There is work that is happening in TCP and TCI. They are starting with construction site safety.
15. Under Board Committee Reports, Dr. Brandi Schemerhorn gave a TCI School Improvement report.
16. Ms. Hall reported to the board that the TCP is finishing up the mid-year testing this week. Data will be used to inform the grade-level remediation and Title 1 groups. The 100th day of school is this Friday. Staff and students have been encouraged to dress up like they are 100 years old. Teachers have activities for their classes as well. It should be a fun day for everyone! As an update on the aluminum can recycling contest the dumpster in front of the Primary school was completely full; the recycling company picked that dumpster up and placed a new dumpster in its place. Mrs. Anderson made a goal of filling at least 3 dumpsters and at this rate we may make that goal.
17. Mrs. Pearson reported to the board that this month TCI will also have some of the students take the WIDA test, this helps us to identify those students who may need additional support to help them overcome any language barriers. Jr. High wrestling season started last Monday. Student council is sponsoring a Family Fun Night on January 25th from 2pm-4pm at TCI. The Robotics team will compete on February 1st in Crown Point at their first Robotics Competition. So we wish them luck! White County REMC will come on February 5th to present to 4th grade students.
18. Mr. McCracken informed the board that Officer Page meets with him on Mondays to check in for what happened on the weekend. It is great to have the check-ins and to be on the same page. It's very beneficial to have additional eyes, ears and communication! It's also great to have the reassurance of Officer Page being present in the morning in the high school parking lot.
19. Mr. Haskins reported to the board that the Jr/Sr high school is off to a great start for the second semester! Met with students and staff on the first day back to review school policies and celebrate students' accomplishments at the end of the semester and over break. Met with seniors on Friday to begin looking at scholarship opportunities. Staff changes: Mrs. Salvo, our ML teacher, will be covering the U.S. History and sociology classes. Mrs. Buswell is teaching a personal finance course. Mrs. Dyke is covering a world language course as part of our 7th grade rotation. Mr. Parker is covering an elective as well. ILEARN - 2nd checkpoint for math is scheduled for January 21st. Thanks to Mr. Schallenberger, Mr. Bell and Mr. Taulman for taking care of parking lots and sidewalks during this time of year. Good luck to our wrestlers this week in conference and next week at sectional! Grades were finalized and report cards went out last week. iCAP U.S. History course started up again today through Ivy Tech. Congratulations to Ella Culp for being named the recipient of the Jasper County Lilly Endowment Scholarship. Congratulations to Sydney Stoller for winning the sectional and advancing out of the regional to the state finals in her weight class this Friday in Indianapolis. Also, she is the first Tri-County girls wrestling state finalist! It is school board appreciation month so thanks for your time and efforts!
20. The board approved the Personnel Report as presented.
21. The board approved the Out of State FFA Ski Trip and Overnight HS Honors Band Field Trip.
22. The board approved the Wolcott Library Appointment of Mrs. Allison Hitchings.
23. The board approved for the Treasurer to Re-appropriate Textbook Funds.
24. The board approved the payroll ratification and claims docket.
25. Under the Superintendent's Report, Mr. Culp discussed the ESCRFT renewal amount and then the following three years. Mr. Culp discussed the claims filed with ESCRFT and how they affect the amount.

26. There were no visitor comments on agenda items.
27. Next board meeting will be February 10, 2025.