

August 31, 2023

TO: Media

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

RE: Regular School Board Meeting, Monday, August 14, 2023

The Tri-County School Board met for their Regular meeting on Monday, August 14, 2023.

The following topics were covered:

1. Mr. Culp stated that there was an addition to the agenda. 7.7 New Business the Overnight Field Trip Request for Camp Tecumseh
2. The board approved the minutes for the Executive Board Session and Regular Board Session on July 10, 2023.
3. The board approved the minutes for the Executive Board Session on July 12, 2023
4. The board approved the minutes for the Regular Board Session on July 13, 2023
5. There were no visitor comments.
6. Under Athletic/ Transportation Report, Mr. Culp reported to the board for Mr. LeBeau that transportation held their annual beginning of the year meeting with all drivers this past Monday to discuss policies and paperwork as well as welcoming all of the drivers back for a new school year. Drivers were given all route information at this meeting as well. Mr. LeBeau thanked Bob Shallenberger and Jeremy Sterk for getting all buses prepared and cleaned for the new school year. Mr. LeBeau thanked Kim Hensler, Kim Sterk and Tasha Budde for their work in getting paperwork ready for the bus meeting as well as her efforts in helping with all the ins and outs of transportation at the beginning of the school year. We currently have all routes covered as well as the routes to Rensselaer, South Newton and Benton Central.

Fall sports have started. Junior high teams will start up this week. Volleyball had their scrimmage with Hebron on Tuesday and played well. They currently are opening up their season tonight against Benton Central. Girls golf has had several matches and continue to improve. Football had the Midwest Conference Jamboree on Friday night and will open up this Friday at Covington. Cross Country will start their season on Saturday at the North White Invite.

7. Under the Technology Report, Mrs. Shannon Kelly reported to the board that student devices were delivered to the classrooms at the elementary schools and lockers of Jr. Sr. High School prior to the first day of school. This practice has actually saved Technology a lot of hours at the Jr. Sr. High School. We had 13 teachers go to summer of E-Learning conference Ignite in Lafayette. We sent Mrs. Diane Smith, Mrs. Monica Dyke, and Mr. J.R. Haskins to the Edu Protocols conference in South Bend this summer. Mr. Eric Sharp and Mrs. Diane Smith are planning to attend the Indiana Connected Educators Conference on October 5th at Franklin Central. Mr. Sharp and Mrs. Smith are also looking to join the Technology Instructional Leaders Networking Group through Wabash Valley Educational Center. We started the new school year with Titan for the new lunch program. I conducted training with the Cashiers during our first staff day, and on the first day of school, I was hearing positive feedback from the cashiers. We are still figuring out the reporting system in Titan. I definitely miss Cheri Frantz. We had to replace some cameras at the Jr. Sr. High School after the power went down a few different times. However, we already had some money in the budget to start updating a few cameras because of age.

8. Mr. Culp reported for Officer Sweney that the new pickup-drop off procedure implemented at TCI is running much smoother than last year. Successfully completed the Indiana Law Enforcement Academy Tier 1 Program for state certification. Updated the Department Policy and Procedure Guideline book pending review. Officer Sweney is working towards completing other necessary training requirements (School Safety Specialist training and the Indiana Chief's Association Executive Course).
9. Under the Construction Report, Mr. Culp reported that the track and concession stand are coming along. They continue to move forward with the track surface. September 1, 2023 is the 1st home game and have to use temporary lighting. The front fencing of the grandstands need to be replaced and painting the grandstands will occur. These repairs will be coming out of the allowance.
10. Under Board Committee Report, Mr. Culp reported that at the RWCDC meeting they received a tour of the new Remington Town Hall where RWCDC has a permanent office now. The new town hall looks very nice.
11. Ms. Hall reported to the board that TCP had a great first three days. I want to thank PTO for sponsoring our open house last week. We had a fantastic turnout. I also want to thank our technology department, custodians, office staff, and bus drivers for all they do over the summer and at the beginning of the school year to help our school year go smoothly.
12. Mrs. Pearson reported to the board that the students and staff are all excited to be back in the building. Mrs. Pearson thanked the custodial staff for all of their hard work this summer. Mrs. Sterk for all of her work on the bussing and helping to get through old boxes of paperwork. TCI had a great turnout for the 6th-grade parent meeting and for the open house. TCI appreciates PTO having Kona Ice for the students. Currently, our enrollment is 247 which is 11 more than last year. We look forward to having a great year!
13. Mr. McCracken reported to the board that had a great start to the new year. The Jr./Sr. High school will be conducting school safety drills and classroom map/severe weather shelter area updates. Instructions for the safety drills will be given first over the intercom. For the fire drill it is practiced to wait at least two minutes before evacuating and have done so for the last two to three years. This is done for the general safety of all.
14. Mr. Haskins reported to the board that the first two days are complete. Great having everyone back in the building. 7th graders are adjusting well with their lockers but some are still working on time management. Congratulations to students for summer successes at fairs, jobs and athletic teams. 48 seniors starting their last first day. They are a really good group of kids. It's good having them in the hallways for positive role models for younger students. Senior parent meeting on Wednesday evening. Mrs. Alberts and Mrs. Arvin are teaching the new health careers class. 3E (Explore, Engage, Experience) grant through our connection with GLC (Greater Lafayette Commerce) - Wes Nagel (career counselor). Wes will be in the building talking to juniors and seniors about what they want to do after high school. There are 22 new or returning students. New staff members are Amber McClatchey - junior high science, Paige Bowman - life skills, Victoria Coley - ELA, Shawna Duncan - business, Natasha Demerly - guidance counselor and Doris Kelly - Kitchen staff. Big thanks to Mrs. Weller, who is retiring on September 2. She is a very dedicated employee and we can't replace her. She will be missed. First VB match tonight, first FB game on Friday at Covington and first CC meet on Saturday at NW. Marching band at Kokomo on Saturday. Yearbooks are in and cost \$35. Thinking of Class of 2023.
15. Under Old Business, the board approved the Naming School Facilities and Commemorative Signage policy as presented
16. Mr. Culp did the first reading of the updated NEOLA Promotion, Placement and Retention policy. No board action is required at this time.

17. Under New Business, Mr. Culp discussed a crossing guard for TCI. Wolcott Town Hall came up with the idea. Mr. Johnny Gillenwater has helped with TC Athletics previously. He would help students cross 24 in the mornings and after school. Wolcott Town Hall has talked several times with Mr. Culp about this.
18. The board approved the employment of Ms. Alexa Geswein- 2nd grade Instructor, Mrs. Doris Kelly - TCHS Kitchen Staff, Mr. Shawn Garrett- TC Director of Custodians, Ms. Stevie Gutowski- TCP IA, Mrs. Andrea Ruiz- HS Counselor and Johnny Gillenwater- Crossing Guard. The resignation of Mrs. Jessica Banes- TCHS Guidance Counselor, Mr. Austyn Nevitt- Permanent Substitute and Mrs. Kierra Miller- HS Life Skills IA. Mrs. Olivia Brummett's maternity leave.
19. The board approved extending each administrator's contracts by one year. By approving, each administrator is approved for the current year and the 2024-2025 school year.
20. The board approved the 23 unused desks from TCHS that are not being used to be declared as surplus goods.
21. The board agreed to advertise the budget upon completion. Mr. Culp also recommends conducting the required public meeting on September 27, 2023 at 6:00 PM. The required adoption meeting would occur during the regular board meeting on Monday, October 9, 2023. All board members agreed.
22. The board approved the updated teacher effectiveness process as presented.
23. The board approved the 6th grade Overnight Field Trip request to Camp Tecumseh.
24. Mr. Culp reminded the board that the count date is October 2, 2023, this affects money for basic grants. Tri-County is up in enrollment which is good news.
25. Under the Superintendent's Report, Mr. Culp reminded the board of the work session on Wednesday, August 23, 2023. Gibraltar is coming.
26. Mr. Culp reported to the board that the deficient Hot Lunch transfer occurred out of the hot lunch by the advice of the State Board of Accounts, not Rainy Day.
27. Mr. Culp reported to the board that Mrs. Weller will retire September 1, 2023. She is not able to be replaced. Mr. Culp stated that out of the 3 schools he has worked at, she is the best! She is patient, has a giving heart for the kids and great leadership. She was fantastic during COVID with all the changes.
28. Next board meeting will be September 11, 2023.