

December 11, 2018

TO: Media

FROM: Dr. Ed Eiler, Tri-County School Corporation

RE: Regular School Board Meeting, Monday, December 10, 2018.

The Tri-County School Board met for their Regular meeting on Monday, December 10, 2018. The following topics were covered:

1. Under the Reach Higher Showcase, Elaine Hall, Jacque Hageman, and Rachel Pilotte briefly talked about having a Reindeer Games & Holiday Cheer at the Tri-County Primary School just to invite the families into school for some fun before Christmas. There was cookie decorating, and it was nice to see the interaction between the students and their parents. There was Reindeer Crafts, with Mrs. Kathy Ingram, and Mrs. Heidi Getz, organizing and helping the students with the crafts. Mrs. Ashley Hensler had a Reindeer Story, and Mrs. Austen Hensler organized the Reindeer Games. There was also a Photo Shoot for the students. A fun time was had by all and about 60 students and their families attended the event.

Under the Reach Higher Showcase, Brian Hagan introduced Molly Brown, and Andrea Taylor, Spell Bowl coaches. Mrs. Brown and Mrs. Taylor introduced the 4<sup>th</sup> grade team consisting of Luke Voors, Victor Schanlaub, Evelyn Gretencord, Gracie Scheitlin, Jazlyn Isabell, Kiera Shuman, Lizzie Schemerhorn, Harlee Garner, and Travis Hurd, with the team placing 1<sup>st</sup> in their Division. Then they introduced the 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> grade team consisting of Lizzie Bahler, Chezney Porter, Luke Lehman, Mariah Anstett, Nick Foster, Brady Clark, Ben Alberts, Maeven Hall, Camden Letson, Laurie Clark, Mason Hagan, Maddi Nevitt, Alayna Hrnicek, and Katelynn O’Harra, with the team placing 1<sup>st</sup> in their Division also. Lizzie Bahler, Luke Lehman, and Brady Clark had a perfect score and Chezney Porter had a near perfect score and the team also placed 9<sup>th</sup> in the State out of 65 teams.

2. Ms. Hall announced the Students of the Month:  
Sophie Collins, Connor Scheitlin

Mr. Hagan announced the Students of the Month:  
Harlee Garner, Zack Adinolfi

Mr. McCracken announced the Students of the Month:  
Junior High School – Heather Cooper, Thalia Herrera-Pearson  
High School – Vance Pellegrino

3. Under the Technology Report, Mrs. Shannon Kelly, Technology Director, reported that eleven quotes have been received for the Category II project with Chester Inc., Information Technologies out of Valparaiso, IN being awarded the project. Mrs. Kelly announced that the Technology department did five different Anti-Virus programs from October to December 7, 2018 and Comodo One was the software was chosen. The software includes more security options for our district than just AV software, and the price was still comparable to other straight AV solutions. K12PaymentCenter.com will be the new program Tri-County School Corporation will use for direct deposits to student/staff lunch accounts. Account set up information will be sent home to families

prior to Christmas Break. There was information regarding this change in the last newsletter.

4. Dr. Gib Crimmins, Clerk of the Works, updated the Board members on the renovation. The kitchen freezer unit is complete, front canopy is nearly complete and a walk through is scheduled on December 20, for the secure entrance. The flag pole and sidewalks may have to wait until spring, but the lockers and bathroom will be done over Christmas Break. Hamstra is working on the band room renovation and they will finish up over Christmas Break, the Ag welding area is scheduled for February and the kitchen HVAC will be completed over Spring Break. The Tri-County Primary School secure entrance work will begin over Christmas Break. A target date is set for March 31, 2019.
5. Under the Board Committee Report, Dr. Schemerhorn reported that the Tri-County Education Fund had a meeting 2 weeks ago and awarded 13 grants (Total of \$12,879.24) from the Fall Grant Applications and several members of the committee are working on unclaimed scholarships with Tri-County Alumni.
6. The Board approved an extension for the food service director's position by ten days before the school year and five days after the school year.
7. The Board approved the employment of Mrs. Tammy Seward as the Jr/Sr High School Attendance and business office secretary at an hourly rate of \$17.25 for 206 days a year with the approval to work some additional hours in the summer beginning January 7, 2019, which will be determined by the Superintendent.
8. The Board approved the employment of Mr. Jordan Bennett as a temporary replacement for Andrea Taylor as an Instructional Assistant at Tri-County Intermediate for the second semester for 7 hours per day at the rate of \$10.37 per hour.
9. The Board approved the following resignations:
  - Robin Harrington as secretary at the Jr/Sr High School effective 12/10/18
  - Richard Nolen as maintenance at Tri-County School Corporation effective 12/31/18
10. The Board approved the following leave requests:
  - Lexi McClure, 2<sup>nd</sup> grade teacher at TCP, medical leave beginning 12/7/18 through 1/20/19
  - Austen Hensler, 1<sup>st</sup> grade teacher at TCP, maternity leave beginning about 2/20/19 through 5/1/19
  - Andrea Taylor, Instructional Assistant at TCI, student teaching and maternity leave beginning the second semester of the 2018-19 school year
  - Ashley Hensler, 2<sup>nd</sup> grade teacher at TCP, leave request beginning 1/14-18/19
11. A Public Hearing on the proposed renovation of the improvements to Tri-County Junior/Senior High School, including the renovation of the pool at Tri-County Junior/Senior High School. It was explained that the School Corporation had previously borrowed the money for this project but in the name of transparency it is holding an additional public hearing to clarify the specifics of this project now that bids have been received. Under the Indiana law whenever a school corporation proposes to renovate a school building at a cost in excess of one million dollars it must first hold a public hearing (the "hearing"). Notice of the Hearing for the School Corporation was published in the *Remington Press* and the *Benton Review* on November

21<sup>st</sup>, 2018 and *The Wolcott Enterprise* on November 22<sup>nd</sup>. The proofs of publication of the notice of the Project Hearing were presented to the meeting.

It was explained that at this Hearing all interested people may give testimony and /or ask questions concerning the renovation of and improvements to Tri-County Junior/Senior High School, Tri-County, including the renovation of the pool (the “Project”). The purpose of the Hearing is two-fold: (1) the first purpose is to inform the public as to the proposed Project; and (2) to allow all interested parties, the taxpayers and the patrons of the School Corporation to voice their opinions as to the Project and ask questions.

After the purpose of the Hearing was explained, the presentation regarding the need for the Project was given. The Projects plans were then given explaining the proposed renovations and improvements. The estimated project cost and schedule was then presented to the public. It was explained how the Project is being funded and the tax rate impact.

After the above presentations, the Board President announced that the Board would now hear testimony and questions from the public. None were given by patrons. The Board Adopted the Project Resolution attached hereto as Exhibit A.

12. The Board approved the pool bids set forth to go with Larson Danielson.
13. The Board granted permission to make Transfers to the Rainy Day Fund.
14. The First Reading of Board Policies was given to the Board members to review and no action is required at this time. Approval of any proposed changes will take place at the January Board meeting.
15. The Board approved to declare the old single axle 1500 pound pivoting trailer, which has been replaced with a new trailer, surplus property. Legally, the corporation must declare the property as surplus. Surplus property that has a value less than \$1,000 may be disposed of via private sale.
16. The Board approved the 2019 Board Meeting Dates as presented, as dates will remain on the second Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m.
17. The Board approved the appointment of Mrs. Louise Knochel to the Remington Carpenter Township Public Library Board for a four year term.
18. Mr. Shawn McCracken presented to the Board information on the School Resource Officer. Mr. McCracken announced that he has been attending meetings with the Jasper and White County and there is always law enforcement present and they keep asking if Tri-County has a School Resource Office at the present time. Mr. McCracken passed out a sheet of paper with much information on it about why it is needed and the responsibilities that the School Resource Officer would have. After much discussion, there was no action taken at this time.
19. Dr. Eiler reported information about the 1782 notice. The funds were approved almost nearly as advertised. There is a slight overall tax increase of .0315 cents. The pledge to maintain the combined debt service and referendum rate at or below .35 cents. The combined rate will be .347 cents.

20. Dr. Eiler reported about the summary of the 2017-18 teacher effectiveness ratings. The corporation has 30 highly effective teachers, 25 effective teachers and 1 teacher in need of improvement. In the future, attention should be given to reducing the weight given to the school grade because the school grade can lower a teachers rating at the Jr/Sr High School and increase the rating at the primary or intermediate school from needs improvement to effective.
21. Dr. Eiler received an email from Mrs. Jennifer Dawson, Bank of Wolcott Officer, reporting that the Wolcott Bank Student Assistance Fund has increased to \$8,375 in less than two months.
22. Dr. Eiler reported that he has attended more than 1,000 Board meetings, and he reported that it is uplifting to see so many dedicated teachers, administrators, board members, and patrons passionately involved in doing what they believe to be in the best interest of children. Dr. Eiler's last day here at Tri-County as the Interim Superintendent, is December 21, 2018 and he has appreciated working at Tri-County.