

August 18, 2025

TO: Media

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

RE: Regular School Board Meeting, Monday, August 11, 2025

The Tri-County School Board met for their Regular meeting on August 11, 2025.

The following topics were covered:

1. The board approved the agenda as presented.
2. The board approved the minutes for the Regular Board Session and Work Session on Monday, July 14, 2025 and the Executive Session on July 18, 2025.
3. Under visitor's comments, Ms. Paige Miller requested that the Board review its policy regarding the naming of facilities in order to consider naming the track in honor of Coach Dick Kochert.
4. Under monthly reports, Officer Page reported to the board that a reunification drill was conducted with the entire Tri-County staff allowing each staff member to act as a student, parent and worker. He also assisted staff with painting over and sealing last year's senior's parking spots so that the current senior class could decorate them. He spoke with students and staff about general school safety, expectations and noted concerns from last year including driving behavior to and from school. He attended the bus drivers meeting where he went over safety and security measures and proper procedures if they were to have a stop arm violation.
5. Mrs. Shannon Kelly reported to the board that Technology received the new APs from our Category 2 ERate project and are in the process of trying to get them placed in between construction work and back to school work. There were 9 Active Panels installed in classrooms at TCHS. July 22- August 6 the Tech team worked to complete the following: thirteen TCI classes moved (16 classes all connected back up and to new technology), eleven TCP classes moved (13 classes all connected back up and to new technology), four TCHS Classes moved, TCHS main office, 337 Laptops delivered to lockers at TCHS, 261 Chromebooks delivered to TCI classrooms and put together twenty Active Panels & carts for TCP & TCI. Diane Smith and Lindsey Schanbacher hosted Google Classroom training on July 29th & July 30th. Thirteen teachers attended on the 29th. Nine Teachers came to the am session on the 30th and thirteen attended in the afternoon.
6. Paul Todoroski from Skillman gave an update over current construction projects. He also discussed the overall budget of the current projects and gave an outline of the next steps for the bus barn construction.
7. Under the board committee report Mr. Gerber spoke on the State Legislative Committee sessions he attended.
8. Mr. Culp reported to the board for Ms. Hall that she thanked the custodians and maintenance crew for getting the building ready for our open house and the start of school. Their efforts were well-coordinated and their hard work was greatly appreciated by the staff.
9. Mrs. Pearson reported to the board that Students and Staff are all excited to be back in the buildings. She thanked the custodial staff and technology for all of their hard work this summer. They moved all the rooms at TCI, made sure that things were clean and devices ready for staff and students for the first day. She also thanked Mrs. Sterk for all of her work on the bussing and helping to distribute all of the books. TCI had a great turnout for back-to-school night. The 3rd grade families were able to come first with a quick parent meeting with introductions and the students were able to complete a scavenger hunt to find things around the building. She appreciated PTO having popsicles for students. TCI's current enrollment is 261 students. TCI is looking forward to having a great year!
10. Mr. McCracken reported to the board that next week the high school will have severe weather, fire, and lockdown drills. The lockdown drills will be more in depth for students.

11. Mr. Haskins reported to the board that the first two days started off great. The new students in the building are feeling welcomed. Welcome new staff members: Mrs. Carney, Miss Farris, Mrs. Arvin, Mrs. Lanphear, Mr. Murphy, Mr. Douglas, Mr. Taulman. The Senior Scholarship Meeting is on Thursday, August 14th at 6:30pm in the Auditorium. Representatives from White and Jasper/Newton Foundations to attend. Fall sports have started. Girls Golf started last Tuesday at Rensselaer. Volleyball will scrimmage on Tuesday at home then an Invite this Saturday at Winamac. Football Jamboree is on Friday at home. Cross County's first invite is this Saturday at Munster. First PLC time is this Wednesday. The SIT team will be modeling Google Classroom use. Thank you to the technology team for their efforts in getting technology in place to start the school year: Mrs. Kelly, Mr. Schultz and Mr. Seward. Much appreciation to staff members for efforts this summer who are as follows: Mr. Bell, Mr. McClure, Mr. Garrett, Ms. Bullington, Ms. Baxter, Mr. Miller, Mrs. Carty, Mrs. Fout, Mr. Babcock, Mrs. Kleist, Mrs. Bickett, Mrs. Alconedo and Ms. Tressler. Congratulations on 50 years of service to Mrs. Hageman and Mr. Dilling. The class of 1980 had their reunion and toured our building on Saturday afternoon. They were very complimentary of how clean the building looked. Positive Thoughts and Prayers for Darwin Miller and Carma Buschman.
12. Under Old Business, the board approved the NEOLA Policies Vol. 37, No. 2.
13. The board approved the Support Staff Handbook.
14. Under New Business, the board approved the retirement of Mrs. Cheryl Beever, Instructional Aide at Tri-County Primary. The resignation of Mrs. Elizabeth Douglas, Tri-County Intermediate and Jr/Sr High School EL Instructor. The employment of Mr. Jimmy Murphy-Tri-County Jr/Sr High School Art Teacher, Mrs. Naysa Lanphear- Part Time Nurse at Tri-County Jr/Sr High School, Miss Nicole Yeoman- Instructional Aide at Tri-County Primary and Mr. Brock Seward- Seasonal Grounds. The transfer of Ms. Stevie Gutowski, SPED Instructional Aide to 2nd Grade Instructional Aide.
15. The board approved a one-year extension on the contracts for each Administrator.
16. The board approved the work session date as September 24, 2025 for the 2025 budget and the permission to advertise the budget.
17. The board approved the Tri-County Teacher Effectiveness Process.
18. The board approved 6th Grade Overnight Field Trip to Camp Tecumseh, October 16th-17th and the FFA Meats Judging Out of State Field Trip October 19th- 22nd as presented.
19. The board approved Mrs. Amber McClatchey to serve as the TCCTO Mase Representative.
20. The board approved to advertise for bids for the bus barn and backpack program construction.
21. The board approved the payroll ratification and claims docket.
22. Under the Superintendent's Report, Mr. Culp presented to the board the Baker Tilly overview of the impact of SEA1. Mr. Culp has asked Baker Tilly to discuss more with the board in September.
23. Mr. Culp reminded the board that the new staff dinner is Wednesday, August 13th at the Wolcott Cafe.
24. There were no visitor comments on Agenda items.
25. Next board meeting will be September 8, 2025.