

March 2, 2026

TO: Media

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

RE: Regular School Board Meeting, Monday, February 9, 2026

The Tri-County School Board met for their Regular meeting on February 9, 2026.

The following topics were covered:

1. The board approved the agenda.
2. The board approved the minutes for the Regular Board Session and Board of Finance on January 12, 2026.
3. Mr. McCracken presented the Jr/Sr High School Students of the Month: Junior High School: Junior High School: Bowyn Bahler and Logan Kaeb 7th, Kinley Parish 8th; English: Kayleb Hamer; CTE(Business): Jasper Scott; Math: Rigley Fields; Social Studies: Clayton Atkinson; Fine Arts (Music History): Ella Schneider; Science: Wynter Perry; PE (Weightlifting): Blaine Woods
4. Students of the Month from Mrs. Tracy Zarse's 5th grade class at TCI: Claira Cochran and Jayden Golz
5. Students of the Month from Ms. Rachel Pilotte's Kindergarten class at TCP: Presley Crenshaw and Waylon Lape
6. There were no visitor comments on agenda items.
7. Under Monthly Reports, Chief Page gave his monthly report. He attended School Safety Specialist Certification training in Indianapolis for 2 days. He set up coming Raptor Emergency Management training with administrators. Of. Page has also been working with Mr. Frank Rodgers on getting school maps updated post construction.
8. Paul Todorski reported to the board over the current construction status and budget update. Paul also gave an update on the state permit hold for the bus barn and backpack program construction. He stated that we are now able to move forward and are working to get it completed on time.
9. Mr. Culp then discussed contingencies and that he is now looking at replacing doors and windows at all buildings that are in need of replacement. Mr. Culp also stated that Mr. Devin Bell recommends replacing the water softeners at the three schools due to them not being at capacity and are older than 12 years. Mr. Culp then discussed the construction affidavits with the board.
10. Under Board Committee Reports, Mr. Geib reported that the Ag Committee went over the different programs such as the drone certifications and the CTE work based learning program opportunities.
11. Ms. Hall reported to the board that since the last meeting TCP celebrated the 100th day of school on January 22nd. TCP had a "100 Days Brighter" theme and students wore bright colors. They had activities around the school. TCP also had several remote learning days. They went well for all of our grades, but this year is the first time for 1st and 2nd graders to participate in synchronous remote learning. This is a change that teachers really took on and prepared students for and they went very well. Teachers were very intentional about taking time to have students practice joining the virtual sessions, doing different virtual activities, and going over expectations. Mrs. Schanbacher was a huge help to our teachers and is always there to help. Ms. Hall thanked all of the teachers for making TCP's remote learning days as productive as they can. Coming up for TCP in March is IREAD for our second graders.
12. Mrs. Pearson reported to the board that she was thankful for the teachers and Mrs. Schanbacher for all of their hard work in making TCI's synchronous learning a success. TCI had counselors' week and SRO Day. Mrs. Pearson thanked Mrs. Brummett for her tremendous efforts. She puts a lot of time into supporting TCI staff and students. She also thanked Officer Page for all of his hard work and dedication that he puts into ensuring the safety and security of Tri-County students and staff. Tri-County is very lucky and grateful to have both of them! Mrs. Sheets has been working on WIDA testing for multi-

language students and will finish the writing portion tomorrow. On Feb 12th Ms. Sweetman has planned a presentation for 5th-grade students to learn how to play some string instruments before they go to the Symphony in Indianapolis on the 24th. Congratulations to Samuel Sterk for winning a gold rating on his snare drum at Solo and Ensemble this past weekend! On Feb 21st the Robotics Team's will have their last competition. The Robotics Team placed 12th in their competition at the end of January. On February 25th, 26th, and 27th, REMC will come to make circuit boards with each of the 4th grade classrooms. The week of March 2nd, TCI is planning to take the first round of IREAD testing for any student who has not taken or passed IREAD. Mrs. Pearson thanked the PTO and Mrs. Williams for putting on Grandparents' Night last week. TCI had a great turnout, and the Book Fair was very well attended.

13. Mr. McCracken reported to the board that the guest speaker Mr. Flood was great to work with and when he would call Mr. Flood would be the one to answer. Mr. Flood's presentation was funded by the grant from Drug Free who partners with Jasper/White Co and by the 7th and 8th graders raising funds. Mr. McCracken reached out for materials to teach/promote his theme of school culture, fostering dignity, respect and compassion with the kids during his time with the students. The materials would help with spreading his message throughout the school year.
14. Mr. Haskins reported to the board that the jr/sr high school is past the halfway point of our third quarter. Thanks to students and staff for all their efforts during our remote learning days. The junior high students completed the second checkpoint for ILEARN last week. ICC information night for freshmen and sophomore parents will be on Tuesday, 2/24, at 6:30pm in the auditorium. Juniors will be taking the SAT in our building on March 5th. The junior class is touring Ivy Tech on Wednesday, 3/4, at 10:30am. Mr. Haskins thanked the 1976 girls' basketball championship team for supporting the backpack program. The FFA Dinner is this Friday, February 13th from 5pm to 7pm. Meal pick up is at Remington Farms shop and the cost is \$15 per meal. Mr. Haskins congratulated the seniors on their acceptance letters to college. Thirteen were accepted to Purdue, six to Indiana University and three to Ball State. Mr. Haskins congratulated the students, Emily DeBlase and Tanner Dillion, for advancing to the state in choir and band solo and ensemble later in February. He wished Graham Scherer, Jordy Martinez and Aiden Duniphan good luck while wrestling at the semi-state this Saturday at East Chicago.
15. Under Old Business, the board approved the NEOLA Policies Vol. 38, No. 1 Nondiscrimination and Vol. 38, No.1 as presented.
16. The board approved the Academic Designations for Tri-County High School as presented.
17. The board approved the updated Athletic Code of Conduct policies and procedures as presented.
18. The board approved the Employee Hiring Process Guidelines as presented.
19. Under New Business, the board approved the employment of Brayden Batley, High School Custodian and Ashley Wilder, 3rd Grade Instructional Aide at Tri-County Intermediate. The resignation of Mrs. Tammy DeVries, 5th Grade Teacher at Tri-County Intermediate.
20. The board approved a resolution to increase board member compensation to \$4,600 as presented.
21. The board approved the Amended Handbooks-Attendance as presented.
22. Under the Superintendent's Report, Mr. Culp reported to the board that Tri-County has great bus drivers! They do a fantastic job driving in all weather conditions and he is very appreciative of all they do. He also shared ideas to recruit and retain drivers. He also provided information from neighboring districts on pay for reference.
23. Mr. Culp reported to the board that mental health still remains a priority for the corporation. Counselors are preparing newsletters to send out quarterly with quick tips and resources. Mental Health Awareness night is this Friday during the boys' basketball game.
24. Mr. Culp informed the board that Tri-County is partnering with NIESC for help with the food service while Mrs. Cheri Frantz is recovering from a hunting accident. The partnership will be for the remainder of this school and continue to next school year. One way this partnership is helping Tri-County is to stay in compliance with the state.

25. Mr. Culp presented the synchronous learning information to the board for their reference. All building teachers are working together to make synchronous learning successful and continue to make it work for students and staff.
26. There were no visitor comments.
27. The next board meeting will be March 9, 2025.