

**MINUTES
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
BOARD OF EDUCATION
WARREN WOODS PUBLIC SCHOOLS
JANUARY 8, 2024**

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by President Green at 6:01 p.m. in the Board Room of the Administrative Service Center, 12900 Frazho Road, Warren, MI.

Roll Call

Members present: Schulte, Walsh, Fitzpatrick, Hiller, Garcia, Zannetti and Green. Also present were Superintendent Stacey Denewith-Fici, Deputy Superintendent Neil Cassbon, Curriculum Director Kara Beal, Special Services Director Stacie Sward, Student Representatives Isabella Burke and Natalya Bonkowski, Westwood Elementary Principal Melissa Johnson, Director of Facilities and Transportation Matthew Dishman, PCOR Representative Kurt Carter and Executive Assistant Jackie Miracle.

Pledge of Allegiance

Agenda Approval

It was moved by Schulte supported by Walsh to approve the Agenda as presented. The motion carried 7 – 0.

Minutes

It was moved by Fitzpatrick supported by Schulte to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of December 11, 2023 as presented. The motion carried 6 – 0 – 1 with Green abstaining due to absence.

Correspondence

Superintendent Denewith-Fici presented one item of Correspondence to the Board from a WWT Teacher and Parent Heidi South regarding the Board purchasing a yearbook ad. It was moved by Fitzpatrick supported by Zannetti to receive and file the Correspondence as presented. The motion carried 7 – 0. Superintendent Denewith-Fici noted she would communicate the intent to purchase the yearbook ad to Ms. South.

Treasurer's Report

Deputy Superintendent Cassabon presented the Treasurer's Report for November 2023. He began with General Fund Local Revenue consisting of local tax collections and earnings on investments, in addition to Adult Ed tuition. State Revenue consisted of State Aid along with Wayne RESA and GSRP grant reimbursement. Federal Revenue was comprised of ESSER II, Title II and Perkins grant reimbursements.

Next, a review of Incoming Transfers reflected an Enhancement Millage payment from MISD and reimbursement from Chippewa Valley for an IAM teacher, in addition to a prior period adjustment from the State.

Food Service Local Revenue reflected earnings on investments and a la carte food sales, while State and Federal Revenue consisted of breakfast and lunch reimbursements.

Finally, a review of ISD Centers Program consisted of a State Aid payment and MISD reimbursement.

Treasurer's Report (continued)

Mr. Zannetti commented on the Food Service Program balance and asked if any large projects were planned. Deputy Superintendent Cassabon stated a project was in the planning stages to install a generator for the WWMS food service cooler in case of emergency, in addition to the recent complete redesign of the Titan Express. He noted the next Treasurer's Report would reflect a large payment for the new cafeteria furniture at WWT.

Payment of the Bills

It was moved by Walsh, supported by Schulte to pay the following bills as presented:

General Fund	\$	917,957.89
Center Programs		12,551.77
Food Service Fund		369,581.87
Childcare Fund		2,197.08
Campus Corner		3,965.92
Building & Site		58,196.34
Bond 2020 Series I		144,645.11
2023 Energy Bond		138,146.81

The motion carried 7 – 0.

Mr. Garcia inquired about payments to Care Solace regarding the dates for services. Mr. Cassabon stated this was a three-year contract for subscription services and that the three separate lines reflected costs for this year, in addition to the next two fiscal years.

Mr. Zannetti inquired about a payment to Gateway for bus drivers and asked how much of a bus driver shortage was the district managing. Mr. Cassabon stated that the district is currently short one driver and that there is also one driver not able to return from medical leave. He added that in addition to covering the other position, substitute drivers are being asked to fill in for daily absences.

Old Business

None

New Business
Reports

Student Representatives

Superintendent Denewith-Fici welcomed Student Representatives Isabella Burke and Natalya Bonkowski asked for an update on activities at WWT. Bella greeted the Board with a Happy New Year and commented on the great energy at WWT since returning from Break. She

New Business
Reports

Student Representatives (continued)

began with a recap of the Student vs. Staff basketball game prior to break and stated that the Staff won the game. Next, she stated that seven students placed in the DECA districts and would be going on to the next level to compete. Bella stated that the Peer 2 Peer field trip to Great Lakes Crossing was one of her favorite events and she hopes to create a short presentation to share at a future Board meeting. Student Leadership recently had the opportunity to observe a “unified basketball game” at Grosse Point North and are in the process of planning a game at WWT for students with disabilities and she gave a special thank you to Mr. Dougherty, Ms. Buza and Ms. Weingartz for being so inspiring and motivating. She added that Community Outreach is planning a social change collection in honor of MLK Day. Bella stated the new cafeteria tables look cool and fancy and have been a huge hit. The new Campus Corner basketball shooting games are allowing students to come together and enjoy friendly competitions. In conclusion, Bella stated that 8th Grade Orientation is scheduled for February 14 with NHS and StuCo assisting.

Natalya stated that winter sports have kicked off with the Wrestling Team headed to Ohio for competition and Cheer Team’s first MAC competition at Mott High School this Wednesday. Next, she explained HOSA students recently completed projects for regionals. In conclusion, Natalya announced that Ashley Childs presented for StuCo at Regionals and is hoping to proceed on to State competition.

Student Achievement: School Accountability

Superintendent Denewith-Fici stated tonight’s update would be presented by Curriculum Director Kara Beal.

Ms. Beal stated as per the *Every Student Succeeds Act*, tonight’s report would share building-level data from the 2022-23 academic year along with an explanation of the School Index and the components it is comprised of. She identified index values and how they are tied to goals and targets.

Next, Ms. Beal summarized system changes that have been implemented, described the weighted system, the components of which it is comprised and the attributes of the components. She reviewed updates for the 2022-23 School Index which allow for the use of more recent data and highlighted major changes. She explained how data from students attending other schools, such as IAM, is rolled back to the home district, along with a detailed list of support categories.

In conclusion, Ms. Beal stated additional resources were available by scanning the QR code provided.

Mr. Hiller commented on the School Quality/Student Success component and requested more information at a future meeting.

Superintendent Denewith-Fici reminded Board members if anyone has more questions after reviewing the data to let her know and Ms. Beal will address them at a future meeting.

New Business (continued)

School of Choice 2024/2025

Superintendent Denewith-Fici presented the Resolution which would allow for open enrollment of Macomb County students in Grades Kdg. – 11 from February 1, 2024 – August 8, 2024 at 3:00 PM. It was moved by Fitzpatrick supported by Hiller to approve the **Resolution: School of Choice 2024/2025** as presented. **ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes:** Schulte, Walsh, Zannetti, Fitzpatrick, Hiller, Garcia, Green. **Nays:** 0. The motion carried 7 – 0.

Bid Award: Rooftop Hardware

Deputy Superintendent Cassabon presented the recommendation to award Johnson Controls the **Bid Award: Rooftop Hardware**. He noted that although it is not the lowest bid, Johnson Controls was able to procure the equipment in a shorter time frame which will allow the project to be completed within the summer work window.

It was moved by Walsh supported by Schulte to approve the **Bid Award: Rooftop Hardware** as presented. The motion carried 7 – 0.

Superintendent Evaluation

President Green presented the **Superintendent Evaluation** for Ms. Denewith-Fici. He stated each Board member completed an individual evaluation for 2022-2023 which were compiled in one final document and presented to the Board for review. It is recommended the Board approve the final rating of “Highly Effective” for the **Superintendent Evaluation**. It was moved by Schulte, supported by Walsh to approve the final rating of “Highly Effective” for the **Superintendent Evaluation**. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Schulte, Walsh, Zannetti, Fitzpatrick, Hiller, Garcia, Green. **Nays:** 0. The motion carried 7 – 0.

Superintendent Denewith-Fici thanked the Board on behalf of her and the entire Administrative Team for their support and trust.

Personnel Items

Superintendent Denewith-Fici presented the Personnel Items for Board Approval.

Leaves

As presented.

It was moved by Zannetti, supported by Fitzpatrick to approve the **Leaves** as presented. The motion carried 7 – 0.

New Hires

Christy Clark – Afternoon Custodian – WWMS – Date of hire 1/3/24.

Thomas Keimon - Afternoon Custodian – WWMS – Date of hire 12/18/23.

Aidan McMenamin - Substitute Custodian – Facilities – Date of hire 12/14/23.

Tiffany Predisik – Kitchen Helper- WWT – Date of hire 12/15/23.

Personnel Items

New Hires (continued)

It was moved by Fitzpatrick supported by Schulte to approve the **New Hires** as presented. The motion carried 7 – 0.

Public Expression

As tonight is President Green's last meeting prior to his retirement from the Board, Superintendent Denwith-Fici took this opportunity to express her sincere appreciation for his leadership as a member of the WWPS Board for the last 28 years, 24 years of which he has been president. She commented on his stable and caring manner and stated he will be greatly missed.

Secretary Walsh spoke next and reiterated how long she has worked with President Green on the Board and her appreciation for his leadership and loyalty.

Vice President Schulte thanked President Green for his leadership, guidance and for establishing the tone for how the Board operates. He then presented him with a gift on behalf of the Board members.

Lisa Grzywacz, Vice President of WWEA, thanked President Green for his leadership on behalf of the WWEA.

President Green thanked Superintendent Denewith-Fici, the Board and the Warren Woods Community for their support throughout the years. He stated his appreciation for the Board's ability to work through challenges in a meaningful way, demonstrating leadership through being informed and responsible. Finally, he stated that he firmly believes the biggest impact he made on the district was hiring Superintendent Denewith-Fici.

Adjournment

It was moved by Schulte supported by Zannetti to adjourn the meeting at 6:46 PM. The motion carried 7 – 0.

Respectfully submitted,

Kay F. Walsh
Secretary