

**MINUTES
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
BOARD OF EDUCATION
WARREN WOODS PUBLIC SCHOOLS
MAY 13, 2024**

Call to Order

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

Roll Call

Members present: Walsh, Zannetti, Fitzpatrick, Hiller, Garcia, Nitz and Schulte. Also present were Superintendent Stacey Denewith-Fici, Deputy Superintendent Neil Cassabon, Special Education Director Stacie Sward, Student Representatives Isabella Burke and Natalya Bonkowski, and Executive Assistant Jackie Miracle.

Pledge of Allegiance

Agenda Approval

It was moved by Fitzpatrick supported by Walsh to approve the Agenda as amended with the elimination of **Item 8. a. 4. Budget Forecast Update.** The motion carried 7 – 0.

Minutes

It was moved by Fitzpatrick supported by Zannetti to approve the Minutes of the Special Meeting of April 22, 2024 as presented. The motion carried 7 – 0.

Correspondence

Superintendent Denewith-Fici presented two items of Correspondence. The first was an email from a WWT staff member regarding AP class sizes and the second was an email from a WWT staff member regarding the possibility of eliminating AP Calculus. It was moved by Hiller supported by Fitzpatrick to receive and file the Correspondence as presented. The motion carried 7 – 0.

Payment of the Bills

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

General Fund	\$	893,253.92
Center Programs		6,676.83
Food Service Fund		161,329.59
Child Care Fund		4,346.75
Campus Corner		4,464.08
Bond 2018		313.91
Bond 2020 Series I		357,980.58

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Payment of the Bills (continued)

The motion carried 7 – 0.

Mr. Garcia asked if the payment to Education Logistics was a monthly or quarterly fee and Deputy Superintendent Cassabon replied it was a quarterly fee. Next, Mr. Garcia inquired about a payment to SEC for security and asked if the district was satisfied with the new company. Mr. Cassabon replied that the district has been very satisfied with SEC and have secured the contract for the next two years. Finally, Mr. Garcia asked for a progress update on the safety glass coating and installation and Mr. Cassabon replied that the entrances at the Early Childhood Education Center and the Attendance Office at WWT are complete and the process will be completed at each building.

Old Business

None

New Business

Reports

Student Representatives

Superintendent Denewith-Fici introduced Student Representatives to the Board Isabella Burke and Natalya Bonkowski and asked for an update on activities at the high school.

Natalya stated that end of year preparations are in full swing with StuCo candidates campaigning for elections, HOSA partnering with the Humane Society for one last fundraiser for the year and students in CTE classes taking certification classes. She stated Prom was held on May 10 at Zuccarro's with Bella and Cori being crowned King and Queen, and WWT had a PBIS celebration which included a kickball game promoting inclusivity and building awareness. Lastly, Natalya thanked the Board and Administration for providing her the opportunity to represent WWT students and stated her appreciation for the leadership experience.

Bella stated she and her sister Ava, along with another team from WWT, recently competed at the DECA Anaheim International Competition and came very close to placing in the top 20 in their categories; however, they have yet to receive their scores. In addition, it was a great opportunity for networking and swapping pins. Next, she encouraged the Board to check out the WWT Student Leadership TikTok page and provided them with some important upcoming dates including May 23 which is the last day for seniors, Class Night on June 6 and Graduation Commencement on June 10. She stated Teacher Appreciation Day was celebrated last week and shared some messages that students wrote to teachers as a coordinated activity sponsored by the Student Leadership Class. In addition, the Powderpuff Football Game was also held last week with the Seniors getting the win, and five officers from the Sophomore class were selected to attend the MYLead Conference at MSU this summer. Finally, Bella thanked the Board and Administration for the opportunity to serve as Student Representative for the past three years.

President Schulte thanked Natalya and Bella for their service for the past three years and wished them well.

Superintendent Denewith-Fici expressed her appreciation to Natalya and Bella for their commitment and dedication over the last three years and thanked them for their thoroughness and appropriately shared opinions. She invited them to come back to visit and check-in at a future meeting.

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New Business

Reports

Student Representatives (continued)

Natalya commented on Mr. Garcia's previous question regarding the new security people at WWT and stated they have been a positive addition at WWT and have been supportive in the classroom, as well as outside the classroom.

Student Achievement

Superintendent Denewith-Fici stated tonight's report would provide an update on the upcoming Summer Learning Program. She reported staff recruitment was currently underway, along with identifying and inviting at-risk students. Ms. Denewith-Fici stated a robust program has been established for both elementary and secondary students with elementary classes to be held at Briarwood, and secondary at Enterprise High School. Last year there were 280 students registered for the program and we are hoping for at least the same number of students this year.

Staff Recognition

Special Education Director Stacie Sward stated that she was pleased to recognize Ms. Rachel Buza, WWT Special Education Teacher, as the recipient of the "Make a Difference Award." Ms. Sward explained that every year the MISD sponsors this award and asks parents to nominate a teacher of students with special needs who goes over and above. Ms. Sward highlighted some of Ms. Buza's contributions including the creation of the Peer 2 Peer program, her collaboration on the Unified Sports project, Prom and Pinewood VIP Night, among many others. Ms. Sward thanked Rachel for her commitment to students.

Resolution: 2024-2025 MISD Budget

Superintendent Denewith-Fici presented the MISD Budget for 2024-25. She stated that Treasurer Fitzpatrick attended the Budget Hearing which was held on April 18 where County programs, along with State budget projections were reviewed. It was recommended that the Board approve the budget as presented. It was moved by Fitzpatrick supported by Walsh to approve the **Resolution: 2024-2025 MISD Budget** as presented. **ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes:** Walsh, Zannetti, Fitzpatrick, Hiller, Garcia, Nitz and Schulte. **Nays:** 0. The motion carried 7 – 0.

Vice President Zannetti asked Mr. Fitzpatrick if the ISD fund balance was going back up and Mr. Fitzpatrick replied that yes, the fund balance was going back up and he was confident they were moving in the right direction.

President Schulte commented that the fund balance is indeed rising, and added the Bovenschen project would be starting soon.

2024-2025 Substitute Rates

Superintendent Denewith-Fici presented the substitute rates for the 2024-25 school year and recommended the rates be approved as presented. It was moved by Fitzpatrick, supported by Zannetti to approve the 2024-25 Substitute Rates as presented. The motion carried 6 – 0 – 1 with Trustee Hiller abstaining due to conflict of interest.

New Business (continued)

2024-2025 Child Care Rates

Deputy Superintendent Cassabon presented the child care rates for 2024-25. He stated that because there is sufficient fund balance it was not necessary to raise the cost of childcare for our families. It was moved by Fitzpatrick supported by Nitz to approve the **2024-2025 Child Care Rates** as presented. The motion carried 7 – 0.

Personnel Items

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

Leaves:

As presented.

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

New Hires:

Donzel Camacho – Afternoon Custodian – WWMS – Date of hire 4/22/24.

Cameryn Durso - Auditorium Worker – Date of hire 05/08/24.

Jacquelyn Laforest – Special Education Paraprofessional – WWMS – Date of hire 4/22/24.

Emma Morin – Elementary CI Teacher – Westwood – Date of hire 5/7/24. Awarded Teaching Certificate – moved to Teacher contract as of 5/7/24.

Kiley Nitz-Dyjewski – Teacher – Elementary Summer School Program – Date of hire 05/08/24.

Kylie Portalski – Substitute Secretary and Substitute Paraprofessional – Date of hire 5/6/24. .

Matthew Stewart – Math Teacher – WWT - Date of hire 2024/2025 School Year.

It was moved by Fitzpatrick supported by Hiller to approve the **New Hires** as presented. The motion carried 6 – 0 – 1 with Trustee Nitz abstaining due to a conflict of interest.

Public Expression

Trustee Hiller announced that the Booster Club sponsored May Fair was this weekend and invited everyone to come experience the fun.

Trustee Fitzpatrick reminded everyone in attendance that the Peer 2 Peer Picnic was this Thursday from 10AM – 2PM.

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Personnel Items

New Hires: (continued)

Student Representative Isabella congratulated Ms. Buza on her Make a Difference Award and stated that Ms. Buza was one of the people she looked up to the most as she is always excited and makes school fun.

Negotiations

It was moved by Fitzpatrick supported by Hiller that the Board move to Closed Session for discussion of Negotiations. . **ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes:** Walsh, Zannetti, Fitzpatrick, Hiller, Garcia, Nitz and Schulte. **Nays:** 0. The motion carried 7 – 0.

The Board moved to Closed Session at 6:35PM.

The Board returned from Closed Session at 7:20

Adjournment

It was moved by Fitzpatrick supported by Hiller to adjourn the meeting at 7:20 PM. The motion carried 7 – 0.

Respectfully submitted,

Kay F. Walsh
Secretary