

**MINUTES  
SPECIAL BOARD MEETING  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
WARREN WOODS PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
AUGUST 26, 2024**

**Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by Vice President Zannetti at 6:00 p.m. in the Board Room of the Administrative Service Center, 12900 Frazho Road, Warren, MI.

**Roll Call**

Members present: Walsh, Fitzpatrick, Hiller, Garcia, Nitz and Zannetti. Absent with notice: Schulte. Also present were Superintendent Stacey Denewith-Fici, Deputy Superintendent Neil Cassabon, Director of Curriculum Kara Beal, Special Services Director Stacie Sward, Director of Technology Kevin Hustek, WWT Principal Ian Fredlund, Westwood Principal Melissa Johnson, Instructional Engagement Coach Michelle Voelker, Facilities and Transportation Director Don Ball and Executive Assistant Jackie Miracle.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Agenda Approval**

It was moved by Walsh, supported by Hiller to approve the Agenda as presented. The motion carried 6 – 0.

**Minutes**

It was moved by Fitzpatrick supported by Garcia to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of August 5, 2024, as presented. The motion carried 4 – 0 – 2 with Walsh and Nitz abstaining due to absence.

**Correspondence**

None

**Payment of the Bills**

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

Bond 2020 Series I	\$	9,243.00
2023 Energy Bond		7,148.31

The motion carried 6 – 0.

**Old Business**

None.

**New Business**

**Reports**

None.

**New Business** (continued)

**Appointment:** Director of Curriculum

Superintendent Denewith-Fici presented the recommendation to appoint Instructional Engagement Coach Michelle Voelker as Director of Curriculum. She highlighted Ms. Voelker's contributions and expertise in various roles, in addition to her unwavering commitment to educational excellence and noted she would be an exceptional asset to the Administration Team.

It was moved by Walsh supported by Fitzpatrick to approve the **Appointment:** Director of Curriculum as presented. **ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes:** Walsh, Fitzpatrick, Hiller, Garcia, Nitz and Zannetti. **Nays:** None. The motion carried 6 – 0.

**Appointment:** Principal – Briarwood Elementary School

Superintendent Denewith-Fici presented the recommendation to appoint Beth Mager as Principal of Briarwood Elementary School. Ms. Denewith-Fici noted Ms. Mager's recent completion of the Leadership Academy and her remarkable ability to analyze data. These qualities, along with Ms. Mager's commitment to students and staff, make her an exceptional candidate for this role.

It was moved by Fitzpatrick supported by Nitz to approve the **Appointment:** Principal, Briarwood Elementary School as presented. **ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes:** Walsh, Fitzpatrick, Hiller, Garcia, Nitz and Zannetti. **Nays:** None. The motion carried 6 – 0.

**Student Handbook Updates**

Superintendent Denewith-Fici presented the recommended changes to the Student Handbook for the 2024-25 school year and stated they reflected updates including staffing changes, identifying cell-phone free zones and clarifying citizenship guidelines.

It was moved by Hiller supported by Wash to approve the **Student Handbook Updates** as presented. The motion carried 6 – 0.

Mr. Fitzpatrick asked if all students received an updated copy of the Student Handbook and Superintendent Denewith-Fici replied that the handbook is published on the website.

**Change Order:** WWT Roof Replacement

Deputy Superintendent presented the **Change Order** and stated that a broken roof drain was discovered during the roof replacement, and it was decided to complete the repair while it was currently exposed.

It was moved by Fitzpatrick, supported by Nitz to approve the **Change Order:** WWT Roof Replacement as presented. The motion carried 6 – 0.

**Personnel Items**

**Leaves:**

As presented

It was moved by Fitzpatrick supported by Hiller to approve the **Leaves** as presented. The motion carried 6 – 0.

**Personnel Items**

**New Hires:**

**Krystle Daenzer** - Childcare Assistant – ECC – date of hire 08/15/24.

**LaTanya Dismukes** - Childcare Assistant – ECC – date of hire 08/15/24

**Katelyn Glende** - Special Education Paraprofessional – Briarwood – date of hire 8/15/24.

**Noah Halleck** – WWT JV Assistant Football Coach – date of hire 8/12/24.

**Jessica Hazelton** – Substitute Teacher – date of hire 8/13/24.

**Kristyn Hurmiz** - Childcare Assistant – ECC – date of hire 08/19/24.

**Linda Johnson** - Special Education Paraprofessional – ECSE – date of hire 8/15/24.

**Kelly Miracle** - 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Teacher – Briarwood – date of hire 8/14/24.

**Emma Perry** - Childcare Assistant – ECC – date of hire 08/15/24

**Brooke Robinson** – 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Teacher – Pinewood – date of hire 8/14/24

**Shayma Ruhee** – SACC Assistant – ECC – date of hire 08/16/24.

It was moved by Fitzpatrick supported by Walsh to approve the **New Hires** as presented. The motion carried 6 – 0.

**Public Expression**

*Michele Bastian, Westwood Teacher/WWEA President:* Ms. Bastian noted that the WWEA has been bargaining on behalf of its valued members since May and expressed thanks to Superintendent Denewith-Fici and Deputy Superintendent Cassabon.

*Nicole Spicer, WWPS Parent:* Ms. Spicer expressed her support for district teachers.

*Todd Bloch, WWMS Teacher:* As the former WWEA President, Mr. Bloch addressed contract language and expressed his appreciation to the team for their representation and for the job they do.

*Jennifer Compton, WWPS Parent and Substitute Teacher:* Ms. Compton expressed her support for WWPS teachers, noting Warren Woods is home to their family.

*Alyssa Rydant, WWT Teacher:* Ms. Rydant spoke in support of her fellow teachers, noting her long commute to work every day, but stated she loves the WWPS community and the support from administration makes the commute worth it.

**Public Expression** (continued)

Superintendent Denewith-Fici noted that tonight's Board meeting would be the last for Curriculum Director Kara Beal as she is moving on to a new position in another district. Ms. Denewith-Fici thanked Ms. Beal for her commitment to WWPS and wished her the best of luck in her new position.

Ms. Beal expressed her appreciation to her colleagues, the Administration Team and the Board. She stated that she is moving on with a heavy heart, however, she is very proud of what the Team had created.

Vice-President Zannetti expressed his thanks to Ms. Beal and wished her well in her new role.

Next, Mr. Zannetti stated as Acting President he would like to express his thanks to the WWPS teachers. In addition, as a WWPS resident, he assured them that he recognizes how invested the members are.

**Negotiations** (Closed Session)

It was moved by Fitzpatrick supported by Walsh that the Board move to Closed Session for discussion of Negotiations. **ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes:** Walsh, Fitzpatrick, Hiller, Garcia, Nitz and Zannetti. **Nays:** None. The motion carried 6 – 0.

***Recess began at 6:21 PM.***

***Recess ended at 6:30 PM.***

***The Board moved to Closed Session at 6:30 PM.***

***The Board returned from Closed Session at 7:40 PM.***

**Adjournment**

It was moved by Hiller supported by Fitzpatrick to adjourn the meeting at 7:41PM. The motion carried 6 – 0.

Respectfully submitted,

Kay F. Walsh  
Secretary