

**MINUTES
SPECIAL BOARD MEETING
BOARD OF EDUCATION
WARREN WOODS PUBLIC SCHOOLS
OCTOBER 28, 2024**

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by President Schulte at 6:00 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, Director of Curriculum Michelle Voelker, Special Services Director Stacie Sward, Facilities and Transportation Director Don Ball and Executive Assistant Jackie Miracle.

Pledge of Allegiance

Agenda Approval

It was moved by Fitzpatrick, supported by Hiller to approve the Agenda as presented. The motion carried 6 – 0 – 1 with Zannetti abstaining due to absence.

Minutes

It was moved by Hiller supported by Garcia to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of October 14, 2024 as presented. The motion carried 7 – 0.

Correspondence

Superintendent Denewith-Fici presented an email from a parent regarding recent transportation challenges the district has been experiencing.

It was moved by Fitzpatrick supported by Walsh to receive and file the Correspondence as presented. The motion carried 7 – 0.

Treasurer's Report

Deputy Superintendent Cassabon presented the Treasurer's Report for September, 2024. He began with General Fund local Revenue consisting mainly of Local tax collections, in addition to some Adult Ed tuition and investment earnings. State Revenue included GSRP funding from the MISD including start-up money for additional classrooms, Federal Revenue consisted of Section 11T ARP and Incoming Transfers included an Enhancement Millage payment. Next, a review of Food Service Local Revenue reflected investment earnings along with catering revenue and ala carte sales, while State Revenue consisted of state meals reimbursement and Federal meals reimbursement for breakfasts and lunches. Finally, Mr. Cassabon noted that a review of the ISD Center Program reflected no revenue but included expenses due to contracted increases

Payment of the Bills

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

Building & Site	\$	84,170.00
Bond 2020 Series I		23,736.96

Payment of the Bills (continued)

The motion carried 7 – 0.

Old Business

None.

New Business

Reports

Student Representatives

Superintendent Denewith-Fici introduced Student Representatives to the Board, Nataly Chang and Valorie Lee, and asked for an update on activities at WWT.

Valorie began with news from the Marketing Classes who recently prepared and sold Sweetest Day Candy Bouquets at Campus Corner. In addition, students are preparing for upcoming DECA competitions. Next, she reported on an opportunity to learn about organ donation that was recently provided to the students in the Health Services classes. Lastly, Valorie gave a summary of upcoming events including PSAT/NMSQT Testing, a Haunted House hosted by the WWT Dance and Cheer Teams, the annual STUCO Halloween Party and the end of the first quarter.

Nataly's report began with news that the Student Leadership Peer2Peer Program has gotten underway and new inductees to NHS should be receiving their invites soon. Finally, Nataly gave a summary of fall sports stats.

Student Achievement

Superintendent Denewith-Fici stated that Curriculum Director Michelle Voelker would provide an update on student achievement at the buildings.

Ms. Voelker stated that October began the first month of the new Kagan initiative which will allow for coaching three times a year for every teacher. Next, she reported on the first DSAT meeting of the year which focused on cooperative learning structures, encouraging the use of Kagan Structures as tools for teaching staff and administrators. In addition, the M-STEP data presentation which was presented at the September 23, 2024 Board Meeting was reviewed. Finally, Ms. Voelker stated that the November 5 professional development day would be another opportunity to review data with additional cohort members.

Trustee Garcia added that he was present at the DSAT Meeting and commended Ms. Voelker on the outstanding job she did facilitating the meeting and stated she was very well prepared and is a leader we need to make progress.

Resolution: Power Purchase

Deputy Superintendent Cassabon presented the Resolution which would commit the district to a 15-year power purchase agreement with NorthStar Clean Energy's Allegan County solar array facility through MISEC. The agreement will result in an additional 25% of the district's annual electricity coming from the new system and will help the district reach its goal to diversify rates in regard to electrical rates. It was moved by Hiller supported by Nitz to approve the **Resolution: Power Purchase** as presented. **ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes:** Walsh, Zannetti, Fitzpatrick, Hiller, Garcia, Nitz and Schulte. **Nays:** None. The motion carried 7 – 0.

New Business

Resolution: Power Purchase (continued)

Trustee Garcia asked Mr. Cassabon what assurances were in place if NorthStar couldn't deliver and Mr. Cassabon stated that the rates are capped per the contract.

Mr. Hiller commented that he very supportive of this Resolution and proud that the district should be at 50% renewable energy by 2028.

Policy Updates

Superintendent Denewith-Fici presented the policies being recommended for updates as a result of the Policy Committee Meeting held on October 14, 2024.

The following policies were reviewed and recommended for updates as per committee member request: Policy 0100, 0115, 0144.1, 0154, 1075.1, 1110, 1210 and 1220.

Next, Superintendent Denewith-Fici presented the following Neola policy change recommendations which were reviewed by the Policy Committee: Policy 1240, 2410, 2414, 2418, 3220, 6320, 6321, 6325, 6350, 6520, 8390 and 8800.

Finally, Superintendent Denewith-Fici presented the Title IX Policy update provided by the Thrun Law Firm. It is recommended that the district adopt the Thrun Policy as they are the firm who provided the district administrative staff with Title IX training.

All policies have been reviewed and were recommended for adoption at the Policy Committee Meeting on October 14, 2024. This is the first reading of the policies and no action is required at this time.

Personnel Items

Leaves:

As presented

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

New Hires:

Akther, Tahmina – Kitchen Helper – WWT – date of hire 10/14/24.

Boraders, Lamar – Kitchen Helper – WWMS – date of hire 10/02/24.

Hall, Michelle – Clerk – WWT – date of hire 10/14/24.

Krywy, Lauren – Substitute Trainer – WWT – date of hire 10/14/24.

Sabo, Sarah – Media Aide and CTE Paraprofessional – WWT – date of hire 10/14/24.

Shaw, Drew – CI Teacher – Pinewood – date of hire 10/21/24.

Starna, Jennifer – Substitute Teacher – date of hire 10/23/24.

Personnel Items

New Hires: (continued)

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

Public Expression

Mr. Zannetti inquired about the fall enrollment count being below the original forecast. Deputy Superintendent Cassabon replied that in addition to enrollment changes and staffing changes, retirement rates were just released resulting in all sections of the budget requiring updates. Once everything is updated an in-depth Finance Committee will be held and a budget amendment will be presented.

Next, Mr. Zannetti and Mr. Fitzpatrick commented on the WWT teaching staff concerns regarding Kagan Training and requested that administration keep the Board updated.

Finally, Trustee Zannetti asked if electric car chargers would be installed in the district. Deputy Superintendent Cassabon stated that there is a plan for installation. He added that bond money would be paying for start up costs for charging stations to be installed at WWT next year; however, he is still working on implementing a payment agreement and building a maintenance budget.

Trustee Garcia thanked Superintendent Denewith-Fici for addressing the recent bus issue and lack of drivers statewide.

President Schulte thanked the Board and administration for electing him to represent the district at the MASB Leadership Conference and Delegate Assembly.

Adjournment

It was moved by Hiller supported by Fitzpatrick to adjourn the meeting at 6:26PM. The motion carried 7 – 0.

Respectfully submitted,

Kay F. Walsh
Secretary