

**Warren Hills Regional  
Board of Education  
Regular Meeting  
December 13, 2011**

The Warren Hills Regional Board of Education met in Regular Meeting on December 13, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. in the Board Meeting Room.

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Theresa Iacobucci, President.

President's Announcement: Adequate notice of this meeting in accordance with the Open Public Meeting Act has been given by posting one copy of a Notice of Meeting in the Warren Hills Regional Board of Education Office, by mailing copies to "The Express-Times", "The Star Gazette," "The Star Ledger," and to the municipal clerks in the Borough of Washington and Townships of Franklin, Mansfield and Washington.

Roll Call

Roll call was taken by Maureen Joyce. Members present were Daniel Brundage, Nancy Fallen, Linda Feller, Donna Golda, Kathleen Halpin, Theresa Iacobucci, and Donna Sbriscia. Also present were Thomas Altonjy and Maureen Joyce.

Minutes

Moved by Nancy Fallen and seconded by Donna Sbriscia to approve the Minutes of the Executive Session meeting of November 29, 2011.

Ayes 7      Nays 0

Comm.

Communications:      None.

Citizens Part

Citizens Participation:      None.

Supt's Report

Superintendent's Report:

Dr. Altonjy reported on the following:

1. Due to the overwhelming success of last year's event, the MD classes at both the middle and high school were again invited to attend the annual holiday party for the Kiwanis Club at the Sports Scene held this afternoon. As part of community based instruction and enrichment, the students took part in singing holiday carols, shared a meal with the Kiwanis club members, as well as received a present from Santa! It is a wonderful activity to be able to take part in, and Mrs. Heather Salsovic wants to thank the Board for approving this trip and is very proud of these students!

2. Mr. Mike Perruso was notified by Mr. Jack Trimmer of the local VFW that two Warren Hills Middle School eighth grade student essays were selected in the top three of all entries for the VFW *Patriot's Pen* essay contest at the district level. The first place winner was Kayla Delghiaccio, who is in Mr. Hammer's class and the third place winner was Nicole Duda, who is in Mr. Perruso's class. The *Patriot's Pen* essay is a nationwide contest open to 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> graders. The topic for this year's contest was *Are You Proud of Your Country?* Kayla and Nicole will be honored at an upcoming VFW meeting where each winner will be presented with a US savings bond. Additionally, Kayla's essay will be entered at the state level competition. All civics students in Miss Lombardi's, Mr. Hammer's and Mr. Perruso's classes completed essays as part of the writing across the curriculum initiative. A total of twenty essays were selected for the contest. This is the second year in a row that Warren Hills Middle School has captured first and third place for the Patriot's Pen essay. Last year's winners were Stacy Giordano and Amy Smith.

3. Mr. Dan Cullen was invited to present during Toby Karten's graduate class at Drew University on 10 January regarding methods and approaches as well as the Abilities Day program he and his students are preparing to do at Franklin Elementary on 23 December 2011.

4. The middle school student council and faculty raised \$621 to donate to the Joan Knechel Cancer Center.

5. Some excellent community service activities have been occurring at our middle school. The 8th grade ALC wrote letters and will be sending a holiday care package to the troops as part of Operation Cookie Overload. In addition, 169 cards and letters were sent to our military for the holidays by our middle school students. Finally, the Builder's Club will be visiting and donating to the local Food Pantry.

6. Mrs. Cristy Ortu has been invited to participate on a Middle States evaluation team in Abington, PA from 13 – 16 February 2012. Mrs. Ortu is one of our Middle States internal coordinators and this will be an invaluable learning experience to witness firsthand the end result and then assist us with our initial discussions and plans...a perfect example of the Understanding By Design model! Ms. Luanne Ferenci, one of the high school internal coordinators, also had a similar experience after visiting a Maryland middle school in November.

7. The following is an update regarding the number of incidences of Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying. Each month I will provide a comparison from the previous month and a cumulative summary for the year in progress. The following is the information for November:

Cases	November 2011		October 2011		Total District Cases 2011-2012
	MS	HS	MS	HS	
Total Cases Investigated	6	4 (1 open)	18	17	86 (1 open)
Cases resulting in: NO HIB	6	2	9	10	52 (61%)
Cases resulting in: HIB	0	1	9	7	33 (39%)

8. Congratulations to Varsity Field Hockey Coach, Ms. Laurie Kerr, who was named the Express-Times Coach of the Year.

9. Mr. Jason Graf and the Concert Band provided a wonderful winter concert on Wednesday, 30 November. We look forward to tomorrow evening's choral concert, under the direction of Mrs. Lauren Voight.

10. The 9th Grade Academy Students of the Month for November are:  
 Will Turner - Male student of the month  
 Katherine Ryan - Female student of the month  
 Peter Despres - Artist of the month  
 Kemdi O'Koro - Athlete of the month  
 Nick Branco - Pillar award of the month.

11. The High School hosted representatives from Belvidere High School on Wednesday, 7 December. Belvidere is investigating a similar bell schedule to our rotating block. Belvidere was represented by 7 faculty members, their Vice Principal and 3 students. Three students from Warren Hills, Nico Flora -12th grade, Maggie Flynn - 11th grade, and James Duffy - 10th grade, escorted their peers from Belvidere through two classes and the unit lunch. The Belvidere contingent was thankful for the opportunity to visit, the hospitality displayed by our students and faculty, and the willingness of faculty and students to speak with them about their likes and dislikes of the bell schedule.

12. A Library Showcase related to our Computer Science Program was held on Tuesday, 6 December in the High School library. The focus of the showcase was to promote the computer science career field, the high school program, and the high school students' computer program development.

13. Natalie Savage (12th grade) has been named the New Jersey Star-Ledger's Northwest Jersey Tennis Player of the Year. Congratulations!

14. Erica Swinton, (12th grade), Varsity Girls Soccer team has been selected as the Female representative to the New Jersey National Girls and

Women in Sports program. Erica will attend the program in January of 2012.

15. High School Students of the Month for November are:

Troy Balog  
Hannah Finkelstein  
Nico Flora  
Riva Walker.

16. Congratulations to our high school film teacher, Mr. Chris Corey and his students whose films were selected to be shown at the Montclair International Film Festival as part of the *Kidz Shortz* competition. The first two films listed are category winners from Warren Hills with 5 current students while the remaining 12 films were featured as Special Mentions. There were forty Warren Hills students who placed in this event with the highest percentage of films from one school!

**Best Cinematography**

**HIGH FRUCTOSE**

Alex Holzman, Mackenzie Allen, Brandon Fernandez,  
Dominique Bridges

**Most Visually Compelling**

**CHOICES**

Marie Orlowski, Sam Anastasio, Alex Porto

**Special Mentions:**

***HER MEMORY***

Sarah Bowbliss, Franchesca Moran, Colin Mazelis, Freddy Porras

***THE LEGACY TRAIT***

Marie Orlowski, Kale Ziadie, Sam Sweedy, Tristen Lafferriere

***THEODORE***

Ryan Callahan, Osei Wilson, Anthony Gaw,  
Dan Cunningham, Bill Segreaves

***THE MISSING REEL***

Alex Holzman, Mackenzie Allen, Melanie Griffith

***DREAMER, NOT I***

Clyde Bansil

***CITY LIGHTS, COUNTRY NIGHTS***

Anne Earl, Katelyn Barnes

***LITTLE RED***

Francesca Moran, Colin Mazelis, Natasha Langfritz,  
Melanie Griffith, Ryan Herbert

***LIFE***

John General

***SCHOOL DAZE***

Ryan Callahan, Bryan Cartal, Pat Cunningham,  
Jeremy Summitt, Mark Gilmore

***PENITENCE***

Alex Holzman, Brandon Fernandez, Sidney Gabrich,  
Addison Frinzi, Danielle Mohan

***THE VISUAL EXPERIENCE***

Marie Orlowski

***CRADLE***

Mackenzie Allen, Jess Nguyen, Emily Pietrangelo, Katie Padmore

17. Ms. Sherry Anderson, high School English teacher and Ms. Lisa Pysher, high school Mathematics teacher, were recently involved in a cross-curricular project regarding Origami cranes. Using a recent news article about a young cancer victim who was inspired to help others and began to make these paper cranes to distribute to the pediatric cancer hospitals in the United States, their students made cranes, learned about the Japanese culture, and are making the holiday season brighter for those less fortunate.

18. Congratulations to our newest 22 members of the national Honor Society who were inducted on Friday evening, 2 December. The candlelight ceremony focused around the four required areas of demonstration for membership: scholarship, leadership, community service, and character. Current officers shared their insightful thoughts about each area and Mr. Jesse O'Neill, high school teacher, delivered the keynote address. Thanks to advisor, Mrs. Cynthia Laws and the selection committee of teachers for providing our students with this wonderful recognition!

19. I'd like to introduce Mrs. Dawn Moore, our Director of Curriculum & Instruction, who will present the revisions to the 2012-2013 Program of Studies for both the middle school and the high school.

Mrs. Moore's presentation on Program of Studies revisions.

Comm.  
Reports

Committee Reports:

Mrs. Feller reported on the Education and Policy meeting.  
Mr. Brundage reported on the Student Activities Committee meeting.  
Mrs. Iacobucci reported on the Personnel Committee meeting.  
Mrs. Fallen discussed a future successor for the Wall of Fame Committee.

Dr. Altonjy recommended all personnel items.

**I. PERSONNEL**

Retire S. Hammer                    Moved by Donna Golda and seconded by Kathleen Halpin to accept, with regret, the retirement of Mrs. Sandra Hammer, high school Special Education teacher, effective July 1, 2012.

ROLL CALL VOTE:            Ayes 7            Nays 0

Retire V. Cooper                    Moved by Donna Golda and seconded by Kathleen Halpin to accept, with regret, the retirement of Mrs. Virginia Cooper, high school Business Education teacher, effective July 1, 2012.

ROLL CALL VOTE:            Ayes 7            Nays 0

Retire M. Romond                    Moved by Donna Golda and seconded by Kathleen Halpin to accept, with regret, the retirement of Mrs. Mary Romond, high school Guidance Counselor, effective July 1, 2012.

ROLL CALL VOTE:            Ayes 7            Nays 0

Retire L. Trigiani                    Moved by Donna Golda and seconded by Kathleen Halpin to accept, with regret, the retirement of Mrs. Linda Trigiani, middle school Reading teacher, effective July 1, 2012.

ROLL CALL VOTE:            Ayes 7            Nays 0

Retire C. Miksch                    Moved by Donna Golda and seconded by Kathleen Halpin to accept, with regret, the disability retirement of Mrs. Carolyn Miksch, high school secretary, effective February 1, 2012.

ROLL CALL VOTE:            Ayes 7            Nays 0

Leave of Absence                    Moved by Donna Golda and seconded by Kathleen Halpin to approve a maternity/sick leave of absence for Mrs. Meghan McGeehan, effective March 19, 2012 through April 18, 2012 and a Family Leave of Absence, without pay, for the period April 19, 2012 through May 31, 2012. Meghan plans to return to WHR on June 1, 2012.

ROLL CALL VOTE:           Ayes 7           Nayes 0

Leave of  
Absence                   Moved by Donna Golda and seconded by Kathleen Halpin to approve an extension of a child rearing leave of absence for Mrs. Jessica Morgan, high school German teacher, for the period January 26, 2012 through June 30, 2012. Jessica plans to return to WHR for the 2012/2013 school year.

ROLL CALL VOTE:           Ayes 7           Nayes 0

Employ  
P. Kablis                   Moved by Donna Golda and seconded by Kathleen Halpin to approve employment of Mr. Patrick Kablis as a high school Health and Physical Education teacher on Step C-3, BA, with an annual prorated salary of \$50,940, effective January 3, 2012.

ROLL CALL VOTE:           Ayes 7           Nayes 0

Employ M.  
Arminio                   Moved by Donna Golda and seconded by Kathleen Halpin to approve employment, pending certification, of Mr. Michael Arminio as a high school guidance counselor on Step A-1, MA, with an annual prorated salary of \$55,940, effective as soon as practical.

ROLL CALL VOTE:           Ayes 7           Nayes 0

Employ  
M. Boyle                   Moved by Donna Golda and seconded by Kathleen Halpin to approve employment of Ms. Meghan Boyle as a maternity replacement high school Social Worker at a per diem rate of \$249.70, effective December 14, 2011 through March 7, 2012.

ROLL CALL VOTE:           Ayes 7           Nayes 0

Resign  
Advisor                   Moved by Donna Golda and seconded by Kathleen Halpin to accept the resignation of Ms. Cristy Ortu as the middle school co-advisor of the Builders' Club, effective November 30, 2011.

ROLL CALL VOTE:           Ayes 7           Nayes 0

Advisor                   Moved by Donna Golda and seconded by Kathleen Halpin to approve employment of Ms. Mary Kaye Bartek as the sole advisor for the middle school Builders' Club, effective December 1, 2011, with a prorated stipend of \$2,720.

ROLL CALL VOTE:           Ayes 7           Nayes 0

Battle of  
The Minds                Moved by Donna Golda and seconded by Kathleen Halpin to approve a stipend of \$350 for Ms. Elizabeth McKeown for serving as facilitator of the countywide Battle of the Minds Competition.

ROLL CALL VOTE:           Ayes 7           Nayes 0

Substitute Teachers           Moved by Donna Golda and seconded by Kathleen Halpin to approve the following individuals for addition to our substitute teachers' list for the 2011/2012 school year:

Judy Dolan	Michael Adames	Emily Henley
Jill O'Malley	Richard Griffin	Michael Arminio

ROLL CALL VOTE:           Ayes 7           Nayes 0

Substitute Custodian           Moved by Donna Golda and seconded by Kathleen Halpin to approve employment of Ms. Carolyn Tauriello as a substitute custodian for the 2011/2012 school year.

ROLL CALL VOTE:           Ayes 7           Nayes 0

Resign S. Cicala           Moved by Donna Golda and seconded by Kathleen Halpin to accept the resignation of Susan Cicala, substitute School Resource Personnel, effective immediately.

ROLL CALL VOTE:           Ayes 7           Nayes 0

Observation           Moved by Donna Golda and seconded by Kathleen Halpin to approve 5 hours of observation time for Centenary College student, Alena Russo, at the middle school for the period December 14<sup>th</sup> through December 16<sup>th</sup>.

ROLL CALL VOTE:           Ayes 7           Nayes 0

Student Teacher           Moved by Donna Golda and seconded by Kathleen Halpin to approve a student teaching experience for the period January 17, 2012 through May 5, 2012 for College of St. Elizabeth student, Michelle Piscitelli, under the direction of Kimberly Kavcak, middle school Social Studies teacher.

ROLL CALL VOTE:           Ayes 7           Nayes 0

## **II. EDUCATION AND POLICY**

Program of Studies           Moved by Linda Feller and seconded by Donna Sbriscia to approve the 2012/2013 "Program of Studies" for Warren Hills Regional High School and Warren Hills Regional Middle School. The "Program of Studies" for each school is endorsed by Content Specialists, the Director of Curriculum and Instruction, administrators of both schools, the Superintendent and the Board's Education/Policy Committee.

ROLL CALL VOTE:           Ayes 7           Nayes 0



Policy

Moved by Linda Feller and seconded by Donna Sbriscia to approve a first reading of revised policy Series 0000, *Bylaws*, as endorsed by the superintendent and the Education and Policy Committee.

ROLL CALL VOTE:           Ayes 7           Nayes 0

HIB  
Cases

Moved by Linda Feller and seconded by Donna Sbriscia to affirm the administrative decisions regarding the following HIB cases:

MS-2011       042-045  
HS-2011       037-038

ROLL CALL VOTE:           Ayes 7           Nayes 0

Teacher  
Survey

Moved by Linda Feller and seconded by Donna Sbriscia to approve Ms. Mackenzie Holguin, middle school Special Education Teacher, to survey our teachers, anonymously, for fulfillment of her graduate course requirements.

ROLL CALL VOTE:           Ayes 7           Nayes 0

Travel &  
Conference

Moved by Linda Feller and seconded by Donna Sbriscia to approve the following Travel and Conference Requests for the following individuals:

Dawn Moore	2/13/12	Dept. of Education Workshop-Education Law	New Providence, NJ
Dawn Moore	1/27/12	Warren Co. Curr. Consortium	TBD
Robert Lockhart	12/12/11	Skylands Conference Scheduling Meeting	Gill St. Bernard HS
Robert Lockhart	12/7/11, 1/10,1/11, 2/15,3/21, 4/18 & 5/9/12	Athletic Director Meetings for Skylands Conference & H/W/S	WHR, HC Polytech & Gill St. Bernard Schools
Cristy Ortu	2/13,14,15 & 16/12	Middle States Accreditation Process	Abington High School, Abington, PA
Debra Rokosny	3/9/12	Annual Conference on Human Rights	Kean University
Frank Fenimore	5/16 & 18/12	North Jersey Student Craftsmen Fair	Ledgewod Mall Roxbury, NJ

ROLL CALL VOTE:           Ayes 7           Nayes 0

Field Trip  
Requests

Moved by Linda Feller and seconded by Donna Sbriscia to  
approve the following Field Trip Requests for the following individuals:

Theresa Tynan	2/9-13/12	National Cheerleading Comp.	Orlando, Florida
Heather Salsovic & Shannon McCabe	12/13/11	AU/MD Students to Kiwanis Holiday Party	Sports Scene Washington, NJ
Nicole Silvis & Lisa Weisenstein	1/11/12	MS/HS Student Council to NJASC Winter Convention	The College of NJ, Ewing, NJ
David Rader	12/13/11	Independent Study to showcase Robotics	Oxford Elementary School
Marilyn Patterson	1/9/12	FFA & FFA Alumni to PA Farm Show	Harrisburg, PA
Michael Perruso	1/5/12	MS Interdisciplinary Enrichment Class	To HS to be introduced to Wings Program
Shannon McCabe	1/9/12	AU MD Classes	Oakwood Lanes
Heather Salsovic	2/9,15,23, 29, 3/6,12, 22,28/12	MD classes community based skills	Washington Public Library
Heather Salsovic	1/6/12	MD classes community based skills	A&P, Tractor Supply Washington, NJ
Heather Salsovic	1/25/12	MD classes community based skills	K-Mart, Walmart Bethlehem, PA
Heather Salsovic	2/10/12	MD classes community based skills	Lowes & Riverstar Diner, Hackettstown, NJ
Heather Salsovic	2/24/12	MD classes community based skills	Trade Zone & Wendy's, Budd Lake, NJ
Heather Salsovic	3/7/12	MD classes community based skills	Shop-Rite, Kohl's Mansfield, NJ
Heather Salsovic	3/23/12	MD classes community based skills	Palmer Park Mall Easton, PA
David Rader	1/7/12	Project First Robotics Team Kick Off	Montgomery HS

ROLL CALL VOTE:           Ayes 7           Nays 0

### III. BUDGET AND FINANCE

Student Activities                      Moved by Nancy Fallen and seconded by Donna Golda to approve Student Activity Transactions for the month of November, 2011.

ROLL CALL VOTE:                      Ayes 7                      Nayes 0

Bills    Moved by Nancy Fallen and seconded by Donna Golda to approve paying December bills prior to the January board meeting.

ROLL CALL VOTE:                      Ayes 7                      Nayes 0

Tuition Contract Addendum                      Moved by Nancy Fallen and seconded by Donna Golda to approve an Addendum to Contract for Educational Services with Northern Hills Academy (Sussex County Educational Services Commission) for Student 15-12 for an Assigned Teacher Assistant for the 2011/2012 school year, commencing December 1, 2011 in the amount of \$17,337.50.

ROLL CALL VOTE:                      Ayes 7                      Nayes 0

Tuition Contract                              Moved by Nancy Fallen and seconded by Donna Golda to approve a Special Education Tuition Contract for Student 17-12 to attend Hunterdon Central Regional High School for the 2011/2012 school year, commencing November 21, 2011, at a tuition rate of \$16,650, prorated.

ROLL CALL VOTE:                      Ayes 7                      Nayes 0

Public Relations                              Moved by Nancy Fallen and seconded by Donna Golda to approve public relations firm, Zander Consulting, LLC, as per the December 8<sup>th</sup> proposal, effective January 2, 2012 through June 30, 2012.

ROLL CALL VOTE:                      Ayes 7                      Nayes 0

Window Contract                              Moved by Nancy Fallen and seconded by Donna Golda to enter into an agreement with Design Resources Group to prepare bids and specifications to replace the middle school windows.

ROLL CALL VOTE:                      Ayes 7                      Nayes 0

Mrs. Iacobucci wished everyone a safe, healthy and happy holiday.

Citizens Part.                              Citizens Participation:                      None.

Executive Session                              Moved by Donna Sbriscia and seconded by Nancy Fallen to go into Executive Session as indicated by item a below:

The Board of Education of the Warren Hills Regional School District in the County of Warren will adjourn into a closed meeting to discuss the item (s) which falls within an exception of our open meetings policy and permits the Board to have a private discussion, since it deals with specific exceptions contained in N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 b.

**a. Matters rendered confidential by Federal Law, State Law or Court Rule**

- b. Individual privacy
- c. Collective bargaining agreements
- d. Purchase or lease of real property if public interest could be adversely affected
- e. Investment of public funds if public interest could be adversely affected
- f. Tactics or techniques utilized in protecting public safety and property
- g. Pending or anticipated litigation
- h. Attorney-client privilege
- i. Personnel – employment matters affecting a specific prospective or current employee

Any discussion held by the Board, which need not remain confidential, will be made public as soon as practical. Minutes of the private session will not be disclosed until the need for confidentiality no longer exists. All appropriate persons, who may be discussed in private session, have been adequately notified. No action anticipated.

Ayes 7      Nays 0

The Board entered into Executive Session at 8:00 p.m.

Reconvene      Moved by Donna Golda and seconded by Kathleen Halpin to reconvene into open session at 8:20 p.m.

Ayes 7      Nays 0

There was discussion regarding new Guidance Counselors writing letters of recommendation for seniors and involving recent alumni in providing input for Middle States group.

Adjournment      Moved by Nancy Fallen and seconded by Daniel Brundage to adjourn at 8:29 p.m.

Ayes 7      Nays 0

Maureen Joyce  
Business Administrator/Bd. Sec'y.