

**Warren Hills Regional
Board of Education
Regular Meeting
February 21, 2012**

The Warren Hills Regional Board of Education met in Regular Meeting on February 21, 2012 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 Nancy Fallen, Linda Feller, Donna Golda, Kathleen Halpin, Richard Havrisko, Theresa Iacobucci, James Momary, and Donna Sbriscia. Also present were Thomas Altonjy and Maureen Joyce.

Minutes

Moved by Donna Golda and seconded by Kathleen Halpin to approve the Minutes of the Regular and Executive Session meetings of February 7, 2012.

Ayes 8 Nays 0

Comm.

Communications: None.

Citizens Part

Citizens Participation: None.

Supt's Report

Superintendent's Report:

Dr. Altonjy reported on the following:

1. Three films from Warren Hills Regional were selected to be screened at the 16th Annual Derek Freese Film & Video Festival at Temple University. The festival received approximately 115 submissions from across the country, of which a small number were selected on the basis of merit and their fit into the programming of the festival. The festival will take place this Sunday, 26 February, on Temple University's main campus. The films and students selected are:

Life – John General;
Whiteboard World – John General, Rayn Kalatucka, Nikki Miller, and Nitara Mohabir;

Session #1 – Francesca Moran, Colin Mazelis, Ryan Callahan, and Pat Cunningham.

2. Mrs. Dawn Moore, our Director of Curriculum & Instruction, reports that a very well received language arts articulation meeting was held on Tuesday, 7 February with our sending districts.
3. The Warren Hills Gay/Straight Alliance is currently working on a public service announcement video project that will share the many stories of alienation, omission, and silencing that members of the Warren Hills community have experienced at some point in their lives as a result of bullying, harassment, and intimidation. This includes not only students, but staff members as well! Under the leadership of advisors, Ms. Maggie Devine and Mr. Kevin Horn, the project is progressing with volunteers who have the courage to tell their story and help give a voice to the voiceless. We look forward to the final product as one way to work preventively to reduce and eliminate HIB!
4. Akash Parmar is the recipient of the 2012 President's Volunteer Service Award. Selected through the Prudential Spirit of Community Awards program, Akash received a letter from President Obama and a certificate memorializing his achievement. Congratulations, Akash!
5. Students of the month for January at the high school are:

Louis Gregorich
Akash Parmar
Courtney Wright
Emily Wolfrum
6. Kaeli Lange was recognized for making the Junior Region band and orchestra. Kaeli plays the trombone in our instrumental music program at the high school.
7. On Thursday, 16 February, our middle school held its first Mid-Year Student Recognition Program and Spirit Rally. This event was attended by the entire middle school community and featured academic awards, perfect attendance recognition, performances by the middle school chorus and band, athletic, club, and activities recognitions, and even random drawings for spirit prizes. Congratulations to Mrs. Pat Hetrick, Principal, and the entire staff who planned this worthwhile and memorable event! There have been many positive comments made regarding the overdue need for this type of activity and I want to thank all involved for providing this opportunity and executing the assembly. I was fortunate enough to attend and was so impressed by all that has been accomplished by students and to see recognition – in an enjoyable venue – that promoted school spirit was truly heart-warming and overdue!

8. We are very proud to report that our district is supporting Mr. Dan Cullen, a special education middle school teacher, as a nominee for the New Jersey Teacher of the Year program. This is not to be confused with the Governor's Teacher Recognition Program that will occur shortly. This intense application process now entitles Dan for consideration of the Warren County Teacher of the Year award, and then ultimately for the State Teacher of the Year. I would like to thank Mrs. Dawn Moore and the review committee comprised of faculty, parents, and administrators for their work in this process.

9. The district has applied for a portion of the Race To The Top funding that will help support our mandated initiatives in the areas of implementing the Common Core State Standards and the evaluative model for professional staff. We are awaiting more information from the state after this initial application regarding final allocations and deadlines.

10. As we approach March in this mild winter – that certainly didn't appear to be the case in October – our school calendar has three unused snow days that are on many people's minds. We will need to be cautious throughout March and see what happens with the weather and then make a decision regarding any adjustment to the calendar. I will have conversation with the administrative team in the weeks ahead and, depending upon the situation later in March, a final recommendation and decision will be rendered.

Mr. Brundage arrived at 7:10 p.m.

Comm.
Reports

Committee Reports:

Mrs. Golda discussed the Finance Committee meeting regarding the 2012/2013 proposed budget.

Mrs. Iacobucci stated that Personnel met on negotiations.

Mrs. Feller stated that Ed & Policy Committee met regarding review of the district policies.

Mrs. Iacobucci gave a status report on the Board goals.

Dr. Altonjy recommended all personnel items.

I. PERSONNEL

Leave of
Absence

Moved by Donna Golda and seconded by Donna Sbriscia to approve a revised maternity/sick leave of absence for Ms. Amanda Best effective February 7, 2012 through March 8, 2012, and a Family Leave of

Absence, without pay, for the period March 9, 2012 through June 1, 2012. Amanda plans to return to WHR on June 4, 2012.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 9 Nayes 0

Employ J. Moved by Donna Golda and seconded by Donna Sbriscia to
Feldman approve employment of Ms. Jennifer Feldman as a middle school
maternity replacement Special Education teacher [Amanda Best] for the
period February 8, 2012 through June 1, 2012, with a salary of \$90 per
day for the first 20 days and on the 21st day to the first step of the teachers
guide or \$249.70 per diem.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 9 Nayes 0

Leave of Moved by Donna Golda and seconded by Donna Sbriscia to
Absence approve a maternity/sick leave of absence for Mrs. Dana des Garennes
effective April 23, 2012 through May 28, 2012. Dana plans to return to
WHR on May 29, 2012.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 9 Nayes 0

II. **EDUCATION AND POLICY**

Memorandum Moved by Linda Feller and seconded by Nancy Fallen to approve
of Under- submittal of a Memorandum of Understanding application between the
standing State of New Jersey and the Warren Hills Regional Board of Education to
establish a framework of collaboration in support of the State in its
implementation of an approved Race to the Top grant project.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 9 Nayes 0

Policies Moved by Linda Feller and seconded by Nancy Fallen to approve
the following revised and final reading of selected Policy Series 1000,
Administration, as endorsed by the superintendent and full Board of
Education:

Series 1000

- 1100 – District Organization
- 1110 – Organizational Chart
- 1120 – Management Team
- 1140 – Affirmative Action Program
- 1230 – Superintendent’s Duties
- 1522 – School-Level Planning
- 1523 – Comprehensive Equity Plan
- 1530 – Equal Employment Opportunities
- 1550 – Affirmative Action Program for Employment and
Contract Practices/Employment Practices Plan
- 1620 – Administrative Employment Contracts

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 9 Nayes 0

Policies

Moved by Linda Feller and seconded by Nancy Fallen to approve the first reading of selected policies from Series 2000, *Program*, and Series 3000, *Teaching Staff Members*, as endorsed by the superintendent and Education and Policy Committee:

Series 2000

- 2132 – School District Goals and Objectives
- 2260 – Affirmative Action Program for School and Classroom Practices
- 2312 – Class Size
- 2340 – Field Trips
- 2360 – Use of Technology
- 2361 – Acceptable Use of Computer Networks/Computers And Resources
- 2411 – Guidance and Counseling
- 2414 – Programs and Services for Pupils in High Poverty and in High Need School Districts
- 2415.01 – Academic Standards, Academic Assessments and Accountability
- 2415.04 – Title I – District-Wide Parental Involvement
- 2423 – Bilingual and ESL Education
- 2430 – Co-Curricular Activities
- 2440 – Summer Sessions
- 2461 – Special Education/Receiving Schools
- 2510 – Adoption of Textbooks

Series 3000

- 3125.2 – Employment of Substitute Teachers
- 3144 – Certification of Tenure Charges
- 3216 – Dress and Grooming
- 3321 – Acceptable Use of Computer Network(s)/Computers and Resources by Teaching Staff Members

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 9 Nayes 0

HIB
Cases

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

MS-2012 054-056
HS-2012 053-060

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 9 Nayes 0

Survey
Teachers

Moved by Linda Feller and seconded by Nancy Fallen to approve Ms. Jennifer Cavo, high school Art teacher, to survey our teachers, anonymously, for fulfillment of her graduate course requirements.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 9 Nays 0

Travel &
Conference

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

Michael Arminio	2/10/2012	Warren Co. Counselors Meeting	Belvidere, NJ
Daniel Cullen	2/23/2012	Nat'l Writing Project Observation	Franklin Twsp. Elementary School
Daniel Cullen & Jessica Rader	3/30/2012	Council for Exceptional Children	Ramapo College
Daniel Cullen	3/22/2012	Nat'l Writing Project Observation	Franklin Twsp. Elementary School
Cedric Hickerson	2/24/2012	Financial Literacy Standards Workshop	Lopatcong Middle School
Lolitta Trifiletti	3/3/2012	AP Spanish Language Workshop	Robbinsville HS Robbinsville, NJ
Dawn Moore	3/21/2012	Warren Co. Curric. Consortium	Warren Co. Technical School
Maureen Joyce	2/24, 3/23, 4/27, 5/18 & 6/22/2012	NJ School Business Officials Board of Trustees Meetings	Robbinsville, NJ
Dawn Moore & Patricia Hetrick	3/19/2012	Admin. Orientation for Math Achieve. In stud. with disabilities	Learning Resource Center, Trenton, NJ

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 9 Nays 0

Field Trip
Requests

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

Patrick O'Brien	5/22&23/2012 Overnight	US History II Junior Class to Memorials	Washington, DC
Jennifer Giamoni	4/20&21/2012 (new dates) Overnight	REVISED – Debate Team	Princeton University
Heather Salsovic	4/4, 4/13,4/18, 4/25, 5/2, 5/9, 5/16,5/23,5/31 & 6/6/2012	MD Classes	Washington Public Library

Heather Salsovic	4/17/2012	MD Classes	Phillipsburg Mall
Heather Salsovic	4/27/2012	MD Classes	Walmart/Kohl's
Heather Salsovic	5/11/2012	MD Classes	Lehigh Valley Mall
Heather Salsovic	6/1/2012	MD Classes	Meadow Breeze Park
Shannon McCabe	3/9/2012	AU/MD Classes	Jenkinson's Aquarium Pt. Pleasant, NJ
Shannon McCabe	3/27/2012	AU/MD Classes	Shop-Rite & Applebees, P'burg, NJ
Cynthia Laws	3/17/2012	Nat'l Honor Society to assist Special Olympics	Farleigh Dickinson University
Jason Graf	6/3/2012	WHR Marching Band to see Stomp	New York, NY

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 9 Nayes 0

III. BUDGET AND FINANCE

Financial Reports Moved by James Momary and seconded by Donna Golda to accept the monthly Financial Reports of the Board Secretary/Business Administrator and the Treasurer of School Monies for the month of January, 2012, in compliance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.11(c) 4, the Board certified that no major account or fund has been over expended and that as of this report sufficient funds are available to meet the district's financial obligation for the remainder of this school year.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 9 Nayes 0

Bill Lists Moved by James Momary and seconded by Donna Golda to approve the regular list of bills.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 9 Nayes 0

Transfers Moved by James Momary and seconded by Donna Golda to approve transfers.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 9 Nayes 0

Student Activities Moved by James Momary and seconded by Donna Golda to approve Student Activity transactions for the month of January, 2012.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 9 Nayes 0

Change Meeting Moved by James Momary and seconded by Donna Golda to approve changing the March 20, 2012 Board meeting/Public Hearing to March 27, 2012.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 9 Nayes 0

Cancel Meeting Moved by James Momary and seconded by Donna Golda to cancel the Tuesday, April 3, 2012 Board meeting.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 9 Nayes 0

Extraordinary Aid Moved by James Momary and seconded by Donna Golda to approve submittal of the Extraordinary Aid application for the 2011/2012 school year.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 9 Nayes 0

Amend IDEA Moved by James Momary and seconded by Donna Golda to approve Amendment I to the FY'12 IDEA Grant, to reflect carryover funds from the prior year of \$5,095.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 9 Nayes 0

Citizens Part. Citizens Participation:

A parent commented on the trip to Washington, DC last year by Mr. Cullen's class. She also asked about the impact of an incomplete on Honor Roll.

Mr. Havrisko commented on the Middle School Spirit Day and complimented Mr. Lockhart on his handling of the event.

Mrs. Fallen announced that the Wall of Fame Banquet will be held April 21st at the Belvidere Manor. Tickets are \$25 and can be obtained from the athletic office.

Executive Session Moved by Nancy Fallen and seconded by James Momary to go into Executive Session as indicated by item **a** and **i** 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. Action is anticipated.

Ayes 9 Nays 0

The Board entered into Executive Session at 7:35 p.m.

Reconvene Moved by Nancy Fallen and seconded by Kathleen Halpin to reconvene into open session at 9:55 p.m.

Ayes 9 Nays 0

Affirm Moved by Nancy Fallen and seconded by Donna Golda to affirm the administrative decision on HIB Cases #HS-2011-051 and #MS-2011-053.

Ayes 9 Nays 0

Adjournment Moved by Richard Havrisko and seconded by Kathleen Halpin to adjourn at 10:05 p.m.

Ayes 9 Nays 0

Maureen Joyce
Business Administrator/Bd. Sec’y.

dmg