Warren Hills Regional
Board of Education
Regular and Reorganization Meeting
January 7, 2014

The Warren Hills Regional Board of Education met in Regular Meeting on January 7, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. in the Board meeting room.

Holiday Presentation - Mrs. Voight and the high school Select Choir

Board thanked Mrs. Iacobucci for her years of service on the Board and presented her with a plaque. Mrs. Iacobucci also presented her thank you gifts.

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Maureen Joyce.

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 Warren Reporter,” “The Star Ledger” and to the municipal clerks in the Borough of Washington and Townships of Franklin, Mansfield and Washington.

Pledge of Allegiance

Our Mission Statement

The Warren Hills Regional School District challenges and empowers a dynamic, diverse student body in a supportive learning environment providing academic and co-curricular opportunities to become successful, productive members of the global community.

Election Results

Mrs. Joyce reported that Kristin Fox from Washington Township is our newly elected board member. Donna Golda from Washington Borough and Linda Feller from Mansfield Township are re-elected board members.


Roll Call

Roll call was taken by Maureen Joyce. Members present were John Bell, Daniel Brundage, Linda Feller, Donna Golda, Kathleen Halpin, Richard Havrisko, and, Lisa Marshall. Also present were Thomas Altonjy and Maureen Joyce.

President Pro tem

Moved by John Bell and seconded by Lisa Marshall to nominate Maureen Joyce as president pro tem.
Election of President Pro Tem.

Moved by Kathleen Halpin and seconded by Lisa Marshall to nominate Donna Golda president of the Warren Hills Regional Board of Education for the administrative year 2014.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 6 Nayes 0
Abstain 1 (Golda)

Election of President.

(Newly elected President assumes chair)

Moved by Lisa Marshall and seconded by Daniel Brundage to nominate Donna Sbriscia vice president of the Warren Hills Regional Board of Education for the administrative year 2014.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 7 Nayes 0

Election of Vice President.

Board Reorganization Motions for the period ending January 8, 2015:

Moved by John Bell and seconded by Linda Feller to appoint Design Resources Group as school Architects.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 7 Nayes 0

Moved by John Bell and seconded by Linda Feller to appoint Nisivoccia & Company, Auditor/Public School Accountant.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 7 Nayes 0

Moved by John Bell and seconded by Linda Feller to appoint Fogarty & Hara, General Counsel.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 7 Nayes 0

Moved by John Bell and seconded by Linda Feller to appoint Wilentz, Goldman and Spitzer, P.A., as bond and construction attorneys for the building projects.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 7 Nayes 0
Moved by John Bell and seconded by Linda Feller to appoint Brown and Brown Insurance as Risk Managers for School Alliance Insurance Fund and Willis of New Jersey as our health insurance brokers.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 7   Nayes 0

Moved by John Bell and seconded by Linda Feller to approve AXA Equitable and Oppenheimer as 403B providers.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 7   Nayes 0

Moved by John Bell and seconded by Linda Feller to approve Horizon Blue Cross/Blue Shield as Flexible Spending Account provider.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 7   Nayes 0

Moved by John Bell and seconded by Linda Feller to appoint Dr. James Goodwin of St. Luke’s Warren Physician Group, School Physician.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 7   Nayes 0

Moved by John Bell and seconded by Linda Feller to appoint Dr. Nicholas Avallone, St. Luke’s Orthopaedic Specialists, Athletic Physician.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 7   Nayes 0

Moved by John Bell and seconded by Linda Feller to appoint Maureen Joyce as Public Agency Compliance Officer.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 7   Nayes 0

Moved by John Bell and seconded by Linda Feller to appoint Maureen Joyce as the Qualified Purchasing Agent with a bid threshold of $36,000.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 7   Nayes 0

Moved by John Bell and seconded by Linda Feller to approve procurement of goods and services through state contracts.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 7   Nayes 0

Moved by John Bell and seconded by Linda Feller to appoint Dr. Thomas J. Altonjy, Superintendent, as Affirmative Action Officer.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 7   Nayes 0
504 Coordinator  Moved by John Bell and seconded by Linda Feller to appoint Jaclyn Russo, Director of Guidance, as 504 Committee Coordinator.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 7  Nayes 0

Homeless Liaison  Moved by John Bell and seconded by Linda Feller to appoint Jaclyn Russo, Director of Guidance, as Homeless Liaison.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 7  Nayes 0

Asbestos, Safety, Pest Management, RTK, Air  Moved by John Bell and seconded by Linda Feller to appoint Patrick J. Murphy, Director of Plants & Facilities, as Asbestos Management Officer, Safety & Health Designee, Integrated Pest Management Coordinator, Right to Know Officer and Air Quality Designee.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 7  Nayes 0

Resolution  Moved by John Bell and seconded by Linda Feller to adopt the following Resolution:

RESOLVED, That the PNC Bank, Washington Office; Wells Fargo Bank, Washington, NJ Offices; the Bank of New York, Bank of America, the First National Bank of Hope, Investors Savings Bank be designated the depositories for the Warren Hills Regional Board of Education accounts and certificates and, be it further
RESOLVED, That all checks, drafts, notes or warrants drawn against said accounts be signed and, be it further
RESOLVED, That the Investors Bank, Washington NJ offices, be designated the depository for the payroll and agency accounts and, be it further
RESOLVED, That no checks, drafts of warrants drawn against said accounts be valid unless so signed.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 7  Nayes 0

Newspaper  Moved by John Bell and seconded by Linda Feller to designate the Express-Times as the official newspaper to carry legal ads.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 7  Nayes 0

Board Meetings  Moved by John Bell and seconded by Linda Feller that the 2014 Warren Hills Regional Board of Education meetings be held at the Board Office, Bowerstown Campus at 7:00 p.m., as listed on the attached schedule.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 7  Nayes 0
Bills
Moved by John Bell and seconded by Linda Feller to authorize Maureen Joyce, Business Administrator, to pay bills the third week of each month.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 7 Nayes 0

Bylaws and Policies
Moved by John Bell and seconded by Linda Feller that the existing bylaws and policies be approved, adopted and continued in use unless and until amended by action of the Board.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 7 Nayes 0

Custodian of Records
Moved by John Bell and seconded by Linda Feller to appoint Maureen Joyce, Business Administrator/Board Secretary, as custodian of government records and to appoint Dr. Thomas J. Altonjy, Superintendent, as custodian of student and personnel records, in compliance with the Open Public Records Act.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 7 Nayes 0

NJSBA
Moved by John Bell and seconded by Linda Feller to appoint Lisa Marshall as Delegate of the New Jersey School Boards Association.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 7 Nayes 0

Alt. NJSBA
Moved by John Bell and seconded by Linda Feller to appoint Donna Golda as Alternate Delegate to the New Jersey School Boards Association.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 7 Nayes 0

WCSBA
Moved by John Bell and seconded by Linda Feller to appoint Kathleen Halpin as Delegate to the Warren County School Boards Association.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 7 Nayes 0

Moved by John Bell and seconded by Linda Feller to appoint Lisa Marshall as Legislative Representative to the New Jersey School Boards Association.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 7 Nayes 0

Minutes
Moved by John Bell and seconded by Daniel Brundage to approve the Minutes of the Regular and Executive Session meetings of December 10, 2013.

Ayes 6 Nayes 0
Comm. Communications: None.

Citizens Participation: None.

Superintendent’s Report:

Dr. Altonjy reported on the following:

1. The weather has been wreaking havoc so far this early into the winter. With four delayed openings, one early dismissal, and three days cancelled, we will need to hold school on Friday, 14 February 2014, in order to have two remaining snow days at this point. Further action, if necessary, will require shortening the Spring Break.

2. Over 80 middle school students were awarded the Pillar of Character award for the trait of Citizenship during the months of November/December. We are proud of so many students who are recognized as good citizens of our school community.

3. The middle school Jeans Day fundraiser earned $153.00 for the NJ Child Protection and Permanency (formerly known as DYFS) for needy children over the holidays.

4. Junior Dustin Cheung was awarded an iPod for his paragraph written through the Annenberg Classroom Student Voices Program. Students were asked to respond to the prompt, “Does the president need Congress’ approval to use force in Syria?” Congratulations to Dustin and his teacher, Mrs. Rokosny.

5. Detective Dave D’Amico of the Monmouth County Prosecutors Office presented to the high school students in two assembly programs on Thursday, 12 December focusing on tolerance and respect. Detective D’Amico’s powerful presentation on the history of hate brought a perspective to our students on how important it is to consider the effects of bullying and hate on our culture. Throughout his presentation, Detective D’Amico encouraged our students to consider “walking in another’s shoes” and do everything in their power to make a positive difference. Although this is a very difficult and sensitive topic, our students were outstanding. The number of students who approached Detective D’Amico following the presentation evidenced the positive impact of his presentation. Some students shared stories while others simply thanked him. Also,

Detective D’Amico praised our 9th & 10th grade students for their cooperation and participation during the presentation. He told the students
they were the best group of 9th & 10th grade students he has ever presented to. The high school administration wishes to thank Detective D’Amico, SRO Guth, and members of the Warren County Prosecutors Office (Prosecutor Burke, Chief of Detectives Eppel and Detective Latario) for helping arrange the presentation. Also, we wish to thank the high school peer leaders who assisted in facilitating post presentation activities as a follow-up for students to express concerns and efforts to improve the school culture. At this time, there are discussions to have Detective D’Amico return to present to members of our community.

6. Warren Hills Regional hosted the 56th annual John Goles Wrestling Tournament which unofficially is the second longest running wrestling tournament in New Jersey and in the U.S.A.! The Warren Hills wrestling team won the tournament with 182 total points finishing ahead of second place North Hunterdon and third place Delaware Valley. Matt Valli at 113 lbs, John Fluck at 120 lbs, and Steve Cleaver at 182 lbs all won individual titles for Warren Hills.

7. The Robotics Club decided to “spend” some of its’ credits” to enter a lottery with FIRST Robotics for a 3D printer and won! The winning item is a 3DSystems Cube model and is actually quite compact – about the size of a microwave. Students and teacher advisor, Mr. Eisner, have started researching how to use our 3D design software (inventor) to interface with it most effectively.

8. Our Ninth Grade Academy December Students of the Month are:
   Male: Anarav Patel
   Female: Sofia Martinez
   Athlete: Matt Valli
   Artist: Gabby Tracey
   Pillar: Larissa Dowling.

9. Our December High School Students of the Month are:
   Kanisha Vaughn
   Tyler Whitmore
   Michael Teddick
   Samantha Mosher.

10. I had the honor to attend today’s alumni STEM showcase at the high school. Over 35 of our alumni visited and provided group presentations to our students to share their firsthand experience after high school in their fields of study at college. Thank you to Mr. Detrick for facilitating this annual event.

11. The next series of Superintendent’s Forums are scheduled for next week. I will be joined by Mrs. Moore and our four supervisors to provide curriculum information, updates from each of the departments, and news regarding the Common Core State Standards.
12. Thanks again to Mrs. Voight, Mrs. Romond, and our high school choral students for showcasing their wonderful talents and efforts tonight, especially coming out on such a cold evening postponed from our December meeting!

Committee Reports:

Mrs. Golda reported that Personnel Committee met regarding a variety of job descriptions, replacement positions for retirements.

Mrs. Marshall reported that Ed & Policy met regarding sick leave bank and 14 other policies. The next meeting is January 28th.

Mr. Havrisko reported on the Wall of Fame Committee and dinner on April 26th at Belvidere Manor.

Dr. Altonjy recommended all personnel items.

I. PERSONNEL

Resign M. Lapotasky

Moved by Kathleen Halpin and seconded by John Bell to accept, with regret, the resignation of Mr. Michael Lapotasky, Supervisor of English and Social Studies, effective 2/17/2014, or sooner if mutually agreed.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 7 Nayes 0

Spring Coaches

Moved by Kathleen Halpin and seconded by John Bell to approve the attached list of spring coaches and salaries for the 2013-2014 school year. [attached]

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 7 Nayes 0

Substitute Teachers

Moved by Kathleen Halpin and seconded by John Bell to approve employment of the following individuals for addition to our substitute teachers’ list for the 2013-2014 school year:

Bridget Hart  Daniel Wydro  Cynthia Varamo
Daniel Gaydisch  Travis Powell  Taylor Rush
Scott Dubiel  Elena McCormick  Lindsay Capone
Anna Dziedzic  Ellis Jasenovic  Mike Ward

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 7 Nayes 0

Volunteer Assistant Coach

Moved by Kathleen Halpin and seconded by John Bell to approve Mr. Greg Terhune as a Volunteer Assistant Coach for our boys’ basketball team for the 2014 season.
II. EDUCATION AND POLICY

Calendar Change
Moved by Linda Feller and seconded by Lisa Marshall to approve a change in the school year calendar to reflect Friday, February 14, 2014, as a regular school day.

Policies
Moved by Linda Feller and seconded by Lisa Marshall to approve the first reading of the following new and revised selected policies for inclusion in the district’s policy manual, as endorsed by the superintendent and Education and Policy Committee:

1240 Evaluation of Superintendent [Revised] + Regulations
3142 Nonrenewal of Nontenured Teaching Member [Revised] + Regulations
3144 Certification of Tenure Charges [Revised] + Regulations
3221 Evaluation of Teachers [New] + Regulations
3222 Evaluation of Teaching Staff Members, Excluding Teachers and Administrators [New] + Regulations
3223 Evaluation of Administrators, Excluding Principals, Vice Principals, and Assistant Principals [New] + Regulations
3224 Evaluation of Principals, Vice Principals, and Assistant Principals [New] + Regulations
4146 Nonrenewal of Nontenured Support Staff Member [Revised] + Regulations

0155 Board Committees
2622 Pupil Assessment
9541 Student Teachers/Interns

HIB Case
Moved by Linda Feller and seconded by Lisa Marshall to affirm the administrative decisions regarding the following HIB cases:

MS-13-14 – 004-006
HS-13-14 – 006-010
ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 7 Nayes 0

Travel & Conference
Moved by Linda Feller and seconded by Lisa Marshall to approve the attached list of Travel and Conference Requests. [attached]

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 7 Nayes 0

Field Trip Requests
Moved by Linda Feller and seconded by Lisa Marshall to approve the attached list of Field Trip Requests. [attached]

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 7 Nayes 0

Research Project
Moved by Linda Feller and seconded by Lisa Marshall to approve Mr. David Garcia, New Jersey City University graduate student, to conduct a research project in his middle school Business Exploration classes during marking period three as part of his Masters Degree program.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 7 Nayes 0

Resolution
Moved by Linda Feller and seconded by Lisa Marshall to approve a Resolution recognizing January 2014 as School Board Recognition Month in New Jersey [attached].

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 7 Nayes 0

III. BUDGET AND FINANCE

Tuition Contract
Moved by Lisa Marshall and seconded by John Bell to approve a Special Education Tuition Contract for Student 33-14 to attend Readington Township School District for the 2013-2014 school year, commencing September 1, 2013, at a tuition rate of $21,299.17.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 7 Nayes 0

Tuition Contract
Moved by Lisa Marshall and seconded by John Bell to approve a Tuition Contract for one Warren Hills student to attend Readington Township School District for the 2013-2014 school year, commencing September 1, 2013, at a tuition rate of $14,559.00.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 7 Nayes 0

Citizens Part.
Citizens Participation:

Mrs. Graf thanked Mrs. Iacobucci and spoke of all their years working together, including the referendums.
Adjournment

Moved by John Bell and seconded by Daniel Brundage to adjourn at 8:03 p.m.

Ayes 7  Nayes 0

Maureen Joyce
Business Administrator/Bd. Sec’y

dmg