

**Warren Hills Regional  
Board of Education  
Regular Meeting  
March 26, 2013**

The Warren Hills Regional Board of Education met in Regular Meeting on March 26, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. in the Board Meeting Room.

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Donna Golda, 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.

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.

Roll Call

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

Minutes

Moved by John Bell and seconded by Lisa Marshall to approve the Minutes of the Regular and Executive Session meetings of March 5, 2013.

Ayes 8      Nays 0  
Abstain 1 (Havrikso)

Comm.

Communications:

Communication from Maschio Food Service.

Resolution from School Boards Association regarding school boards ability to subcontract services.

Citizens Part

Citizens Participation:      None.

Superintendent's Report:

Dr. Altonjy reported on the following:

1. I am very pleased to announce that our district received the results of the Quality Single Accountability Continuum (QSAC) self-assessment and county office verification. The five areas explored and the resulting scores are listed below:

District Performance Review Area	Placement Score
Instruction and Program	86%
Fiscal Management	98%
Governance	100%
Operations	100%
Personnel	100%

Since our district has satisfied at least 80% of the weighted indicators in each of the five areas of the QSAC review process, we are designated as a **high performing district!** It's important to note that we went through this process in 2009, and our total scores were increased this time by 21 total percentage points! Thank you and congratulations to the many staff involved in this important process!

2. I am equally pleased to announce our two recipients of the Warren Hills Regional Governor's Teacher Recognition /Educational Services Professionals Program 2013. Our middle school winner is child study team social worker, Theresa Anecchiarico and our high school winner is English teacher, Toni Manfra. Both will be officially recognized at our next Board of Education meeting on 16 April and at a special county luncheon on 3 May. Congratulations, Terri and Toni!

3. Congratulations to Jason Hilliard who was named the Bioscience student of the month for March.

4. Over fifty middle school students were recognized for the February Character Pillar Award for Trustworthiness.

5. Congratulations to Kara Snyder who received the Paul Robeson Youth Achievement Award for Community Service. The committee recognized Kara on 11 March at the 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Paul Robeson Youth Achievement Awards.

6. Mrs. Moore, Mr. Kavcak, and Mr. Lapotasky were featured on WRNJ Radio's *Newsline* with Joyce Estey recently. Mrs. Moore spoke about the Five Year Curriculum Plan and the Common Core, and Mr. Kavcak and Mr. Lapotasky provided a more detailed overview of the Common Core State Standards in the areas of Math and Language Arts,

along with the upcoming STEM Night at the middle school, scheduled for 24 April.

7. Mr. Lapotasky held a cluster articulation meeting with Language Arts teachers and another cluster articulation meeting with Social Studies teachers. Best practices, materials and resources were among the topics shared.

8. Our Robotics Club successfully passed official inspection of the robot and competed in a two day event at TCNJ, where they finished 12 out of 37 in the standings. The group overcame a broken drive train and regrouped for an impressive finish.

9. During the HSPA testing week earlier this month, the senior class participated in morning activities that ranged from information for Project Graduation to speakers who presented the devastating effects of distracted driving. On Tuesday, 5 March, the students heard the story of Jacy Good. Jacy was involved in a tragic accident caused by a driver on a cell phone. Jacy lost both her parents and was critically injured in this accident. Jacy's story was well received by the students and faculty and she returned to speak to our juniors this past Friday. On Wednesday, 6 March, the senior class heard a presentation by Bob Ragazzo on defensive driving. Mr. Ragazzo presented safety tips and defensive driving tactics to help our students stay safe. Following Mr. Ragazzo, the parents facilitating Project Graduation and a representative from IPlay America outlined the activities planned for this post-graduation activity. Mr. Flynn, Mrs. Pacifico and Mrs. DeTore detailed all the plans for transportation, costs, permission forms and encouraged the students to sign up for the event. The IPlay America representative described the activities, games and attractions available at the facility. A special thank you to the senior class who displayed a commendable level of maturity, responsibility and respect to our guest speakers and presenters during the week.

10. Congratulations to the 34 students who were inducted into the National Honor Society on 14 March. Ms. Laws, NHS Advisor, and current officers and members greeted the new members and their families during the candle lighting ceremony. Mr. Kavcak was the guest speaker, who spoke about the four areas of eligibility (scholarship, leadership, service, and character) and how those traits have changed for him when he was inducted as a high school student to where he is today in his professional and personal life.

11. A mandatory Random Drug Testing session was conducted at the high school last week where twelve students were screened. All results were negative. Additional sessions will take place prior to the end of the school year in both the middle school and the high school.

12. The Archery club won its first state title on 18 March. This is a tremendous accomplishment for a newly established club that has just begun its trial period. Congratulations to Jenna Ischinger and Danny Farkas who won the top female and male archer awards.

13. The Peer Leadership Program produced and coordinated a school-wide program entitled “B.I.O.N.I.C. Day” on Thursday, 7 March. B.I.O.N.I.C. is an acronym for “Believe It Or Not I Care” and the presentations were selected and prepared for our high school students to enrich their understanding about CARING, one of the six pillars of character.

Four presentations were held on this day:

- Teachers and Peer Leaders sharing personal stories, experiences or series of choices that were challenging and how they managed to overcome their obstacles.
- Members of the Drama Club presented a series of three short scenes about bullying. This performance emphasized how people need to care for others and help others who are being bullied because the consequences can be severe if they choose not to care.
- Breakout groups consisting of two students from Peer Leadership, National Honor Society, and/or Human Rights Club facilitated an anonymous “If You Really Knew Me” session in the homerooms. The students leading the session encouraged discussion among their peers and offered a referral to the appropriate adult if needed. The homeroom teacher was welcomed to participate or just observe.
- A keynote speaker, Shane Engel, a 1997 alumnus of Warren Hills Regional High School and State Tournament place-winning wrestler, rounded off the presentations. Off the mat, Shane was struggling with personal issues when poor decision making led to addiction, despair, and eventually incarceration. When the realities of his self-destruction became evident to him, he began the long journey to sobriety and healthy choices.

14. On 13 March, our *Best Buddies* members had the opportunity to stay after school for a Saint Patrick’s Day scavenger Hunt. The students were given clue cards, which sent them all over the school to find the items they would need to make their own ice cream sundaes. Once they collected their bowls, spoons etc., they returned to the classroom and made their ice cream treats. 21 students attended this activity and fun was had by all.

15. The *Best Buddies International Program* received NJ State Board recognition for this outstanding program that helps to promote friendships and enhance the culture of the school. This group meets weekly and there are planned monthly activities conducted after school throughout the year. In addition, students get together monthly for an evening out, such as

attending football games, school performances, and pizza parties. The Best Buddies program has grown over the past few years and is credited with building solid and long-lasting relationships among peers, and fostering a climate of inclusion. The organization's student leaders and their advisors will be honored in Trenton on 15 May.

16. The Sophomore Leadership Council created a website for Planet Green Recycle and sent out their first collection box with over 50 e-waste items.

17. Our middle school February Students of the Month are:

Athletics:

Matt Dufner

Jarod Ostir

Stephanie Veneziano

Brittany Romanczuk

Academics:

Dorothy Johnston

Nia Shaw

John Smith

Owen Donnelly

Music:

Alexa Bridygham

Danielle Soroka

Brandon Kay

Andrew Scovell

Art:

Mya Griffin

Hunter Iverson

Katia Wagner

Tyler Domenic

18. Our middle school recent *Rachel's Challenge* recognition awards go to:

- Ms. Feldman for tutoring one of her students so that he did not fall behind in his Spanish work!
- Brittney Catalano, Matthew Hame, Lawrence Kaspereen, Dylan Pearson, Thaibinh Pham, and Nathan Young, for all their help in cleaning and painting the school store!

19. The 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Orientation was held on one night – last Tuesday 19 March – due to the inclement weather. Staff and students collaborated to adjust the program to accommodate the larger number in one evening. It was a very successful night, with many of our new “Blue Streaks” in attendance. Students and parents were introduced to our staff, the various transition programs of the 7<sup>th</sup> grade Academy, along with separate Q&A sessions for both parents and students. Our new students and their parents had an opportunity to tour the building and enjoy some snacks at the conclusion of the evening and were joined by the middle school students, staff, and parents who volunteered their time for the evening.

20. Twelve films from Warren Hills Regional High School were accepted into the Garden State Film Festival and they will be screened at the Paramount Theatre in Asbury Park, NJ on 6 & 7 April.

21. Five of our students participated in the NJ Governor's Cyber Corps Challenge. This was open to both high school and college students, as

well as veterans. It required over twenty hours of online tutorials and quizzes on cyber security, done on their own time outside of class. Congratulations to Chad Horack and Jason Gardella who qualified for the State Finals.

22. The Warren Hills Forensics Club members received awards recently in the following categories:

Original Television Duo Commercial Announcing

Sean Graham & Samantha Salvemini (4th Place)

Duo Dramatic Interpretation of Literature

Team 1: Aubrey Holzman & Danielle Saraka (3rd Place)

Team 2: Kyli Engle & Grace Sweet (Honorable Mention)

Team 3: Dorothy Johnston & Lauren Katrensky (Honorable Mention)

Team 4: Lizzie Huddock & Michaelah Hopkins (Honorable Mention)

Team 5: Jayden Geiser Jovannah Perrot (Honorable Mention)

Individual Dramatic Interpretation of Literature

Alyssa Appleby (2nd Place)

Kit Frascella (Honorable Mention)

Lincoln-Douglas/Policy Value Debate

Team 1: Sachi Rodriguez, Zachary Andreula, Matt Duffner, and Hans Missenheim

(1st Place!!!!..in the entire 7th-8th grade debate!)

Team 2: Manny Meza, Maria Martucci, Allison Weissman, and Katie Peacock (Honorable Mention).

Also, we would like to mention the high school students who volunteered their time to serve as judges for the competition: Isaac Quelly, Megan McGahan, Brittany Kolb, Dean Robertson, Austin Sierra, Clinton Cudworth, and Malcolm Thurber.

23. Finally, tonight I am joined by Mrs. Joyce, our business administrator, for our annual budget hearing.

Budget Budget Hearing: Dr. Altonjy and Mrs. Joyce presented the 2013/2014 budget.

Comm. Committee Reports:  
Reports

Mr. Havrisko reported on the meeting of the Buildings and Grounds Committee and the Wall of Fame.

Mrs. Halpin reported on the Ed Council meeting, particularly in regard to the Archery Club and academy coordinators.

Mrs. Feller reported on the Ed and Policy Committee meeting.

Mrs. Iacobucci gave a Middle States update.

Dr. Altonjy recommended all personnel items.

**I. PERSONNEL**

Extend Employment Moved by Theresa Iacobucci and seconded by John Bell to approve an extension of employment for Mrs. Mary Helck, middle school Language Arts teacher, to reflect an end date of June 30, 2013.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 9 Neyes 0

Employ S. Barillari Moved by Theresa Iacobucci and seconded by John Bell to approve employment of Mr. Salvatore Barillari as a high school Social Studies teacher for the 2012-2013 school year on Step A-1, BA, with a salary of \$49,973, prorated, effective April 1, 2013.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 9 Neyes 0

**II. EDUCATION AND POLICY**

Policies Moved by Linda Feller and seconded by Donna Sbriscia to approve the first reading of the following new and revised selected policies as endorsed by the superintendent and Education and Policy Committee:

- 2431.1 Emergency Procedures for Athletic Practices & Competitions [Regs]
- 2431.2 Medical Examination to Determine Fitness for Participation in Athletics [Regs]
- 5600 Pupil Discipline/Code of Conduct + Regulations
- 6160 Grants from Private Sources + Regulations
- 6162 Corporate Sponsorships
- 6350 Competitive Contracting + Regulations
- 6450 Choice of Vendor
- 7230 Gift, Grants and Donations + Regulations
- 7510 Use of School Facilities + Regulations
- 8310 Public Records + Regulations
- 8311 Managing Electronic Mail
- 8506 School Lunch Program Biosecurity Plan
- 8540 Free and Reduced Rate Meals + Regulation
- 8860 Memorials

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 9 Neyes 0

Calendar Moved by Linda Feller and seconded by Donna Sbriscia to approve the 2013-2014 school year calendar per attached.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 9 Neyes 0

Nursing Services                      Moved by Linda Feller and seconded by Donna Sbriscia to approve the revised Nursing Services Plan for the 2012-2013 school year as per N.J.A.C. 6A:16-2.18 (B).

ROLL CALL VOTE:                      Ayes 9                      Nays 0

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

ROLL CALL VOTE:                      Ayes 9                      Nays 0

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

ROLL CALL VOTE:                      Ayes 9                      Nays 0

SADD Day                                      Moved by Linda Feller and seconded by Donna Sbriscia to approve the Atlantic Air Medical Unit helicopter landing on the high school property as part of the S.A.D.D. Day presentations on Thursday, May 16, 2013, time to be determined.

ROLL CALL VOTE:                      Ayes 9                      Nays 0

**III. BUDGET AND FINANCE**

Financial Reports                      Moved by John Bell and seconded by Theresa Iacobucci to approve the February, 2013 Board Secretary and Treasurer's Reports as follows:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board Secretary, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10(c) 3, does hereby certify that as of the date of these reports, no line item account has encumbrances and expenditures, which in total exceed the line item appropriation in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10(a);

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Warren Hills Regional Board of Education accepts the monthly financial reports of the Secretary and the Treasurer for the month of February, 2013; in compliance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10(c) 4, that the Board of Education certifies that no major account has been overexpended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16-10(b), and that as of this report sufficient funds are available to meet the District's financial obligation for the remainder of the year.

ROLL CALL VOTE:                      Ayes 9                      Nays 0

Bills    Moved by John Bell and seconded by Theresa Iacobucci to approve the regular list of bills for the month of February, 2013.

ROLL CALL VOTE:           Ayes 9           Nayes 0

Transfers                    Moved by John Bell and seconded by Theresa Iacobucci to approve transfers.

ROLL CALL VOTE:           Ayes 9           Nayes 0

Student Activities           Moved by John Bell and seconded by Theresa Iacobucci to approve Student Activity transactions for the month of February, 2013.

ROLL CALL VOTE:           Ayes 9           Nayes 0

Budget                      Moved by John Bell and seconded by Theresa Iacobucci to adopt the final 2013-2014 budget of the Warren Hills Regional School District, per the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education adopt the 2013-2014 proposed budget:

General Fund	\$32,389,169
Capital Outlay	\$ 1,684,189
Special Revenue	\$ 476,500
Debt Service	<u>\$ 2,123,021</u>
Total Base Budget	\$36,672,879

The proposed budget meets all legal requirements for providing the Core Curriculum Content Standards.

BE IT ALSO RESOLVED that the Board of Education authorize the general fund tax levy for the 2013-2014 school year: “That there should be raised for General Funds \$19,031,621 for the ensuing school year (2013-2014).”

ROLL CALL VOTE:           Ayes 9           Nayes 0

Travel Expense              Moved by John Bell and seconded by Theresa Iacobucci to approve a district-wide maximum for professional development workshop/ conference attendance and travel not to exceed \$85,000 and a public relations maximum of \$15,000 for the 2013-2014 school year.

ROLL CALL VOTE:           Ayes 9           Nayes 0

Joint Transportation        Moved by John Bell and seconded by Theresa Iacobucci to approve a Resolution for Participation in Joint Transportation with Sussex County Regional Cooperative for the 2013-2014 school year, including a 4% administration fee.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 9 Nays 0

Citizens Part. Citizens Participation: None.

Executive Session Moved by John Bell and seconded by Lisa Marshall to go into Executive Session as indicated by item **a.**, **c.** and **g.** 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 not anticipated.

Ayes 9 Nays 0

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

Reconvene Moved by John Bell and seconded by Daniel Brundage to reconvene into open session at 10:10 p.m.

Ayes 9 Nays 0

Resolution Moved by Lisa Marshall and seconded by John Bell to approve a Resolution opposing S-1191/A-3627.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 9 Nays 0

There was discussion regarding review of our HIB policy.

Adjournment            Moved by Richard Havrisko and seconded by Kathleen Halpin to  
adjourn at 10:17 p.m.

Ayes 9            Nays 0

Maureen Joyce  
Business Administrator/Bd. Sec'y.

dmg