

**Warren Hills Regional
Board of Education
Regular Meeting
March 6, 2012**

The Warren Hills Regional Board of Education met in Regular Meeting on March 6, 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 Daniel Brundage, 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 Linda Feller and seconded by Donna Sbriscia to approve the Minutes of the Executive Session meeting of February 21, 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. Our Grade 11 HSPA testing is underway this week for our juniors. Grade 9 students in the Academy are being assessed with benchmark testing and Grade 10 students are taking a practice HSPA in preparation for next year. Our seniors have a special assembly program with a late arrival to school. I had an opportunity to visit the high school this morning and the atmosphere created by administration and faculty and staff was extremely conducive to assessments. There was an almost perfect attendance by faculty and staff and student attendance was extremely high! Congratulations to Ms. Unangst, district test coordinator, and Mrs. Rader, school test coordinator and everyone at the high school and continued success for the remainder of the week.

2. Our middle school selected six Eighth Grade students for their character, determination, school spirit, leadership, and community service to attend the Warren County School Boards Association's First Annual Dialogue and Dessert reception held on Thursday, 1 March at Greenwich Elementary School. The following students represented their elementary district and Warren Hills Regional Middle School:

Mansfield Township

Victoria Stabile
Brittany Grosinski

Washington Township

Joshua DiNapoli

Franklin Township

Emily Despres
Jace Beaudoin

Washington Borough

Peter Mount.

3. Some good news regarding our student athletes...

- In wrestling, Max Nauta set a Warren Hills freshmen record for wins with 30 and placed 2nd in the State Regional Tournament which qualified him for the Wrestling State Championships in Atlantic City. Joe Kratochvil placed 2nd in the State Regional Tournament and qualified for the Wrestling State Championships in Atlantic City. Both wrestlers won their first bouts in the State Championships before being eliminated in the wrestle backs.
- Our Girls basketball team advanced to the State Sectional Semi-Finals. The girls were the 12th seed and beat the number four and five seeds before advancing to play the number one seed, Chatham, in the semi finals. In a hard fought contest Chatham defeated our girls 52 to 48.
- In swimming Megan VanKirk competed in the State Swimming Championships and posted her best time of the year. She narrowly missed qualifying for the finals.

4. Mrs. Hetrick, our middle school principal, reports that twenty Grade 7 students and thirteen Grade 8 students have been named students of the Second Marking Period. Congratulations to these special 33 students for their recognition!

5. The high school Jazz Ensemble received a rating of Excellent at the Steel Stacks Jazz Festival. Lowell Perkins was named lead trombone player and Lowell and Leigh Anne Schriever were named to the Steel Stacks All Star Jazz Ensemble.

6. Last week, twenty-two of our high school students competed at the [NJ DECA 2012 Career Development Conference](#) held in Cherry Hill, NJ. Two students were state finalists in the Business Operations Research events. Jimmy Barry, Grade 12, placed in Hospitality and Tourism Operations, while Karl Meier, Grade 11, placed in Sports and Entertainment Marketing Operations. Jimmy also received recognition for having the highest grade on the written test portion of the competition. Congratulations to all the students and their advisor, Mr. Hickerson.

7. Congratulations to the Warren Hills Political Science and Law Debate Team on their bold accomplishments at the 2012 Harvard Model Congress held on 23 – 26 February in Boston, MA. Our students earned the following achievements through vigorous debate requiring their ability to understand the issues, develop arguments, and present them in both oral and written form to audiences ranging in size from 20-200:

- In the House Appropriations Committee: Lauren Gardner (acting as Republican Congressman Timothy Scott from South Carolina) and James Duffy (acting as Democratic Congresswoman Betty McCollum from Minnesota) co-authored a bipartisan bill entitled “The National Healthcare Reform Bill” that incentivized the purchase of health insurance and provided a government healthcare option.
- In the House Science and Technology Committee: Katie Gonzalez (acting as Republican Congressman Scott Garrett from New Jersey) and Devin Allen (acting as Republican Congresswoman Lynn Jenkins from Kansas) co-authored a bill on cyber-security that incentivized states to include cyber-security in their school curricula.
- In the House Natural Resources Committee: Jamie Jelliffe (acting as Democratic Congressman James P. McGovern from Massachusetts) was one of the “Signatories” and created friendly amendments to a bill that incentivized large companies/factory farms to use natural fertilizer over chemical fertilizer by offering tax breaks. *This bill passed the Full House Committee Session.
- In the House Judiciary Committee: Louis Vitti (acting as Republican Congressman Edward R. Royce from California), Alina Dowling (acting as Democratic Congressman Jesse L. Jackson, Jr. from Illinois); Jackie Blackwood (acting as Democratic Congressman Bill Keating from Massachusetts) and Megan VanKirk (acting as Republican Congressman Brett Guthrie from Kentucky) were “Signatories” and provided friendly amendments to the bipartisan bill entitled: “An Act to Defend American Interests through Immigration Reform” that introduced a high-tech fence/e-verify system to control illegal immigration.
- In the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee: Alex Holzman (acting as Democratic Senator Frank Lautenberg from New Jersey) co-authored the SWAG ACT, allowing Special Forces move U.S. troops from Afghanistan. *This bill passed Full Senate Committee Session.

- Mr. Holzman also provided friendly amendments and was one of the “Signatories” for the “Balancing Immigrants Bill”, providing restrictions on U.S. naturalization of immigrants.
- In the Senate Foreign Relations Committee: Allison Coopersmith (acting as Republican Senator Pat Roberts from Kansas) was one of the “Signatories” for a bill that allowed open trade with Cuba.
- In the House Foreign Affairs Committee: Adesola Sanusi (acting as Democratic Congressman Charles A. Gonzalez from Texas) co-authored a bill that provided ways of lifting the embargo on Cuba.
- In the Senate Appropriations Committee: Victoria Simonton (acting as Republican Senator John Thune from South Dakota) provided friendly amendments and was one of the “Signatories” of a bill that provided prevention of fraudulent medical claims of malpractice suits.
- In the House Select Committee on Intelligence: Samantha Anastasio (acting as Democratic Congressman John Carney from Delaware) was one of the “Signatories” for a bill that controlled the prison population of Guantanamo.

This is a well respected competition that our school has attended for approximately fifteen years. This year's competition hosted over 1,600 students from every region of our nation as well as international teams, including a team from the country of Jordan. The debates at this competition provide our students with the opportunity to research issues facing our nation, develop an opinion about how to resolve them, and then defend their positions in both written and oral form in front of audiences of their peers and judges. Mrs. Giamoni, advisor, reports that throughout the competition, our students proudly represented Warren Hills. Harvard sets strict standards for professional attire and demeanor and Harvard University repeatedly expressed their compliments on our students' decorum, understanding of parliamentary procedure, and their general behavior.

8. Courtney Wright performed at the New Jersey All State Chorus at the end of February and was selected as a featured soloist during the concert. Congratulations, Courtney!

9. One of our nominated Warren Hills films won the Audience Award for Best Picture at the 16th Annual Derek Freese Film & Video Festival held recently at Temple University. Congratulations to Francesca Moran, Colin Mazelis, Ryan Callahan, and Pat Cunningham for their film, *Session #1*.

10. Lexia Matlock and Crystal Lucas have been accepted into the National Honor Choir and will perform at the Kennedy Arts Center in Washington, D.C. this June.

11. Over the last two weeks, Mrs. Moore has sponsored several articulation meetings with our Warren Hills Cluster. They have been well

attended. The numerous topics of the meetings have included: Math Articulation: Test-Taking strategies for the NJASK; Technology Articulation: Ensuring the integration of technology standards into the content areas; and, Language Arts Literacy/English Articulation: Building Students' Self-Assessment in Writing, State-testing simulation activities, and Strategies for generating essay entries.

12. 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 February:

Cases	January 2012		February 2012		Total District Cases 2011-2012
	MS	HS	MS	HS	
Total Cases Investigated	3	7	5	5 (1 open)	125
Cases resulting in: NO HIB	3	0	3	1	73 (59%)
Cases resulting in: HIB	0	7	2	3	51 (41%)

13. Our Middle States Planning Committee, comprised of administrators, teachers, parents, Board of Education, and students met again on 23 February and unanimously approved the final version of the Warren Hills Regional School District's Mission Statement. The committee's work continues, but we thought this was a good time to update the Board regarding the progress on our self-assessment and strategic plan. Tonight, we have a presentation to further share the progress with the Board of Education. We are joined by Mrs. Susan Rader, our district Middle States coordinator and high school assistant principal, and two of the internal coordinators, Ms. Luanne Ferenci and Mr. Christopher Kavcak.

14. I'd like to introduce Mrs. Moore, Director of Curriculum and Instruction, to present the district's Five Year Curriculum Plan. This plan, which has been sorely missing in the district, will now give us direction to assuring that every course of study is given its fair review and revision throughout a five year cycle. With this plan, we can properly revise curricula, align our curriculum to the changing standards, budget for updated textbooks and resources, and equip our teachers with the tools they need to provide our students with the best educational experience possible.

15. Finally, tonight I am joined by members of the administrative team, as we present the 2012-2013 budget highlights. This presentation

will be posted on the district website and Mrs. Joyce and I will provide another budget overview at the public hearing on Tuesday, 27 March 2012.

Budget

Budget Presentation:

Dr. Altonjy and Mrs. Joyce reviewed the proposed 2012/2013 budget via a power point presentation.

Comm. Reports

Committee Reports:

Finance Committee met regarding the proposed budget which was presented tonight.

Personnel Committee met.

Mr. Havrisko provided a list of revised field use charges for review by Board members.

Richard Havrisko left at 8:20 p.m.

Dr. Altonjy recommended all personnel items.

I. PERSONNEL

Leave of Absence

Moved by Donna Golda and seconded by Kathleen Halpin to approve a revised maternity/sick leave of absence for Mrs. Meghan McGeehan effective February 24, 2012 through April 12, 2012, and a Family Leave of Absence, without pay, for the period April 13, 2012 through May 31, 2012. Meghan plans to return to WHR on June 1, 2012.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 7 Nayes 0

Revised Contract

Moved by Donna Golda and seconded by Kathleen Halpin to approve a revised contract and start date for Mr. Salvatore Barillari, maternity replacement Social Studies teacher [Meghan McGeehan], effective February 28, 2012 through June 1, 2012.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 7 Nayes 0

Employ M. Helck

Moved by Donna Golda and seconded by Kathleen Halpin to approve employment of Ms. Mary Helck as a middle school medical leave replacement English teacher [Sheila Alway], effective as soon as practical, through June 18, 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 7 Nayes 0

Employ
Coach Moved by Donna Golda and seconded by Kathleen Halpin to approve employment of Mr. Kyle Loughlin as a middle school track coach [split position] for the 2012 season on Step 1, with a stipend of \$1917.50 + \$60 bonus = \$1,977.50.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 7 Nays 0

Employ
C. Lewis Moved by Donna Golda and seconded by Kathleen Halpin to approve employment, pending archived background check approval, of Ms. Cheryl Lewis as an athletic/extra-curricular bus driver for the remainder of the 2011/2012 school year at an hourly rate of \$17.50/hr. [weekdays] and \$18.00/hr. [weekends].

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 7 Nays 0

Volunteer
Coach Moved by Donna Golda and seconded by Kathleen Halpin to approve Mr. Andrew Oakley as a Volunteer Coach for the middle school track program for the 2012 season.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 7 Nays 0

Student
Observation Moved by Donna Golda and seconded by Kathleen Halpin to approve Chad Nathanson, Raritan Valley Community College student, to complete his field experience by observing 30 hours of classroom time for the period March 19, 2012 through April 16, 2012, under the direction of Mr. Earl Clymer.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 7 Nays 0

II. EDUCATION AND POLICY

Middle
States Moved by Linda Feller and seconded by Donna Sbriscia to approve the Middle States Mission Statement as endorsed by the Middle States Planning Committee.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 7 Nays 0

Policies Moved by Linda Feller and seconded by Donna Sbriscia to approve the revised and final reading of the selected policies from Series 2000, *Program*, and Series 3000, *Teaching Staff Members*, as endorsed by the superintendent and full Board of Education:

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 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-2012 057-058
- HS-2012 060 and 062

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 7 Nayes 0

Survey
Teachers

Moved by Linda Feller and seconded by Donna Sbriscia to approve Mr. James Reynolds and Mr. Rob Cacchio, high school physical education and health teachers, to survey our teachers and students, anonymously, for fulfillment of their graduate course requirements.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 7 Nayes 0

Internship

Moved by Linda Feller and seconded by Donna Sbriscia to approve an Administrative Internship for Ms. Laurie Kerr for the period January, 2012 through April, 2012 under the direction of Mr. Earl Clymer, Principal.

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:

Clifford Platt	3/14/2012 – ½ day	Film commercial for Freddy Awards	State Theatre, Easton, PA
Adam Tucker	3/20/2012	iPad Management in Education	Easton School District, Easton, PA
Adam Tucker	3/16/2012	Tech Day	Lopatcong Middle School
Heather Wight	2/29 & 3/1/2012	DECA Trip Chaperone	Crowne Plaza Cherry Hill, NJ
Patrick Murphy	4/11/2012	Public School Bidding Workshop	Rutgers University
Christopher Corey	3/15/2012	Filmmaking Workshop	Warren County Comm. College
Dr. Thomas Altonjy	5/21/22/23/ 2012	NJASA Spring Conf.	Atlantic City, NJ
Michael Perruso	4/26 & 4/27/2012	Action Research Conference	San Diego, CA

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:

Linda Trigiani & Patricia Corvino	5/3/2012	MS Book Challenge Club to competition	Easton HS, Easton, PA
Michael Piancone	5/18/2012	MS 8 th Grade to Math Day	Dorney Park, Allentown, PA
Ralph Fiore	4/9/2012	Wings Program to “Live with Kelly”	New York, NY
Daniel Cullen	3/7/2012	BD/MD Programs to Basketball Game	Newark Prudential Center
Daryl Detrick	3/15/2012	Computer Science Club Programming Competition	NJIT, Newark, NJ
Christopher Corey	3/16/2012	Film Students to filmmaking workshop	Warren County Comm. College
Kerry Spanner	4/19/2012	English III Classes – British Literature	Medieval Times Lyndhurst, NJ
Robin Fohr	5/11/2012	Safe Teen Driving Competition	Brain Injury Alliance,

			Freehold, NJ
Heather Dilts	3/19, 4/13, 5/7/2012	MD Class Walking Trips	Various Locations Washington
Heather Dilts	5/23/2012	MD Classes	Oakwood Lanes
LeeAnn Kubbishun & Nicole Silvis	4/5/2012	8 th Grade Alternative Classes	Heath Village Hackettstown, NJ

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 7 Nayes 0

III. BUDGET AND FINANCE

Bills Moved by James Momary and seconded by Donna Golda to approve paying the regular list of bills prior to the March 27, 2012 board meeting.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 7 Nayes 0

Budget Moved by James Momary and seconded by Donna Golda to approve submittal of the preliminary tentative 2012/2013 budget to the Executive County Superintendent for advertising and compliance review with QSAC and Core Content Standards as follows:

	Budget	Local Tax Levy
General Fund	\$32,005,216	\$19,031,621
Capital Outlay	\$ 947,827	
Special Revenue	\$ 584,342	
Debt Service	<u>\$ 2,173,571</u>	\$ 2,086,385
 Total Base Budget	 \$35,710,956	

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 7 Nayes 0

Windows & Doors Moved by James Momary and seconded by Donna Golda to approve awarding the Window and Door Replacement at the Warren Hills Regional Middle School to the low bidder R.D. Architectural Products, Inc., in the amount of \$706,000.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 7 Nayes 0

HIPP Grant Moved by James Momary and seconded by Donna Golda to approve the submission of the HIPP Grant authorized by Daniel Cullen and Jessica Rader.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 7 Nayes 0

IDEA Moved by James Momary and seconded by Donna Golda to approve Amendment II to the FY'12 IDEA Grant to transfer \$100,000 from extra services to tuition.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 7 Nays 0

Tuition Contract Moved by James Momary and seconded by Donna Golda to approve a Special Education Tuition Contract for Student 18-12 to attend Spring Run School for the 2011/2012 school year, commencing February 27, 2012, at a tuition rate of \$186.71 per diem, plus \$75.00 per diem for career exploration services.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 7 Nays 0

Citizens Part. Citizens Participation:

Mrs. Iacobucci asked Mrs. Hetrick to invite the students participating in Strategic Planning to a Board meeting.

Executive Session Moved by Kathleen Halpin and seconded by Donna Sbriscia 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 8:40 p.m.

Reconvene Moved by Kathleen Halpin and seconded by Donna Sbriscia to reconvene into open session at 8:55 p.m.

Ayes 7 Nays 0

Adjournment Moved by Linda Feller and seconded by Donna Golda to adjourn at 8:56 p.m.

Ayes 7 Nays 0

Maureen Joyce
Business Administrator/Bd. Sec'y.

dmg