

**Warren Hills Regional
Board of Education
Regular Meeting
October 1, 2013**

The Warren Hills Regional Board of Education met in Regular Meeting on October 1, 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, and Lisa Marshall. Also present were Thomas Altonjy and Maureen Joyce.

Minutes

Moved by John Bell seconded by Lisa Marshall to approve the Minutes of the Regular and Executive Session meetings of September 17, 2013.

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 annual Back To School Nights were held the past two Thursday evenings. After some opening remarks and introductions of district and school administration and support personnel, Mrs. Rader provided updated information regarding the *Excellence By Design* protocol for Middle States. As our lead internal coordinator, she provided details of the process and encouraged our parents to become more involved and informed. Following the general session of the program, our parents moved through their children's schedule to meet teachers, hear about the curriculum and class expectations, and experience a modified typical day in the life of a middle schooler and/or high schooler. There were opportunities to visit informational booths sponsored by our student activities and community partners, as well. Overall, the evenings were very successful and we received many parental compliments regarding the evening's events. Thank you to our professional staffs at both schools for providing parents with a memorable experience!

2. Students and staff thoroughly enjoyed many of our opening activities at the middle school, including the Tailgate Kick-Off dance and our newly implemented "Opening of School Activity Day" that took place on 19 September. A huge thank you goes out to Ms. Smola, Mrs. Best, and Ms. Feldman, along with members of Ms. Manfra's high school leadership team who took the initiative to organize and facilitate this very successful event. Students engaged in various team building activities, earning points throughout the day for their team. Staff expressed their thanks to the organizers with such comments as: "Thank you for the tremendous amount of energy and work that you put into the day!", "Your efforts are helping to create a positive environment for our students to learn and grow!", "Thank you all for making WHRMS wonderful – go Blue Streaks!" High school students commented how important it is to have some "fun" in school and were happy to be a part of such a great activity, wishing they had some similar opportunities when they were in middle school.

3. The results of the staff survey (with 110 respondents) distributed by Mrs. Moore regarding our recent visit by Harry Wong were very positive:

- 95% noted the professional development day was informative
- 93% incorporated an idea/ideas into the classroom/professional practice
- 80% shared ideas with colleagues
- 52% have used or plan to review the implementation guide
- 77% would like to see a future forum where staff could share ideas and applications into the classroom/professional practice.

4. Among our special education endeavors, we are planning to host a middle school parent and directors visitation in the near future so that our constituent districts can experience our classroom environments and assist with transition to the district. In addition, our SEAC is going to support us

with creating *Lil Buds* in the middle school, an extension of the high school *Best Buddies*.

5. Our shared transportation coordination services with Washington Township are operating very smoothly with our new transportation supervisor, Mrs. Edmiston. Routes are on time and there have been very few issues that needed addressing by administration. This continues to be a very successful and cost-effective collaboration between our districts. We also continue to tier our bus routes with Franklin Township and Mansfield which favorably impacts our transportation efficiency percentages with the state of New Jersey and saves money for each of the districts.

6. High school students Austin Sierra and Will Turner attended a workshop hosted by Warren County Special Services on their newly purchased robot. The students were guests of Mr. Flynn, WCSSSD Superintendent, at the day-long workshop. The hope is to have our Warren Hills Regional computer science students program the robot for use by the WCSSSD teachers for students with autism. Austin and Will spent the day learning the programming software and then implementing specific programs for the robot to follow. For example, our students programmed the robot to standup, raise its right hand to its chest and recite the pledge of allegiance. The robot is designed to assist students with language skills and promote verbal interaction with students. This is the beginning of a wonderful collaborative initiative that not only provides our students with real world applications, but also incorporates a community service component to help students throughout the county. Later in the school year, we'll be sure to have a presentation featuring the robot at a Board of Education meeting!

7. Eight grade student, Manny Meza, is recognized for his actions in assisting one of his peers in attending the middle school Tailgate Kick-Off dance.

8. Two of our Seniors, Brian Normile and James Duffy, have been named Commended Students in the 2014 National Merit Scholarship Program. About 34,000 Commended Students throughout the nation are being recognized for their exceptional academic promise. Although they will not continue in the 2014 competition for National Merit Scholarship awards, Commended Students placed among the top five percent of more than 1.5 million students who entered the 2014 competition by taking the PSAT. These young men and women being named Commended Students have demonstrated outstanding potential for academic success.

9. Today was the first of three days of the administration of the state-mandated high school graduation test (HSPA) for our 12th grade students. We will continue to monitor these students' progress to assure every opportunity for graduation at the end of this school year.

10. The following is an update regarding the number of incidences of Harassment Intimidation, and Bullying this school year. 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 September:

Cases	NA		September 2013		Total District Cases 2013-2014
	MS	HS	MS	HS	
Total Cases Investigated	NA	NA	1	0	1
Cases resulting in: NO HIB	NA	NA	0	0	0 (0%)
Cases resulting in: HIB	NA	NA	1	0	1 (100%)

11. Tonight, we are pleased to have middle school teachers, Jessica Rader and Daniel Diveny, here to present an update on their Frederick L. Hipp grant from the NJEA. This is the second year this grant was received at Warren Hills Regional. The teachers desired to create hands on and real life opportunities this summer to help their students continue to develop social skills and positive character traits. They also wanted their students to learn what it meant to be a good citizen on a local, state, and federal level. The students also participated in community service to show that having rights as a citizen means having responsibilities. In addition, the teachers wanted to provide their students with a look at Americans who have broken barriers. Jessica and Dan will be presenting their grant program experiences at the NJEA convention in November in Atlantic City, and tonight we are fortunate to have a preview. We are proud of their efforts with our students and look forward to hearing more about their efforts tonight and in the future!

Comm.
Reports

Committee Reports:

Mr. Havrisko reported on the “field trip” by the Buildings and Grounds Committee walking the grounds of the high school and athletic complex. This is the first walking tour which will take place quarterly.

Mrs. Iacobucci attended the EBD (Middle States) meeting and reported on the objectives and action plans.

Dr. Altonjy recommended all personnel items.

I. PERSONNEL

Retire
P. Pierce

Moved by Theresa Iacobucci and seconded by John Bell to accept, with regret, the retirement of Mrs. Patricia Pierce, high school Special Education teacher, effective July 1, 2014.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 8 Nayes 0

Employ Moved by Theresa Iacobucci and seconded by John Bell to
D. Turner approve employment of Ms. Deana Marie Turner as a maternity
 replacement high school Business Teacher [Alison Frey] for the period
 October 1, 2013 through November 22, 2013 at a per diem rate of
 \$252.34.

ROLL CALLL VOTE: Ayes 8 Nayes 0

Rescind Moved by Theresa Iacobucci and seconded by John Bell to
Summer rescind the June 25, 2013 motion approving a maximum of 18 hours @
Work \$45.00/hour for middle school summer work hours for school nurse,
 Michelle Zellner.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 8 Nayes 0

Summer Moved by Theresa Iacobucci and seconded by John Bell to
Work approve middle school summer work hours for school nurse, Barbara
 Grimm, for a total of 18 hours @ \$45.00/hour.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 8 Nayes 0

Summer Moved by Theresa Iacobucci and seconded by John Bell to
Work approve 4.5 additional summer work hours for Ms. Theresa Anecchiarico
 @ \$45.00/hour.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 8 Nayes 0

Substitute Moved by Theresa Iacobucci and seconded by John Bell to
Custodian approve the addition of Mr. Daniel Walker to our substitute custodians'
 list for the 2013-2014 school year at \$14.00 per hour.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 8 Nayes 0

Substitute Moved by Theresa Iacobucci and seconded by John Bell to
Secretary approve the substitute secretary rate of \$13.50 per hour for the 2013-2014
 school year.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 8 Nayes 0

II. EDUCATION AND POLICY

Policies Moved by Linda Feller and seconded by John Bell to approve the
 second and final 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:

- 0000.02 Introduction [Revised]
- 3144.12 Certification of Tenure Charges – Inefficiency [New]
- 3144.3 Suspension Upon Certification of Tenure Charges [New]
- 3232 Tutoring Services [New Policy] [Revised Regs]
- 3372 Teaching Staff Member Tenure Acquisition [New]
- 3373 Tenure Upon Transfer or Promotion [New]
- 3374 Tenure Upon Transfer to an Underperforming School
[New]
- 4124 Employment Contract [Revised]
- 5120 Assignment of Pupils [Revised]
- 5300 Automated External Defibrillators [AED] [Revised Policy-
New Regs]
- 5512 Harassment, Intimidation, or Bullying Investigation
Procedure [Revised]
- 5533 Pupil Smoking [Revised]
- 7434 Smoking in School Buildings and on School Grounds
[Revised]
- 7522 School District Provided Technology Devices to Staff
Members [New]

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 8 Nayes 0

Memorandum of Agreement Moved by Linda Feller and seconded by John Bell to approve the annual Memorandum of Agreement between law enforcement officials and education, with revisions to be determined, for the school year 2013-2014.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 8 Nayes 0

WHBOE Goals Moved by Linda Feller and seconded by John Bell to approve the Warren Hills Regional Board of Education Goals and Action Plan for the 2013-2014 school year.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 8 Nayes 0

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

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 8 Nayes 0

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

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 8 Nayes 0

Case Study Moved by Linda Feller and seconded by John Bell to approve Ms. Heather Dilts, Centenary College graduate student, to perform a case study as part of her Masters in Education Reading program for the 2013-2014 school year.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 8 Neyes 0

Systems Survey Moved by Linda Feller and seconded by John Bell to approve a request from Ms. Elizabeth Carter, in collaboration with Mr. Daryl Detrick, to conduct a formal systems survey of our students enrolled in Computer Science courses as part of her doctoral work through Lehigh University.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 8 Neyes 0

III. BUDGET AND FINANCE

NCLB Application Moved by John Bell and seconded by Lisa Marshall to authorize the submission of the 2014 NCLB application for FY'2013 as follows:

Title I - \$108,866
Title II - \$ 40,328

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 8 Neyes 0

Citizens Part. Citizens Participation:

Mr. Havrisko asked if Washington Township police could check whether cars are stopping when students or visitors are crossing in the crosswalk at the stadium.

Mrs. Marshall said she would check the ordinance for the speed zone in front of the school.

Mrs. Iacobucci discussed the regionalization of South Hunterdon schools and suggested discussion of the topic by the Warren Hills cluster group.

Executive Session Moved by Theresa Iacobucci and seconded by John Bell 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. Action is not anticipated.

Ayes 8 Nays 0

The Board entered into Executive Session at 7:48 p.m.

Reconvene Moved by John Bell and seconded by Kathleen Halpin to reconvene into open session at 8:00 p.m.

Ayes 8 Nays 0

Discussion of mandated training requirement at School Boards and ways to engage the community more.

Adjournment Moved by Linda Feller and seconded by Richard Havrisko to adjourn at 8:05 p.m.

Ayes 8 Nays 0

Maureen Joyce
Business Administrator/Bd. Sec'y.

dmg