

**Warren Hills Regional  
Board of Education  
Regular Meeting  
October 18, 2011**

The Warren Hills Regional Board of Education met in Regular Meeting on October 18, 2011 at 7:05 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 Diane Gogal. 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 Diane Gogal.

Minutes

Moved by Donna Golda and seconded by Linda Feller to approve the Minutes of the Regular and Executive Session meetings of September 20, 2011.

Ayes 7      Nays 0  
Abstain 1 (Momary)

Comm.

Communications:

The Board received an invitation from NJEA.

The Board received an email from Mr. Clymer and Mrs. Lifer regarding robes for graduation.

Citizens Part

Citizens Participation:      None.

Supt's Report

Superintendent's Report:

Dr. Altonjy reported on the following:

1. A parent workshop sponsored by the district regarding a parents' perspective on the new anti-bullying law was held on 5 October 2011. There were approximately fifty parents and staff members in attendance. The speaker was informative and offered an opportunity for questions as we navigate the new law.

2. Our in-service day on Monday, 10 October was very productive very positively received by our staff. I want to thank Mrs. Dawn Moore, the Local Professional Development Committee (chaired by Ms. Kate Brennan), and the content specialists for their efforts in organizing and facilitating a worthwhile experience. The focus in the morning session was on writing and we all discovered the importance and impact of writing across the curricula. However, the side benefit of forming relationships among colleagues and the sharing that occurred was a wonderful bonus. In the debriefing session held before the lunch break, many teachers commented on the sense of community and family that was formed and this is a great bond and foundation in this early part of the school year. Administrators were part of the groups and it was noted that their presence and participation was appreciated. To try and place ourselves in our students' shoes and "hang out" where they might, my specific group traveled to Meadow Breeze Park and Dunkin' Donuts as writing venues and the collegiality and writing was impressive, touching, and inspirational. The afternoon session was devoted to working on district initiatives, including Atlas, Ninth Grade Academy, co-teaching, infusing technology, and IEP/APA development.

3. This Saturday, 22 October 2011, Classroom Closeup NJ will be at Warren Hills Regional Middle School to tape a feature story starring our students and teachers Ms. Jessica Rader and Mr. Dan Cullen. The story to be taped is entitled *Discovering Citizenship* and will be aired in the months ahead on NJTV. Congratulations to all!

4. On 4 October, a parent evening was held entitled *College Fundpath*. Mrs. Jeanette Schinstine discussed the role of a guidance counselor in this process, while guest speaker Ms. Wendy Pearson discussed the six concepts for successful college funding. The evening concluded with a question and answer session, in which fifty parents attended.

5. The following information summarizes the district mandated reporting for violence and vandalism for the 2010-2011 school year:

School	Category	Type	Number of Incidences
Middle School	Violence	Assault	3
		Fight	5
		HIB, Threat	3
		<b>UNDUPLICATED TOTAL</b>	<b>10</b>
	Vandalism	<b>UNDUPLICATED TOTAL</b>	<b>0</b>
	Weapon	Possession of Other Weapon	1
		<b>UNDUPLICATED TOTAL</b>	<b>1</b>

	Substance Abuse	Use confirmed	4
		Possession	6
		Distribution	4
		<b>UNDUPLICATED TOTAL</b>	<b>7</b>
High School	Violence	Assault	3
		Fight	13
		HIB, Threat	2
		<b>UNDUPLICATED TOTAL</b>	<b>17</b>
	Vandalism	Damage to Property	2
		Theft	1
		<b>UNDUPLICATED TOTAL</b>	<b>3</b>
	Weapon	Other Weapon Used in Offense	1
		Possession of Other Weapon	2
		<b>UNDUPLICATED TOTAL</b>	<b>2</b>
	Substance Abuse	Use Confirmed	2
		Possession	1
		<b>UNDUPLICATED TOTAL</b>	<b>2</b>

In total, the following summarizes the total unduplicated incidences:

Category	Middle School	High School
Violence	10	17
Vandalism	0	3
Weapon	1	2
Substance Abuse	7	2
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>24</b>

6. The following is an update regarding the number of incidences of Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying. According to policy and law, a public report is mandatory twice a year; however, it's important for everyone to know about the ongoing implementation of the new law in its initial year. I will report at the conclusion of each month as to the number of investigated cases and the results. The following information provides the data for September:

#### September 2011

Cases	Middle School	High School
Total Cases Investigated	22	19
Cases resulting in: NO HIB	13	12
Cases resulting in: HIB	9	7

At the middle school, anti-bullying/anti-violence awareness continues with Mix-It-Up Day held today, a parent program on 24 October to help parents talk about sensitive issues with their children, and the inception of the Rachel's Challenge Club with a first meeting on 27 October.

7. High School senior student, Hannah Finkelstein, is doing an outstanding job with the creative dramatics within the middle school Forensics Club. Weekly, she engages all of the students in various scenarios of dramatic play. Nearly thirty students attend the weekly Thursday meetings.

8. A Helping Hands Fund Raiser /Jeans Day was held at the middle school on 14 October, in which \$185.00 was raised to help needy families in our district.

9. The middle school Student Council will hold Spirit Week next week. The homeroom with the highest percentage of participation in each grade level will be awarded the title of Most Spirited Homeroom. Attire for each day includes: Multi-Colored Monday, Team Tuesday, World Wednesday, Throwback Thursday, and Pink-Out Friday.

10. The first Parent/Teacher/Student Association (PTSA) meeting was held on Tuesday, 10 October 2011. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, 16 November 2011, with a planned program in the high school library at 7:00 regarding navigating Infinite Campus for Parents and Students – facilitated by Mr. Adam Tucker and Mrs. Nancy Nelson.

Comm.  
Reports

Committee Reports:

Mrs. Iacobucci attended the Warren County NJSBA meeting last week and shared the information handed out at the meeting. Goals were passed out to the committee chairpersons. Committees should meet monthly and reports given to the Business Administrator for distribution at the next meeting. Oral summaries should be given at the meeting, especially if it is an agenda item. The Board Goals are:

- Updating district policies
- Contract negotiations
- Improving Board relationship with community

Ed & Policy Committee met – going to start to look at revolving long-term review of the policies. New textbook for AP Lit was discussed. Next meeting will be November 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Personnel Committee met – nothing to report at this time. Next meeting will be November 1<sup>st</sup>.

Dr. Altonjy recommended all personnel items.

**I. PERSONNEL**

Employ C.  
Harrington                      Moved by Donna Golda and seconded by Kathleen Halpin to approve employment of Ms. Carol Harrington as middle school security personnel for 2 hours per day, at the rate defined at the reorganization meeting, effective October 11, 2011.

ROLL CALL VOTE:                      Ayes 8                      Nays 0

Employ D.  
Schaare                              Moved by Donna Golda and seconded by Kathleen Halpin to approve employment of Ms. Dolores Schaare as a middle school lunchroom custodial aide for 3.5 hours per day, at the rate defined at the reorganization meeting, effective September 1, 2011.

ROLL CALL VOTE:                      Ayes 8                      Nays 0

Salary  
Change                              Moved by Donna Golda and seconded by Kathleen Halpin to approve a change in salary for Ms. Joanne Huffman, high school mathematics teacher, to Step L-12, M+30, with an annual salary of \$78,273, effective September 1, 2011.

ROLL CALL VOTE:                      Ayes 8                      Nays 0

Cafeteria  
Workers                              Moved by Donna Golda and seconded by Kathleen Halpin to approve employment of the following students from the Employment Orientation Class at the high school to work in the cafeteria at \$7.25 per hour for approximately one hour per day on a rotating basis for the 2011/2012 school year:

Todd Gensheimer                      Matthew Swistack

ROLL CALL VOTE:                      Ayes 8                      Nays 0

Volunteer  
Assistant  
Coach                              Moved by Donna Golda and seconded by Kathleen Halpin to approve Ms. Renee Smola as a Volunteer Assistant Coach for the middle school girls' soccer program for the 2011/2012 school year.

ROLL CALL VOTE:                      Ayes 8                      Nays 0

**II. EDUCATION AND POLICY**

Revised  
Policy                              Moved by Donna Sbriscia and seconded by Donna Golda to approve the revised policy 2415.04 Title I – Parental Involvement for addition to the district policy manual.

ROLL CALL VOTE:                      Ayes 8                      Nays 0

Vandalism  
& Violence

Moved by Donna Sbriscia and seconded by Donna Golda to accept the annual Vandalism & Violence Report for the school year 2010/2011 as reported and included in the superintendent's report of October 18, 2011.

ROLL CALL VOTE:           Ayes 8       Nayes 0

Travel &  
Conference

Moved by Donna Sbriscia and seconded by Donna Golda to approve the following Travel and Conference Requests for the following individuals:

Deborah Post	11/1/11	Holocaust/Genocide Education	College of St. Elizabeth, Morristown
Margaret Devine	11/16 (p.m.), 17 & 18/11	National Writing Project Annual Conf.	Chicago, IL
Stephanie Karabinus	10/26/11	Teaching Social Skills Autistic/Asperger's	Bethlehem, PA
Debra Rokosny	10/21/11	NJ Vietnam Era Museum	Holmdel, NJ
Dawn Moore	10/28/11	Warren Co. Consort. Math Standards	Warren Tech
Dawn Moore	11/22/11	Common Core Standards	North Warren Regional
Gina Regan	10/20/11	Understanding Childrens' Services in Warren County	Merrill Creek Visitor Center
Deborah Archer-Cole	10/25/11	LDTC for Crisis Intervention review	Belvidere Court House
Karen Menke	11/18/11	Assessments for Stud. With Disabilities	Morris Plains, NJ

ROLL CALL VOTE:           Ayes 8       Nayes 0

Field Trip  
Requests

Moved by Donna Sbriscia and seconded by Donna Golda to approve the following Field Trip Requests for the following individuals:

Jason Graf	10/15/11	WHR Marching Band Competition	Wayne Hills HS Wayne, NJ
Jason Graf	10/22/11	WHR Marching Band Competition	Randolph HS Randolph, NJ
Jason Graf	11/6/11	WHR Marching Band Competition	Foley Field Bloomfield, NJ
David Rader	3/10-11/12	Prin. of Engineering Classes Robotics Competition	Rutgers University, N. Brunswick, NJ

David Rader	3/31 & 4/1/12	Prin. of Engineering Robotics Competition	Mount Olive HS Flanders, NJ
David Rader	11/5/11	Prin. of Engineering Robotics Competition	No. Brunswick Tech High School
Lauren Voight	4/27/12	WHR Advanced Choir	Westminster Choir College, Princeton, NJ

ROLL CALL VOTE:           Ayes 8           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 September, 2011 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 8           Nayes 0

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

ROLL CALL VOTE:           Ayes 8           Nayes 0

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

ROLL CALL VOTE:           Ayes 8           Nayes 0

**Student Activities**               Moved by James Momary and seconded by Donna Golda to approve Student Activity transactions for the month of September, 2011.

ROLL CALL VOTE:           Ayes 8           Nayes 0

**Food Services**                    Moved by James Momary and seconded by Donna Golda to approve food service account transactions for the months of July through September, 2011.

ROLL CALL VOTE:           Ayes 8           Nayes 0

**Energy Resolution**               Moved by James Momary and seconded by Donna Golda to approve a Resolution to allow the submission of an Application for Participation in the Local Government Energy Audit Program of the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities.

ROLL CALL VOTE:           Ayes 8           Nayes 0

Citizens  
Part.

Citizens Participation:

Mr. Brundage inquired about Boys Basketball Coach for the middle school.

Parent, Lisa Marshall, inquired if the Board Policy supersedes the student's IEP or if the IEP supersedes the policy. Dr. Altonjy read the policy and discussion was held. He will check further and advise.

Mr. Havrisko inquired about HIB with regard to our students and students from another school during a sporting event. If we said it was HIB and other school said no, what would happen? Mrs. Unangst replied that inquiry would then be made of the County Office for determination.

Parent inquired about Bullying and Code of Conduct. Discussion on time involved with school personnel.

Mrs. Unangst reported that Toby Karten of Tamka Educational Products was a speaker in September and has made return visits to the school to work with the teachers. She has received very positive feedback.

Mr. Blaszkowski inquired about the following:

- Busing issue for his son who is attending a private school. Who is paying for the bus?
- Stadium usage fees are inconsistent with other schools and high school usage fees
- Could the woodshop design a pole and stand so that the flags could be put in front?

Executive  
Session

Moved by Donna Sbriscia and seconded by Linda Feller 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**

Be it resolved that the Board will now go into private session to discuss matters rendered confidential due to the nature of pending or anticipated litigation, attorney client privilege and personnel – employment matters affecting a specific, prospective or current employee privilege. 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.

Ayes 8      Nays 0

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

Reconvene                      Moved by Kathleen Halpin and seconded by Donna Sbriscia to reconvene into open session at 9:05 p.m.

Ayes 8      Nays 0

Discussion was held regarding volunteers for Middle States evaluations.

Adjournment                      Moved by Richard Havrisko and seconded by Daniel Brundage to adjourn at 9:08 p.m.

Ayes 8      Nays 0

Diane Gogal, Secretary to  
Business Administrator/Bd. Sec'y.

dmg