

WARREN HILLS REGIONAL BOARD OF EDUCATION

February 9, 2021

6:30 p.m. – Executive Session

7:00 p.m. Regular Meeting

Due to the COVID-19 health crisis, this meeting of the Board of Education will not be physically open to the public. This is to ensure we follow best practices for social distancing. The board meeting will be live-streamed to the public via Zoom (<https://zoom.us>). The link to the meeting will be posted on the District’s website. The link can also be found within the posted agenda for this meeting, which is on the District’s website. During the meeting, an announcement will be made for any members of the public that wish to participate. At that time, type a question/comment into the chat feature of Zoom. All participants must provide their name and address, and your comment and/or question will be included in the Board’s public record of the meeting, just as it would for a standard Board meeting and will be read aloud by the Board Secretary. Electronic notice of this meeting was posted on the district website.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83505294965?pwd=ZHhBdHZZTmh1N3VhcHNNY3AzU0o5Zz09>

A. Call to Order - Mr. Corey Piasecki, President

B. Roll Call - Mrs. Donnamarie Palmiere, Business Administrator

Roll call was taken by Mrs. Donnamarie Palmiere. Members present were Joseph Bodenschatz, Christopher Cannavo, Lisa Marshall, Christine Pi, Corey Piasecki, Sam Knutson, Eric Horton and Eric Walls. Also present were Earl Clymer, Dennis Mack, Dawn Moore and Donnamarie Palmiere. Board Attorney Joseph Roselle was present during Executive Session. Christopher Hamler was absent.

C. Oath of Office to be administered to the newly elected Board of Education member by Board Secretary:

DISTRICT	NAME	TERM
Washington Borough	Eric Horton	1/1/21-12/31/2022

D. Executive Session- 6:33 p.m.

WHEREAS, the Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A.10:4-11, permits the board of education to meet in closed session to discuss certain matters.

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, that the Warren Hills Regional Board of Education adjourns to closed session to discuss:

- 1) *Matters rendered confidential by Federal Law, State Law, or Court Rule*
- 2) *Pending Litigation*
- 3) *Personnel Matters*

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Warren Hills Regional Board of Education reserves the right to discuss such other matters rendered confidential by law should the need arise; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the minutes of this closed session be made public when the need for confidentiality no longer exists. Action may be taken.

Approval to go into Executive Session

Motion by Mr. Cannavo and seconded by Mrs. Marshall to go into Executive Session at 6:33 p.m. with full board consent.

D. Reconvene: 7:05 p.m.

Motion by Mr. Cannavo and seconded by Mr. Knutson to go into Open Session at 7:05 p.m. with full board consent.

Mr. Piasecki welcomed new board member Eric Horton.

President's Announcement: Adequate and electronic 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*, *Warren-Reporter*, *Newark Star-Ledger* and to the municipal clerks in the Borough of Washington and Townships of Franklin, Mansfield and Washington. Also, an electronic notice of this meeting was posted on the WHRSD website.

Our Mission Statement

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

Pledge of Allegiance

Approval of Board Minutes

- January 26, 2021 Regular and Executive Session Meetings

Motion by Mr. Cannavo and seconded by Mr. Knutson to approve the minutes of the January 26, 2021, Regular and Executive Session Meetings.

MOTION: Chris Cannavo		SECOND: Sam Knutson		
Name	Ayes	Nayes	Abstain	Absent
Joseph Bodenschatz	X			
Christopher Hamler				X
Eric Horton			X	
Sam Knutson	X			
Lisa Marshall	X			
Christine Pi	X			
Eric Walls	X			
Christopher Cannavo	X			
Corey Piasecki	X			

F. Communications – Mr. Earl C. Clymer, III, Superintendent of Schools
None

G. Superintendent’s Report – Mr. Earl C. Clymer, III

Superintendent’s Report:

- PSAT administration for 10th & 11th graders has been rescheduled for Wednesday, February 24th.
- A meeting with members of the Oxford Board of Education has been scheduled for Thursday, February 18th.
- Development of the 2021-2022 School Calendar is under way. Mr. Clymer will be sharing with the Ed & Policy Committee at an upcoming meeting with the goal to present to the full board for approval at our first meeting in March.
- Planning outdoor performance of the Spring Musical - HS Drama Production Dates (April & May) and details are forthcoming
- MS Drama club is pursuing a virtual performance - this is still in the planning stages.
- Warren County Superintendents have sent 2 letters to the Governors’ Office requesting the following:
 1. Educators be considered essential workers and are included in the early phase of the State’s vaccination plan.
 2. The state requesting a waiver from the Federal Government with regard to Spring Standardized Testing - Postpone the testing.
- The weather has created havoc with our bell schedules lately. Mr. Clymer thanked our students, parents, faculty & staff for their continued patience and understanding!

H. Presenter(s):
None

I. Goals:

Goal #1 and Goal #3 have been met with cluster meetings.
Mr. Piasecki suggests that Goal #2 be revised. Mr. Clymer will review and modify Goal #2 and share with the board.

Warren Hills Board of Education District Goals 2020-2021

1. Implement and support strategies to improve student achievement for ALL students, including but not limited to, Advanced Placement, Vocational Education, Gifted & Talented, General Education and Special Education through course offerings, 1:1 technology Initiative and enhanced PLC's.
2. Establish the Focus for Diversity Group to review, revise and implement best practices related to racial equity by forming subcommittees to review current hiring practices, district curriculum and policy.
3. Ensure effective communication with the School Community prior to, during and following the 2020-21 school year as it pertains to the reopening of schools and Remote & Hybrid Learning during the pandemic.

Warren Hills Board of Education Board Goal for 2020-2021

1. Provide support to the administration, faculty and staff in the pursuit and achievement of the district goals.

J. Committee Reports

Committee	Date	Discussion
Finance, Facilities & Transportation	February 1, 2021	By Chair: Mr. Hamler
Education & Policy	No meeting held	By Chair: Mr. Piasecki
Personnel & Student Activities	January 28, 2021	By Chair: Mr. Bodenschatz
Technology	No meeting held	By Chair: Mr. Walls
Negotiations	February 3, 2021	By Chair: Mr. Cannavo

Finance, Facilities & Transportation met on February 1 and discussed the following:

- Governor’s address Feb 23 and state aid released 2 days later, Feb 25.
- Potential addition to My Payments Plus for Wings and Student Activity (concern is 4.75% fee). The district will look into Venmo.
- Capital projects for the 21-22 budget include roof replacement at the high school – looking at Tremco roof with 15-20-25 year warranty and boiler replacements.
- Excel bid opening in March with an anticipated completion date of September 2021. Funds for this project are part of the current year Capital Reserve.

Personnel & Student Activities met on January 28 and discussed the following:

- Sports and activities are running as planned. The swim team is using the Philipsburg pool. Weight room is now open to student athletes. Season 3 will begin March 1.
- Parents are very happy with the camera set up we have for live streaming the games.
- Wrestling protocols came out today and are very stringent but we are able to adhere to them. Do we need a second mat?

Negotiations update given by Mr. Cannavo to the board in Executive Session. He shared that the committee looks forward to another positive and progressive meeting scheduled on February 10th.

Mrs. Marshall gave an update from School Boards and forwarded health care info. She also reported that it looks like state aid should be flat.

K. Old Business

- Mr. Cannavo and Mr. Piasecki will be meeting with Oxford on February 18th.

L. New Business

None

M. Public Comment – concerning action items.

Public comment shall be governed by the Board of Education Bylaw 0167. There are two public comment opportunities. The first public comment is reserved for Action Items only, those items on the agenda the Board is voting on this evening. The second public comment is set aside for public comment on any school or school district issue that the public feels may be of concern to the residents of the school district. The first public comment is limited to three (3) minutes per person. The second public comment length is determined by the board as per policy. Before making a public comment, participants are to state their name, place of residence, and group affiliation if appropriate.

The Board uses the public comment period as an opportunity to listen to citizen concerns, but please be aware that not all issues brought to a board meeting will be resolved this evening; rather, the Board will, in appropriate cases, delegate the authority to investigate the matter to the Superintendent or his designee.

Please let the record reflect that the Board of Education does not endorse your comments nor will the Board of Education be held liable for comments you make about a staff member or other person which the staff member or other person may consider defamatory and/or libelous, as that individual retains all rights to pursue any legal remedies against you.

Mr. Clymer read the following from Bylaw 0167 - Public Participation in Board Meetings:

5. The presiding officer may:
 - a. Interrupt, warn, and/or terminate a participant's statement, question, or inquiry when it is too lengthy;
 - b. Interrupt and/or warn a participant when the statement, question, or inquiry is abusive, obscene, or may be defamatory;
 - c. Request any person to leave the meeting when that person does not observe reasonable decorum;
 - d. Request the assistance of law enforcement officers in the removal of a disorderly person when that person prevents or disrupts a meeting with an act that obstructs or interferes with a meeting

No public comment concerning action items.

N. ACTION ITEMS

I. PERSONNEL

Motion by Mr. Bodenschatz and seconded by Mr. Cannavo to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve and adopt motions I.1 through I.3 amended and described below:

*1. Motion to approve/accept the following appointments / resignations / retirements as recommended by the Superintendent:

Code No.	Name	Nature of Action	Position	Salary	Location	Date Effective	Date Terminated	Discussion
1	Melissa Rush	Accept	Part-time custodian	\$14.50/hour	Middle School	2/5/21	2/5/21	Resignation – will remain on substitute custodian list
2	Terrence Dolan	Approve	Testing Consultant	\$300 per evaluation	District	2/10/21	6/30/21	N/A
3	Courtney Flowers	Approve	English Teacher	\$78,350, prorated	High School	2/1/21	6/30/21	Movement on Guide to Masters, Step L-12
4	Kelsey Connelly	Approve	Biology Teacher	\$62,045, prorated	High School	2/1/21	6/30/21	Movement on Guide to Masters, Step C-3
5	Jennifer Feldman	Approve	English Teacher	\$70,535, prorated	Middle School	2/1/21	6/30/21	Movement on Guide to M+15, Step H-8
6	Heather Garcia	Approve	English Teacher	\$79,940, prorated	Middle School	2/1/21	6/30/21	Movement on Guide to M+30, Step K-11
7	Jason Graf	Approve	Music Teacher	\$78,350, prorated	High School	2/1/21	6/30/21	Movement on Guide to Masters, Step L-12

Code No.	Name	Nature of Action	Position	Salary	Location	Date Effective	Date Terminated	Discussion
8	Michael Arminio	Approve	Guidance Counselor	\$72,995, prorated	High School	2/1/21	6/30/21	Movement on Guide to M+15, Step I-9

*2. Motion to approve the following medical / maternity leave of absence:

Code No.	Employee	Reason	Position	Location	Leave Start Date	Paid Days to be used	Unpaid FMLA Start Date	Unpaid NJFLA Start Date	Unpaid Leave without Benefits	Return Date	Discussion
1	52998044	Medical	Special Education Teacher	High School	2/8/21	0	2/8/21	2/8/21	N/A	On or about 3/22/21	N/A

*3. Resolved, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent that the Board of Education appoints the following coaches for the Winter, 2020-21 athletic season; Be it further resolved, that said appointment is contingent on there being a regular athletic season in light of the current COVID-19 pandemic:

Code No.	Name	Nature of Action	Position	Salary	Location	Date Effective	Date Terminated	Discussion
1	David Sbriscia	Approve	Head Wrestling Coach	\$9,221.00	High School	2/10/21	End of Season	Tier 2, Step 4
2	Michael Arminio	Approve	Assistant Wrestling Coach	\$7,260.00	High School	2/10/21	End of Season	Tier 2, Step 4
3	Zachary Fisher	Approve	Assistant Wrestling Coach	\$7,260.00	High School	2/10/21	End of Season	Tier 2, Step 4
4	Martin White	Approve	Assistant Wrestling Coach	\$7,260.00	High School	2/10/21	End of Season	Tier 2, Step 4
5	Keith Wanamaker	Approve	Assistant Wrestling Coach	\$5,756.00	High School	2/10/21	End of Season	Tier 2, Step 3
6	Sarah Kaufman	Approve	Head Volleyball Coach	\$7,404.00	High School	2/10/21	End of Season	Tier 3, Step 3
7	Reginald Pantophlet	Approve	Assistant Volleyball Coach	\$6,883.00	High School	2/10/21	End of Season	Tier 3, Step 4
8	Craig Green	Approve	Assistant Volleyball Coach	\$6,883.00	High School	2/10/21	End of Season	Tier 3, Step 4

Approval of Personnel Motions

MOTION: Scott Bodenschatz		SECOND: Chris Cannavo		
Name	Ayes	Nayes	Abstain	Absent
Joseph Bodenschatz	X			
Christopher Hamler				X
Eric Horton	X			
Sam Knutson	X			
Lisa Marshall	X			
Christine Pi	X			
Eric Walls	X			
Christopher Cannavo	X			
Corey Piasecki	X			

II. EDUCATION AND POLICY

Motion by Mrs. Marshall and seconded by Mr. Cannavo to add the following resolution as #3 under Education and Policy:

- *3. Motion to remove District Goal #2

MOTION: Lisa Marshall		SECOND: Chris Cannavo		
Name	Ayes	Nayes	Abstain	Absent
Joseph Bodenschatz	X			
Christopher Hamler				X
Eric Horton	X			
Sam Knutson	X			
Lisa Marshall	X			
Christine Pi	X			
Eric Walls	X			
Christopher Cannavo	X			
Corey Piasecki	X			

Motion by Mrs. Marshall and seconded by Mr. Cannavo to approve and adopt motions II. 1 though II.3 as described below:

- *1. Motion to approve the Warren Hills Regional School District Extended School Year Program, Employment Orientation Program and Summer Boost Program for the period July 1, 2021 through July 29, 2021, with July 2, 2021 closed for Independence Day holiday.

- *2. Motion to affirm the administrative decision regarding the following HIB cases:
MS – 19-20 – None
HS - 19-20 - None

- *3. Motion to remove District Goal #2

Approval of Education & Policy Motions

MOTION: Lisa Marshall		SECOND: Chris Cannavo		
Name	Ayes	Nayes	Abstain	Absent
Joseph Bodenschatz	X			
Christopher Hamler				X
Eric Horton	X			
Sam Knutson	X			
Lisa Marshall	X			
Christine Pi	X			
Eric Walls	X			
Christopher Cannavo	X			
Corey Piasecki	X			

III. BUDGET AND FINANCE

Motion by Mr. Knutson and seconded by Mr. Cannavo to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve and adopt motions III. 1 through III. 6, as described below:

*1. Motion to approve the bill list for the period January 28, 2021 through February 10, 2021, in the amount of \$3,481,545.45.

*2. Motion to approve the cafeteria bill list for the period October 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020 in the amount of \$41,213.97.

*3. Motion to approve Home/Bedside Instruction Agreement with Prime Healthcare Service for Student #1274743973, commencing September 24, 2020 until October 19, 2020, in the amount of \$55.00 per hour for a total of 5 hours per week.

*4. Motion to approve the submission of Amendment 1 for the ESEA FY 20-21 Grant to increase grant to include carryover.

Title I SIA	\$ 37,225
Title III Immigrant	\$ 340

*5. Motion to submit waiver to the Executive County Superintendent for an alternate revenue projection for SEMI for the 2021-2022 school year.

*6. Motion to approve the disposition of the district's obsolete football sleds [2] and one treadmill, pursuant to Policy 7300, DISPOSITION OF PROPERTY.

Approval of Budget & Finance Motions

MOTION: Sam Knutson		SECOND: Chris Cannavo		
Name	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent
Joseph Bodenschatz	X			
Christopher Hamler				X
Eric Horton	X			
Sam Knutson	X			
Lisa Marshall	X			
Christine Pi	X			
Eric Walls	X			
Christopher Cannavo	X			
Corey Piasecki	X			

O. Public Comment

- Kristen Maclean – thanks the board for scheduling a meeting with Oxford
- Steve Malia stated that the practice room for wrestling needs a new mat and asked why it’s been scrubbed the last two years.
- Jenna Somogyi asked if the public notice of the board meetings could also be sent to the Oxford Municipality. She also wanted to confirm the date of February 18th for the Oxford meeting.
- Easier for the program if the mats were down all the time. The correct size mats are needed so they can be rolled up.

Q. Adjournment 7:51 p.m.

Approval to Adjourn

Motion by Mrs. Marshall and seconded by Mr. Cannavo to adjourn at 7:51 p.m. with full board consent.

Respectfully submitted,

Donnamarie Palmiere
Business Administrator/Board Secretary