

# WARREN HILLS REGIONAL BOARD OF EDUCATION

April 13, 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/82860381592?pwd=NEUyc2RvdTJWeEFYQkhmajNWM3dOZz09>

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 (arrives 6:38), Eric Horton, Sam Knutson, Lisa Marshall, Christine Pi, Corey Piasecki and Eric Walls. Also present were Earl Clymer, Dennis Mack, Dawn Moore and Donnamarie Palmiere.

C. Executive Session- 6:32 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 Mrs. Marshall and seconded by Mr. Knutson to go into Executive Session at 6:32 p.m. with full board consent.

D. Reconvene: 7:00 p.m.

Approval to Reconvene

Motion by Mr. Cannavo and seconded by Mrs. Marshall to go into Open Session at 7:00 p.m. with full board consent.

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 Boroughs of Oxford, 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

- March 16, 2021 Regular and Executive Session Meetings

Motion by Mr. Cannavo and seconded by Mr. Knutson to approve the minutes of the March 16, 2021, Regular and Executive Session Meetings.

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

Mr. Piasecki said the following about the passing of Chris Hamler:

As many members of the Community are aware the Board continues to mourn the loss of long time Warren Hills Board of Education Member and friend Chris Hamler. Mr. Hamler was a dedicated member of the Community and, during his seven years as a Board member, advocated passionately for the students, faculty and staff of the district. As Board president Mr. Hamler made a point to hear all perspectives and encouraged robust discussion among Board members including opinions that were not the majority. Mr. Hamler's leadership helped guide this district through the early days of the pandemic, negotiations, and staffing changes among other things. In short, the passing of Mr. Hamler is a tremendous loss to the Warren Hills Board of Education, the Warren Hills Community, and Franklin Township. He will be sorely missed.

On a personal note, when I joined this Board four years ago Mr. Hamler was one of the first members to reach out to me discussing the issues but being careful not to sway my opinion. His guidance and advice were always valued and greatly appreciated. I owe much of what I know as a Board member to Chris.

While our thoughts are with his family during this time I ask that you join me in a moment of silence to remember our colleague and dear friend Chris Hamler.

Thank you

As our other longest serving Board member I would like to ask Ms. Marshall to say a few words.

Mrs. Marshall, Mr. Clymer and Mr. Walls also spoke a few words.

E. Communications – Mr. Earl C. Clymer, III, Superintendent of Schools

Mr. Clymer reported that he received a sympathy card from the Washington Borough Board of Education and a certificate of appreciation from the Census committee.

F. Superintendent's Report – Mr. Earl C. Clymer, III

- Washington Boro July 4th Celebration
- Frame by Frame Film Festival selects 2 films from WH students to screen. "In Time" by Brooks Reehl and Will Colavito and "Ann Marie" by Laura Grobholtz were selected for the First-Time Filmmakers Session and the Frame by Frame Film Fest. The Frame by Frame is a film festival that seeks to spotlight student filmmakers working with animation, editing and special effects to enhance their story telling. Any currently-enrolled high school student (grades 9-12 in U.S., years 10-13 in U.K., grade 10-12 in Canada, year 9-12 in Australia or equivalent in other countries) in public, private, or homeschool may submit films in the "Youth" categories. There were only 55 student films selected. The screening and awards ceremony will be streamed on-line April 17th, 2021. The screening premieres at 9A Central US time, and the awards show premieres at 7P Central US time via Facebook Live. Watch for more details on the festival's Facebook

page (public, no Facebook account needed to access) at <https://www.facebook.com/FrameByFrameFilmFest/>

- The First-Time Filmmaker Sessions is a monthly online showcase, dedicated to screening the monthly collection of globally submitted indie shorts and features. Films are screened at the famous Pinewood Studios in England.
- NJSLA Testing for ELA, Math & Science not required for Spring of 2021. Start Strong Assessment implemented for Fall of 2021. Waiting for additional guidance and information from the NJDOE on the Start Strong Assessment, will share with the community once received.
- The state of NJ has passed a law requiring all districts to include course offerings focused on diversity and unconscious bias. Once we receive the guidance and details required to be included with the required courses, I will meet with the Ed & Policy committee for discussion and development of the courses. I will also revisit district goal #2 on the Inclusion, Diversity & Equity committee with the E&P group and will bring the results of those discussions back to the full board and the public.

**G. Presenter(s):**

None

**H. Goals:**

**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. 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.

Under District Goal 2, Mr. Clymer continues to send information out weekly and on 3/31/21 there was a Community Forum. The b

**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.

The Board continues to support the administration in many ways including using the High School Facility as a Covid testing site on Thursdays from 3 to 7 pm.

**I. Committee Reports**

<b>Committee</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Discussion</b>
Finance, Facilities & Transportation	No meeting held	By Chair:
Education, Policy & Technology	No meeting held	By Chair: Mr. Bodenschatz
Personnel & Student Activities	April 12, 2021	By Chair: Mr. Walls
Negotiations	No meeting held	By Chair: Mr. Cannavo

Mr. Walls reported that Personnel met on April 12<sup>th</sup> and was discussed during executive session.

Mr. Piasecki reported that he will be reorganizing some of the committees including Negotiations.

**J. Old Business**  
None

**K. New Business**  
None

**L. 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.

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

**M. ACTION ITEMS**

**I. PERSONNEL**

Motion by Mrs. Marshall and seconded by Mr. Cannavo to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve and adopt motions I.1 through I.3 as 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	Susan Blackford	Approve	Leave Replacement Special Education Teacher	\$55,470, prorated	Middle School	5/3/21	6/30/21	Replaces #75259689
2	Susan DeYoung	Approve	ELA Teacher	\$82,370	Middle School	7/1/21	7/1/21	Retirement
3	Bill Quinn	Approve	Bus Driver	\$19-19.50/hour	District	3/24/21	3/24/21	Retirement
4	Bonita Duryea	Approve	School Nurse	\$45/hour	High School	4/1/21	4/5/21	Nurse required for Athletics Activity
5	Bonita Duryea	Approve	School Nurse	\$45/hour	High School	4/6/21	5/1/21	Nurse required for Co-Curricular Activity
6	Debbie Grefe	Approve	Consultant	\$50/hour	District	4/14/21	5/15/21	Assist with observations

\*2. Motion to rescind the following appointments due to the State of NJ canceling testing for the 2020-2021 school year:

Code No.	Name	Nature of Action	Position	Salary	Location	Date Effective	Date Terminated	Discussion
2	Theresa Chapman	Rescind	Testing Coordinator	\$4,000 Stipend – Pro-Rated	High School	4/22/21	6/30/21	NJSLA Testing canceled by NJDOE
3	Geri McKelvey	Rescind	Testing Coordinator	\$4,000 Stipend – Pro-Rated	Middle School	4/22/21	6/30/21	NJSLA Testing canceled by NJDOE

\*3. 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	75259689	Childcare Leave	Special Education Teacher	Middle School	5/3/21	N/A	5/3/21	5/3/21	N/A	For the 2021-2022 school year	N/A
2	87967030	Unpaid Leave	Teacher	High School	5/7/21	N/A	5/7/21	5/7/21	N/A	6/14/21	Intermittent Leave May – 7,12,13,14 June – 2,3,4,9,10,11

### Approval of Personnel Motions

MOTION: Lisa Marshall		SECOND: Chris Cannavo		
Name	Ayes	Nayes	Abstain	Absent
Joseph Bodenschatz	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 Mr. Cannavo and seconded by Mrs. Marshall to approve and adopt motions II. 1 through II.3 as described below:

\*1. Motion to approve the **first reading** of the following policies and regulations for inclusion in the district’s policy manual, as recommended by the Education and Policy Committee and the Superintendent:

\*2. Motion to affirm the administrative decision regarding the following HIB cases:

MS - 20-21 - 005  
HS - 20-21 - None

\*3. Motion to approve the following conference requests:

Code No.	Name	Title	Location	Cost/Mileage	Date and Discussion
1	Marshall Cuomo	AP Statistics + STATS Medic	Virtual	\$499.00	

Code No.	Name	Title	Location	Cost/Mileage	Date and Discussion
					6/14/21-7/23/21 – Paid through Title II funds

### Approval of Education & Policy Motions

MOTION: Chris Cannavo		SECOND: Lisa Marshall		
Name	Ayes	Nayes	Abstain	Absent
Joseph Bodenschatz	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. Bodenschatz to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve and adopt motions III. 1 through III. 11, as described below:

\*1. The Warren Hills Regional Board of Education approves the February, 2021 Board Secretary and Treasurer’s Report 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 this report, 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 report of the Secretary and the Treasurer for the month of February, 2021; 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 over expended 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.

\*2. Motion to approve the bill list for the period March 13, 2021 through April 14, 2021, in the amount of \$3,023,130.75.

3. Motion to approve Student Activities bill list for the period January 1, 2021 through February 28, 2021 in the amount of \$11,226.78.



\*4. Motion to approve Athletic bill list for the period February 1, 2021 – February 28, 2021 in the amount of \$2,776.00

\*5. Motion to approve transfers in the amount of \$347,304.02 for the month of February, 2021.

\*6. Motion to approve the placement for Student #8474278955 from Warren Hills Regional High School to Abilities of Northwest NJ 3 days per week effective March 29, 2021 to June 30, 2021 at \$35.00 per hour for a minimum of 3 hours per day.

\*7. Motion to approve the following Special Education Tuition Contracts for the 2020-2021 regular school year:

Student	School	Amount	Aide	Effective
7690278438	Roxbury Township Board of Education	\$13,095.57	N/A	3/2/21-6/30/21

\*8. Motion to approve the Cooperative Pricing System Agreement made and entered into on March 25, 2021 by and between the New Jersey School Boards Association on behalf of the NJSBA Cooperative Pricing System and the Warren Hills Regional Schools Board of Education and other local district boards of education located in the State of New Jersey who may in the future choose to participate in the ACES(NJSBA) Cooperative Pricing System

**WHEREAS**, the Public School Contracts Law, N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-4.1a, authorizes district boards of education to competitively contract for the procurement of proprietary computer software and services; and

**WHEREAS**, the New Jersey School Board’s Association (NJSBA), N.J.S.A. 18A:6-45 et. seq., on behalf of its membership has competitively contracted to procure on an aggregated basis **digital and electronic products and services, E-Rate Consulting and Processing Services, and other technology products and programs to enhance Member readiness for Future Ready Schools, as well as energy aggregation services, supplies and materials, time and materials; and such other services and products as two or more participating local boards in the system agree can be purchased on a cooperative basis;** and

**WHEREAS**, N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-11 specifically authorizes two or more local district boards of education (hereinafter referred to as local boards) to enter into a Cooperative Pricing Agreement for the purchase of work, materials, and supplies; and

**WHEREAS**, NJSBA is conducting a voluntary Cooperative Pricing System within the State of New Jersey, utilizing the administrative purchasing services and facilities of NJSBA; and

**WHEREAS**, this Cooperative Pricing Agreement (hereinafter referred to as the Agreement) is to effect substantial economies in the purchase of energy and technology products and services for local boards across this State; and

**WHEREAS**, all parties to this Agreement have approved this Agreement by resolution, in accordance with the N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-1 et. seq. and regulations promulgated thereunder; and

**WHEREAS**, it is the desire of all parties to enter into such Agreement for said purposes;

**NOW, THEREFORE, IN CONSIDERATION OF** the promises and of the covenants, terms, and conditions hereinafter set forth, it is mutually agreed as follows:

1. The products and services to be priced cooperatively may include, on an **aggregated basis or not, digital and electronic products and services, E-Rate Consulting and Processing Services, and other technology products and programs to enhance Members readiness for Future Ready Schools-NJ, as well as energy aggregation services, supplies and materials, time and materials; and such other services and products as two or more participating local boards in the system agree can be purchased on a cooperative basis.**
2. The services and classes of services which may be designated by the participating local boards hereto may be purchased cooperatively for the period commencing with the execution of this Agreement and continuing until termination as hereinafter provided.
3. The NJSBA, on behalf of all participating contracting units, shall, upon approval of the System's registration and upon the anniversary of the system's registration publish legal ad in such format as required by N.J.A.C. 5:34-7.12 in a newspaper normally used for such purposes by it, to include such information as:
  - a. NJSBA's full name and the fact that it may be soliciting competitive bids or formal quotations; and
  - b. NJSBA's address and telephone number; and
  - c. The names of the participating contracting units; and
  - d. The State Identification Code for the Cooperative Pricing System, and
  - e. The expiration date of the Agreement
4. Each of the participating local boards shall designate, in writing, to NJSBA, products and services to be purchased and indicate therein the approximate quantities desired, the location of delivery and other requirements, to permit the preparation of specifications as provided by law.
5. The specifications shall be prepared and approved by NJSBA and no changes shall thereafter be made except as permitted by law. Nothing herein shall be deemed to prevent changes in specifications for subsequent purchases.
6. A single advertisement for bids or the solicitation of informal quotations for the work, materials or supplies to be purchased shall be prepared by NJSBA on behalf of all of the participating local boards desiring to purchase products and services and some or all of the other services specified in the Agreement.
7. NJSBA shall receive bids or quotations on behalf of all participating local boards. Following the receipt of bids, NJSBA shall review said bids and on behalf of all participating local boards, either reject all or certain of the bids or make one award to the lowest responsible bidder. This award shall result in the opportunity for individual local

boards to enter into individual contracts with the successful bidder providing for the estimated aggregate quantities to be purchased during the term of the individual contracts.

8. Upon determining to accept the bid provided through this Agreement, each participating local board shall:
  - a. Certify the funds available only for its own needs ordered;
  - b. Enter into a formal written contract directly with the successful bidder(s);
  - c. Issue purchase orders in its own name directly to the successful bidder(s) against said contract;
  - d. Accept its own deliveries;
  - e. Be invoiced and receive statements from the successful bidder(s);
  - f. Make payment directly to the successfully bidder(s) and
  - g. Be individually responsible for any tax liability associated with the individual contract.
9. No participating local board in the Cooperative Pricing System shall be responsible for payment for any services ordered or for performance generally by any other participating local board. Each participating local board shall, accordingly be liable only for its own performance and for items ordered and received by it and none assumes any additional responsibility or liability.

The provisions of paragraphs 7, 8 and 9 above shall be quoted or referenced and sufficiently described in all specifications so that each bidder shall be on notice as to the respective responsibilities and liabilities of the participating contracting units.

10. No participating local board in the Cooperative Pricing System shall issue a purchase order or issue a contract for a price that exceeds any other price available to it from any other such system in which it is authorized to participate or from bids which it has itself received.
11. NJSBA reserves the right to exclude any item or service from within said system if, in its opinion, the pooling of purchasing requirements or needs of the participating contracting units is either not beneficial or practical.
12. NJSBA shall appropriate sufficient funds to enable it to perform the administrative responsibilities assumed pursuant to this Agreement.
13. This Agreement shall become effective upon signing, subject to the review and approval of the Director of the Division of Local Government Services and shall continue in effect for the duration of the Cooperative Pricing System's Registration with DCA unless any party to this Agreement shall give written notice of its intention to terminate its participation.
14. Additional local boards may from time to time, execute this Agreement by means of a Rider attached hereto, which addition shall not validate this Agreement with respect to the other signatories. NJSBA is authorized to execute the Rider(s) on behalf of the members of the Cooperative Pricing System.
15. All records and documents maintained or utilized pursuant to the terms of this Agreement shall be identified by the code number assigned to the System by the Director, Division of

Local Government Services, and such other numbers as are assigned by the Lead Agency for purposes of identifying each contract and item awarded.

16. This Agreement shall be binding upon and enure to the benefit of the successors and assigns of the respective parties hereto.

\*9. Motion to approve the 2019-2020 partial refund of contributions in the amount of \$10,271.97 from the New Jersey Schools Insurance(NJSIG) due to schools being closed during COVID-19 which will be used toward future contributions in 2021-2022.

\*10. Motion to approve submission of Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriation Act, 2021(CRRSA) as follows:

CRRSA-ESSER II	\$479,758.00
Learning Acceleration	\$ 30,789.00
Mental Health	\$ 45,000.00

\*11. Motion to submit 2021 NJSIG Safety Grant in the amount of \$3,600 to be used for security upgrades.

**Approval of Budget & Finance Motions**

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

**N. Public Comment**

Kristen MacLean commented: “On behalf of the Oxford Central Board of Education we would like to extend our sincere condolences to each and every one of you on the loss of your colleague and friend Chris Hamler.”

Charles Boddy questioned the timeline regarding the new diversity and unconscious bias law.

**P. Adjournment 7:37 p.m.**

Motion by Mrs. Marshall and seconded by Mr. Walls to adjourn at 7:37 p.m. with full board consent.

Respectfully submitted,

Donnamarie Palmiere  
Business Administrator/Board Secretary