

**WARREN HILLS REGIONAL BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**April 27, 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/88508474106?pwd=aHFiMEkyajFTZTNONiJoOWhRMDV2QT09>

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

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

Joseph Bodenschatz	Eric Horton	Christine Pi
Christopher Cannavo	Sam Knutson	Corey Piasecki
Lisa Marshall	Eric Walls	

Roll call was taken by Mrs. Donnamarie Palmiere. Members present were Joseph Bodenschatz, , Eric Horton, Sam Knutson, Lisa Marshall, Christine Pi, Corey Piasecki and Eric Walls (arrives at 7:06 p.m.). Also present were Earl Clymer, Dennis Mack, Dawn Moore and Donnamarie Palmiere. Christopher Cannavo was absent. Board attorney Eric Harrison was present for Executive Session.

**C. Executive Session- 6:34 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 6:34 p.m. with full board consent.

**D. Reconvene: 7:05 p.m.**

Approval to Reconvene

Motion by Mr. Knutson and seconded by Mrs. Marshall to go into Open Session at 7:05 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 and 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

- April 13, 2021 Regular and Executive Session Meetings

Motion by Mrs. Marshall and seconded by Mr. Knutson to approve the minutes of the April 13, 2021, Regular and Executive Session Meetings

MOTION: Lisa Marshall		SECOND: Sam Knutson		
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			

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

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

Tonight there will be 2 presentations:

Mrs. Moore - NJDOE Performance Report Summary 2019-2020

Mrs. Palmiere - Budget Presentation 2021-2022

- Breaking News! Mrs. Marshall has just been elected Vice President of the Warren County School Boards Association
- G&T information packets distributed to sending districts
- MS remediation statistics from Saturday 4/24
- HS credit restoration began this morning with students in-person for H/PE classes and others utilizing Edgenuity
- Governor Murphy - Executive Order coming next week:  
As of May 10, 2021:
  - Indoor capacities to increase to 50% or 250 Persons
  - Prom - Dance floors will be permitted
  - Outdoor gathering limit to increase to 500 persons
  - Plan to significantly increase numbers by Memorial Day, as long as downward trends
  - Large venues - 1,000 or more fixed seats
  - 50% capacity with 6’ of social distancing between groups
- Graduation Ceremony Guidance
- CDC currently reviewing outdoor guidance and NJ ready to adjust to new recommendations

- Congratulations to our FFA students for their top performance in the State Career Development Events.
- First Place 2021 Horse Evaluation team of Sarah Serrao, Devon Meshach, Abigail Pyskaty and Emily Leidner.
- Second Place 2021 Dairy Cattle Evaluation Team of Sarah Serrao, Rebecca Smith, Grace Ferri and Devon Meshach.
- Second Place 2021 Floriculture team of Kristina Los-Chovenac, Sarah Schlaffer, Brianna Reidmueller and Jacquleena Galindez.
- Good luck to our FFA Students participating in tomorrow's Poultry Evaluation!
- The State Board of Education has recognized WH Student Robert Delghiaccio, WH Teacher/Advisor Adam Slack, WH Teacher/Advisor Daryl Detrick, the Warren Hills Robotics Team and the Warren Hills Robotics Association for their efforts in creating and distributing face shields to frontline workers in our community and our region at the beginning of the pandemic last spring. Bobby and his peers, with the support of our faculty and the community at large produced more than 27,000 shields and raised more than \$43,000.00. Each year, the NJ State Board of Education recognizes one student or student group from each of the 21 counties to be recognized for this award. On behalf of the BOE, I wish to congratulate and thank Bobby, Adam, Daryl and all the members of the WH community who supported this focused endeavor.

**G. Presenter(s):**

2019-2020 School Performance Report Summary – Mrs. Dawn Moore  
 2021-2022 School Budget – Mrs. Palmiere & Mr. Clymer

**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.

Mr. Clymer has shared a rewrite for district goal that will be discussed at the next Ed & Policy meeting.

**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.

Board Goal #1 was met by starting the MS Remediation program and the HS Credit Restoration program.

**I. Committee Reports**

<b>Committee</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Discussion</b>
Finance, Facilities & Transportation	No meeting held	By Chair:
Education, Policy & Technology	April 20, 2021	By Chair: Mr. Bodenschatz
Personnel & Student Activities	No meeting held	By Chair: Mr. Walls
Negotiations	No meeting held	By Chair: Mr. Cannavo

Mr. Bodenschatz reported that the Education, Policy & Technology committee met on April 20<sup>th</sup> and reviewed policies 3125 and 9181 that were concerns of a parent. The committee will not make any changes to these policies at this time. Volunteer coaches were discussed. Policy 5460, HS graduation credit will change to 120 credits moving forward.

**J. Old Business**

None

**K. New Business**

Mrs. Marshall discussed the new bill that would allow students to stay in school for another year and said the state would pick up the cost if the district could not pay.

**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;

Mr. Arminio asked if the board has done any research or received any data that would indicate electronic door locks and staff/student tracking software increase building safety.

**M. ACTION ITEMS**

**I. PERSONNEL**

Motion by Mrs. Marshall and seconded by Mr. Knutson to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve and adopt motions I.1 as amended and described below

\*1. 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	58572538	Maternity/ Childcare	Teacher	High School	6/7/21	34	10/4/21	10/4/21	1/3/22	2022-23 School year	N/A

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
2	53013306	Medical	Custodian	High School	5/3/21	N/A	5/3/21	5/3/21	N/A	On or about 7/26/21	N/A

Approval of Personnel Motions

MOTION: Lisa Marshall		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			

**II. EDUCATION AND POLICY**

None

**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. 3, as described below:

\*1. Motion to approve the bill list for the period April 15, 2021 through April 28, 2021, in the amount of \$1,412,690.73.

\*2. **BE IT RESOLVE** to approve the 2021-2022 School District Budget as follows:

	<b><u>GENERAL FUND</u></b>	<b><u>SPECIAL REVENUES</u></b>	<b><u>DEBT SERVICE</u></b>	<b><u>TOTAL</u></b>
<b>2021-22 Total Expenditures</b>	\$37,707,371	\$475,152	\$2,323,421	\$40,505,944
<b>Less: Anticipated Revenues</b>	<u>\$14,372,592</u>	<u>\$475,152</u>	<u>\$17,212</u>	<u>\$14,864,956</u>
<b>Taxes to be Raised</b>	\$23,334,779	0	\$2,306,209	\$25,640,988

And to advertise said tentative budget in the Express Times in accordance with the form suggested by the State Department of Education and according to law; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that a public hearing be held virtually on April 27, 2021 at 7:00 PM for the purpose of conducting a public hearing on the budget for the 2021-2022 School Year. 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 website.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education approves the following Capital Reserve Account Withdrawal for the 2021-2022 budget:

Boiler Replacement			\$	250,000.00
Roof Replacement			\$	200,000.00
Door Lock Replacement High School	\$	110,000.00		
Installation	\$	60,000.00		
			\$	170,000.00
Software/Keyscan Migration for all buildings				
MS	\$	22,000.00		
HS	\$	25,000.00		
ADMIN	\$	8,000.00	\$	55,000.00
Total Withdrawals			\$	<b>675,000.00</b>

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:19-1, that for the 2021-2022 school year the annual maximum for regular business travel shall be \$1,500 per employee.

Further approve, that for the 2021-2022 school year the Warren Hills Regional Board of Education shall set \$50,000 as the maximum travel expenditure amount for the budget year.

Further approve, in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-5.2 and N.J.A.C. 6A-9.3 (c)14, the maximum dollar limit for public relations and professional services of: \$20,000 for printing services, \$182,500 for legal services, \$46,000 for auditing services, \$25,000 for Architect of Record services and \$12,750 for professional services related to public relations for the 2021-2022 school year.

Further approve, in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-5.8 the dollar threshold for awards to recognize special accomplishments at \$35.00 per student for the 2021-2022 school year.

\*3. Motion to approve Parent Teacher Student Association(PTSA) MAGIC (Making All Great Ideas Count) Grants for 2020-2021 school year as follows:

\$400.00 for the Middle School Interdisciplinary Enrichment 7 Class for a Friendship/Icebreaker Wheel Project and,

\$500 for the High School Health and Physical Educations Department for a Sensory Hallway Project.



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**

None

**P. Adjournment 7:50 p.m.**

Motion by Mrs. Marshall and seconded by Mr. Knutson to adjourn at 7:50 p.m. with full board consent.

Respectfully submitted,

Donnamarie Palmiere  
Business Administrator/Board Secretary