

WARREN HILLS REGIONAL BOARD OF EDUCATION

May 12, 2020

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.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/935791112?pwd=Yjhxb1JTMVRYN25vK00yK0M3NTFMQT09>

A. Call to Order - Mr. Christopher Hamler, President

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

Roll call was taken by Mrs. Donnamarie Palmiere. Members present were Joseph Bodenschatz, Christopher Cannavo, Christopher Hamler, Sam Knutson, Lisa Marshall, Sherri Musick, Christine Pi, Corey Piasecki, and Eric Walls. Also present were Earl Clymer, Dennis Mack and Donnamarie Palmiere.

C. Executive Session- 6:30 p.m. (If Necessary)

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.

Motion by Mrs. Marshall and seconded by Mr. Piasecki to go into Executive Session at 6:34 p.m. with full board consent.

D. Reconvene: 7:02 p.m.

Motion by Mr. Piasecki and seconded by Mrs. Marshall to go into Open Session at 7:02 p.m. with full board consent.

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, Warren-Reporter, Newark Star-Ledger and to the municipal clerks in the Borough of Washington and Townships of Franklin, Mansfield and Washington.

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.

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Pledge of Allegiance

Approval of Board Minutes

Motion by Mr. Piasecki and seconded by Mrs. Marshall to approve the minutes of the April 28, 2020, Regular and Executive Session meeting.

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

Corey Piasecki	X			
Christopher Hamler	X			

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

Mr. Clymer reported that the district received a Thank You from the Warren Hills Robotics Association for the donation toward the masks.

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

Mr. Clymer reported that there was a pre-construction call earlier in the day with all parties involved in the decommission of the dam. River Logics will begin mobilization on May 18. The June 1 deadline has been extended to mid June.

The County Superintendent has established 3 sub-groups of superintendents to collaborate and discuss options for the opening of school.(Pre-k to grade 5, Elementary K to 8, and Middle School & High School.) Mr. Clymer will lead the Middle School/High School group.

There will be a zoom orientation meeting for the new Oxford students.

Daryl Detrick had 5 winners of the WFT.

Mr. Clymer also said how disappointed he was in the ways we will be allowed to celebrate graduation.

H. Presenter(s):

None

I. Goals:

Warren Hills Board of Education District Goals for 2019-20

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, the 1:1 technology initiative, and enhanced PLCs.
2. Continue vertical articulation within the WHRSD cluster with a focus on increased achievement for students in grades 6-9.
3. Create a comprehensive, collaborative plan, involving district stakeholders, focused on the systematic implementation of the revised Future Ready Schools initiative.

Warren Hills Board of Education Board Goals for 2019-20

1. Utilize resources to ensure the support of District Goals.
2. Recognize student achievement through student presentations at Board meetings.
3. Work towards building optimal Board communication and trust.

District Goal #2 was achieved by Mr. Clymer steering the Superintendent Committee for Middle School and High School superintendents to discuss plans for return to school.

J. Committee Reports

Committee	Date	Discussion
Finance, Facilities & Transportation	No meeting held	By Chair: Mr. Hamler
Education & Policy	May 8, 2020	By Chair: Mr. Piasecki
Personnel & Student Activities	May 6, 2020	By Chair: Mr. Bodenschatz
Technology	No meeting held	By Chair: Mr. Walls
Negotiations	No meeting held	By Chair: Mr. Cannavo
Wall of Fame	monthly	By Chair: Mr. Walls

Education & Policy met on May 8 and discussed the policies that are on the agenda. Looking ahead the committee will focus on the 20-21 year.

Personnel & Student Activities met on May 6 and the information was discussed in Executive Session.

K. Old Business

Ad hoc committee – waiting to see what happens with the budgets because all grants are on hold.

CSA Evaluation

L. New Business

None

M. Public Comment – concerning action items.

None

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.

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.13** as 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	Joanne Durham	Amend	Accountant	\$67,021.00	District	8/1/20	8/1/20	Amend retirement to reflect additional month

*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	53049052	Maternity/ Childcare	Social Studies Teacher	High School	8/24/20	45	On or about 10/27/20	On or about 10/27/20	N/A	2021-2022 school year	N/A
2	20746467	Medical Leave	Technology	Middle School	5/18/20	N/A	5/18/20	N/A	N/A	6/16/20	N/A

*3. Motion to approve employment of the attached personnel list “A” of tenured, certificated teaching staff for the 2020-2021 school year. (Attachment A)

*4. Motion to approve employment of the attached personnel list “B” non-tenured, certificated teaching staff with eligibility for tenure on the appropriate date for the 2020-2021 school year. (Attachment B)

*5. Motion to approve employment of the attached personnel list “C” non-tenured, certificated teaching staff for the 2020-2021 school year. (Attachment C)

*6. Motion to approve employment of the attached personnel list “D” of tenured, certificated administrative staff for the 2020-2021 school year. (Attachment D)

*7. Motion to approve employment of the attached personnel list “E” of non-tenured, certificated administrative staff with eligibility for tenure on the appropriate date for the 2020-2021 school year. (Attachment E)

*8. Motion to approve employment of the attached personnel list “F” of non-tenured, certificated administrative staff for the 2020-2021 school year. (Attachment F)

*9. Motion to approve employment of the attached personnel list “G” tenured secretaries for the 2020-2021 school year. (Attachment G)

*10. Motion to approve employment of the attached personnel list “H” non-tenured secretaries for the 2020-2021 school year. (Attachment H)

*11. Motion to approve employment of personnel Attachment “I” of School Security Personnel for the 2020-2021 school year. (Attachment I)

*12. Motion to approve employment of the attached personnel list “J” technology personnel for the 2020-2021 school year. (Attachment J)

Approval of Personnel Motions

MOTION: Scott Bodenschatz		SECOND: Chris Cannavo		
Name	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent
Joseph Bodenschatz	X			
Christopher Cannavo	X			
Sam Knutson	X			
Lisa Marshall	1-3, 5-6, 8-11 & 12 except Karen Insel	12 only no to Karen Insel	4 & 7	
Sherri Musick	X			
Christine Pi	X			
Eric Walls	X			
Corey Piasecki	X			
Christopher Hamler	X			

II. EDUCATION AND POLICY

A motion was made by Mrs. Marshall and seconded by Mr. Piasecki to amend Regulation 2312 B-2C to change principal to superintendent or designee.

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

A motion was made by Mr. Piasecki and seconded by Mrs. Marshall to approve and adopt motions **II. 1** through **II.8**, as described below:

Be it resolved, during the current emergency situation, following guidance from the State of New Jersey, the New Jersey Department of Education and the Warren County Office of Education, the Warren Hills Regional Board of Education shall waive and/or suspend the following Policies and Regulations, in portion or in whole, pending further guidance from the State of New Jersey, the New Jersey Department of Education and the Warren County Office of Education or until the emergency situation no longer exists.

*1. Motion to suspend Policy & Regulation #2624 Grading System for the balance of the 2019-2020 school year.

*2. Motion to approve the **first reading** of the following revised policy and regulation for inclusion in the district's policy manual, as recommended by the Education and Policy Committee and the Superintendent:

2312 Policy & Regs Class Size

*3. Motion to approve a waiver for classes in which the enrollment exceeds 30 students or classes are less than 15 students, as per Policy & Regulation #2312, CLASS SIZE:

Under 15 - Honors Accounting II, DECA, Honors Advanced Topics in Engineering, Discrete Math, Communication & Media, Intro to Debate, AP World History, Film III, Advanced Art, Honors German 4, Intro to Music & Sound Technology

Over 30 - French II

*4. Motion to revise the 2019-2020 school calendar to reflect Monday, June 1st through Wednesday, June 3rd as half day, early dismissal days.

*5. Motion to approve, per NJDOE mandate of May 4, 2020, revised Emergency Preparedness Plan for the Warren Hills Regional School District.

*6. Motion to permit student #2021616 to attend WHRHS for the 2020-21 school year. District will not provide transportation.

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

MS – 19-20 – None
HS - 19-20 - 004, 005, 006 & 007

*8. Motion to approve the following Resolution Opposing Senate Bill 2392/Assembly Bill 3969 Legislation Affecting Transmission of Property Tax Revenue to School Districts:

WHEREAS, Senate Bill 2392 and Assembly Bill 3969, currently pending in the state Legislature, would authorize the Department of Community Affairs to permit municipalities to delay or alter the transmission of property tax revenue to school districts during gubernatorial-declared emergencies; and

WHEREAS, New Jersey's public schools are highly dependent on property tax revenue to support education programs; and

WHEREAS, on average, local property taxes constitute close to 60% of public school revenue, with the percentage even greater in a significant number of districts; and

WHEREAS, delaying or altering the transmission of property tax revenue from municipalities would result in a financial crisis for school districts, seriously disrupting the educational process; and

WHEREAS, although public school buildings are closed during the current health emergency, the education of our students is taking place through remote instruction and, therefore, continued timely transmission of all property tax revenue due to the school district is critical for the educational process to continue without interruption; and

WHEREAS, under our state's current structure, municipalities are designated as the authorities to collect property taxes, but those taxes are levied for specific purposes—e.g., municipal, school, county, fire district—and these obligations must continue to be met; and

WHEREAS, municipal governing bodies are empowered under current law to borrow in order to ensure that full payments to school districts are made;

WHEREAS, the Warren Hills Regional School District Board of Education recognizes the impact of the current public health emergency on the state and local governments, as well as local school districts, but believes that this legislation would only worsen the situation for our communities; and

WHEREAS, while S-2392/A-3969 would require a municipality to pay a percentage of the revenue due to a school district based on consultation between the state Departments of

Community Affairs and Education, the amount of taxes collected at the time and the financial condition of the municipality and school district, it does not address subsequent payment to the school district to make up the full shortfall amount; and

WHEREAS, as currently written, S-2392/A-3969, which is designed to ease a financial burden on municipalities, would place a severe strain on school districts and the students and families that they serve.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Warren Hills Regional School District Board of Education urges the State Legislature and Governor to oppose S-2392/A-3969; and be it further

RESOLVED, that this resolution be delivered to Governor Philip D. Murphy, State Senate President Stephen M. Sweeney, Assembly Speaker Craig Coughlin, and the 23rd Legislative District’s representatives in the state Senate and General Assembly; and be it further

RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the New Jersey School Boards Association.

Approval of Education & Policy Motions

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

III. BUDGET AND FINANCE

Motion by Mr. Piasecki and seconded by Mr. Knutson to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve and adopt motions **III. 1** through **III. 12**, as described below:

*1. Motion to approve the bill list for the period April 29, 2020 through May 12, 2020, in the amount of \$1,699,282.98.

*2. Motion to approve a contract with Marlana Hamfeldt Loden to provide Speech/Language Services, Consultative Services, Evaluation Services and Related Services for the extended school year 2020 [July 1, 2020 to July 31, 2020] at the rate of \$88.00 per hour.

*3. Motion to approve a contract with Marlana Hamfeldt Loden to provide Speech/Language Services, Consultative Services, Evaluation Services and Related Services for the 20120-2021 school year, commencing September 8, 2020 through June 11, 2021, at the rate of \$88.00 per hour.

*4. Motion to approve a contract with Tiffany Mosquera for American Sign Language Interpretation for the 2020-2021 school year, at the rate of \$70-100 per hour plus mileage.

*5. Motion to approve a contract with J&B Therapy Services for Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy, Behavior Therapy and Teacher of Deaf Services for the 2020-2021 school year at the following rates:

Service	Rate per hour
Physical Therapy	\$84.00
Occupational Therapy	\$83.00
Behavior Therapy	\$91.00
Teacher of Deaf Services	\$135.00

*6. Motion to terminate the following Special Education Tuition Contract for the 2019-2020 regular school year:

Student	School	Amount	Effective
5895878105	Bonnie Brae	\$60,270.00 prorated	3/25/20

*7. Motion to approve the following Special Education Tuition Contract for the 2019-2020 regular school year:

Student	School	Amount	Effective
5895878105	Somerset County Ed Services Commission	\$387.47 per diem	3/25/20-6/30/20

*8. Motion to approve the following Special Education Tuition Contracts for the 2020-2021 extended and regular school year:

Student	School	Amount	Effective
3548626275	Morris-Union Jointure	\$15,991.00	6/24/20-8/5/20
3548626275	Morris-Union Jointure	\$95,947.00	9/2/20-6/30/21
9922647153	Morris-Union Jointure	\$15,991.00	6/24/20-8/5/20
9922647153	Morris-Union Jointure	\$95,947.00	9/2/20-6/30/21
2612772623	Morris-Union Jointure	\$15,991.00	6/24/20-8/5/20
2612772623	Morris-Union Jointure	\$95,947.00	9/2/20-6/30/21
4647598092	Morris-Union Jointure	\$15,991.00	6/24/20-8/5/20
4647598092	Morris-Union Jointure	\$95,947.00	9/2/20-6/30/21
9559845055	Morris-Union Jointure	\$15,991.00	6/24/20-8/5/20
9559845055	Morris-Union Jointure	\$95,947.00	9/2/20-6/30/21
8041576755	Cornerstone Day School	\$88,088.00	7/6/20-6/25/21
5069252966	Morris-Union Jointure	\$15,991.00	6/24/20-8/5/20
5069252966	Morris-Union Jointure	\$95,947.00	9/2/20-6/30/21
6001523607	DCCF LLC	\$5,645.00	7/8/20-8/7/20

*9. Motion to approve a Joint Resolution for Participation of Transportation Services with Sussex County Regional Transportation Cooperative for the 2020-2021 school year, including a 4% administration fee for Special Education and a 2% administration fee for Field Trips.

*10. Motion to approve a Resolution for Participation in Coordinated Transportation with Warren County Special Services School District July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021, plus an administrative fee of 4 percent.

*11. Motion to approve a contract with Computer Solutions, Inc. for software support for the 2020-2021 school year as follows:

Software Item	Annual Amount
Budgetary Accounting Module	\$3,048.00
Human Resources Module with Position Control	\$3,348.00
Payroll Module	\$1,992.00
Invoicing	\$ 420.00
Site Based Management	\$ 720.00

Total Annual Fee	\$9,528.00
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*12. Motion to approve the following 2020-2021 Municipal Schedule of Taxes:

Due Dates	Franklin Twp	Mansfield Twp	Washington Boro	Washington Twp
7/15/2020	\$ 325,075.50	\$ 597,570.58	\$ 370,745.50	\$ 613,044.58
8/15/2020	\$ 372,165.50	\$ 684,132.58	\$ 424,450.50	\$ 701,848.58
9/15/2020	\$ 325,075.50	\$ 597,570.58	\$ 370,745.50	\$ 613,044.58
10/15/2020	\$ 325,075.50	\$ 597,570.58	\$ 370,745.50	\$ 613,044.58
11/15/2020	\$ 325,075.50	\$ 597,570.58	\$ 370,745.50	\$ 613,044.58
12/15/2020	\$ 325,075.50	\$ 597,570.58	\$ 370,745.50	\$ 613,044.58
1/15/2021	\$ 325,075.50	\$ 597,570.58	\$ 370,745.50	\$ 613,044.58
2/15/2021	\$ 670,174.50	\$ 1,231,950.58	\$ 764,327.50	\$1,263,850.84
3/15/2021	\$ 325,075.50	\$ 597,570.58	\$ 370,745.50	\$ 613,044.58
4/15/2021	\$ 325,075.50	\$ 597,570.58	\$ 370,745.50	\$ 613,044.58
5/15/2021	\$ 325,075.50	\$ 597,570.58	\$ 370,745.50	\$ 613,044.58
6/15/2021	\$ 325,075.50	\$ 597,570.62	\$ 370,745.50	\$ 613,044.62
Total	\$4,293,095.00	\$7,891,789.00	\$4,896,233.00	\$8,096,145.26

Approval of Budget & Finance Motions

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

O. Public Comment

Kelly Shelton, a high school parent, wanted to know if the board's plan is if there is another wave of COVID-19 next year. She also commended the teachers and said they are doing their best.

Mr. Hamler thanked everyone for their hard work and congratulated the seniors during this extremely difficult time.

Mrs. Marshall commented that this budget will be very challenging.

P. Second Executive Session

None

Q. Adjournment - 7:35 p.m.

Motion by Mr. Knutson and seconded by Mr. Piasecki to adjourn at 7:35 p.m. with full board consent.

Respectfully submitted,

Donnamarie Palmiere
Business Administrator/Board Secretary