

**Warren Hills Regional
Board of Education
Regular Meeting
June 9, 2015**

The Warren Hills Regional Board of Education met in Regular Meeting on June 9, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. in the Board Meeting Room.

Call to
Order

The meeting was called to order by Richard Havrisko, 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 Warren- Reporter," "The Star Ledger," and to the municipal clerks in the Borough of Washington and Townships of Franklin, Mansfield and Washington.

Pledge of Allegiance

Our Mission Statement

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

Roll Call

Roll call was taken by Maureen Joyce. Members present were Daniel Brundage, Donna Golda, Kathleen Halpin, Christopher Hamler, and Richard Havrisko. Also present were Thomas Altonjy and Maureen Joyce.

Student
Report

Student Report:

Mr. Havrisko read and presented Certificates of Recognition to Nikki Profita and Hannah Shethia, Student Council Representatives.

The student representatives reported on:

- Pedals for Progress hosted by Chess Club
- FFA Banquet
- International Club hosted empanada making day
- Senior Prom
- Peer Leadership ran its annual Bionic and SADD Day
- Spring Showcase hosted by theatre
- Relay for Life on May 30th
- Sing and Swing Concert and the Art Show

Two students received college degrees before high school diplomas

Lisa Marshall arrived at 6:08 p.m.

Board Training NJSBA Field Representative, Robynn Meehan and Michael Kaelber, Esq., Director of Legal Labor Relations, discussed the latest School Ethics Commission decisions.

Minutes Moved by Lisa Marshall and seconded by Donna Golda to approve the Minutes of the Regular and Executive Session meetings of May 26, 2015.

Ayes 5 Nays 0
Abstain 1 (Hamler)

Comm. Communications: None.

Citizens Citizens Participation: None.
Part

Supt's Superintendent's Report:
Report

Dr. Altonjy reported on the following:

1. Our **Film Design students** had the opportunity to be a featured school on *Classroom Close-up NJ*, a half-hour television program that features innovative projects in New Jersey public schools. The 12-time Emmy® award-winning show is in its 21st season and airs on NJTV, and it is the only half-hour program in the country devoted to featuring the positive things happening in public schools. Throughout the day of filming, the students worked with the production team, both behind the scenes and in front of the camera. They had the opportunity to work with the staff members and ask questions throughout the day about the television production process. We look forward to the show airing on 25 October 2015!

2. Mr. Keith Dennison, Department Supervisor, was elected to the **Board of Directors of the New Jersey Social Studies Supervisors Association** representing the Central Region of New Jersey. This organization advocates for meaningful and authentic social studies education in New Jersey K-12, and also assists in locating, developing, and sharing professional development and best practices that strengthen the instruction of social studies in classrooms. As a member of the Board of Directors, Mr. Dennison will be an important link between the Warren Hills Regional School District and social studies education professionals in the New Jersey Department of Education as well as in other schools across the state.

3. Mrs. Moore, our Director of Curriculum and Instruction, was invited to **present to the cluster** Board of Education Presidents and Vice-Presidents, along with the cluster Superintendents, on the collaborative Warren Hills Cluster Curriculum Committee, Professional Learning Community initiative on 19 May 2015. The forum provided an overview of the committee's work to date and a vision of their collective commitment to determine the essential ideas in the K-8 cluster curriculum. The *PowerPoint* is posted on the Warren Hills district's curriculum page. Thank you to everyone involved.

4. Junior Abby Cuff's photograph titled "Unwanted Guest" was selected for Honorable Mention at the **Belvidere High School Art Show** recently. Abby will receive a \$50 award for this recognition!

5. The **Warren Hills Film Festival** was held 15 May 2015. Over 200 people attended the event. Congratulations to the following students:

- Miles Tilley and Tim Connolly/Best Directing for their film "Closure,"
- Peter Despres/Best Editing for his film "Life Could be Simple,"
- Dylan Yanow and Jesse Pasmino/2 Awards for Best Sound & Best Special Effects for their film "Airbourne,"
- Phil Paran, Sarah Brouhle and Aaris Moosa/2 Awards for Best Acting & Best of Show for their film "Bad Dog,"
- Aaris Moosa/Best Experimental for his film "7/27/93,"
- William Rios/Best Cinematography for his film "Nature's Beauty,"
- Peter Despres/Best Story for his film "Grief,"
- Corinne Antonelli/Best Animation for her film "Circus on the Moon."

6. **Athletic News:**

- Congratulations to Coach Pat Kablis and the Boys' Lacrosse team for making the team's first-ever appearance in the state tournament. Despite the loss to Ramapo, the team competed well and carried themselves in a manner that exemplifies the class of Warren Hills.
- The girls' lacrosse team also appeared in the state tournament, losing to a strong Hopewell Valley team in the first round. Despite the loss, the team finished with the program's first-ever winning record.
- The Boys' and Girls' Track and Field Teams competed in the State Sectionals over Memorial Day weekend. The teams featured many outstanding performers and are highlighted by James Bowlbliss for the boys who has set a school record in the High Jump and the Girls are led by Kaleigh Guth who has a chance to qualify for the Group and State meets in multiple events.
- Congratulations to Track and Field Athletes Kaeleigh Guth, John Kelly, and Hannah Foley, who competed in the Track and Field Meet of Champions, the highest competition in the State of New

Jersey. Hannah placed 20th in the state in the Pole Vault, John finished 8th in the state in the Javelin, and Kaeleigh finished 5th in New Jersey in the Long Jump! Most schools do not have *anyone* qualify for this event yet Warren Hills had three athletes earn placements. This is a tremendous accomplishment.

Congratulations to John, Hannah, and Kaeleigh for representing Warren Hills in such a wonderful way.

- Congratulations to Women's Track and Field Coach Ken Kurpat for receiving the Conference "Coach of the Year" award. The honor in this award comes from the fact that it is voted upon by one's peers.

7. Ms. Miksch, Special Education English teacher at the high school, has received the **Centenary College Skylands Mentor Teacher award** for being an Outstanding Field Experience Mentor.

8. Thank you to our middle school students for showing their **appreciation to their teachers** with special handwritten notes to individual teachers. Over 550 letters of thanks were written and given to teachers throughout the week. Special thanks to Mrs. Legora and Mrs. Hoffman for spearheading this special initiative! We have great teachers and wonderful students who really do love and appreciate them!

9. **7th Grade Academy News:**

- Honor Roll students with excellent behavior and attendance were once again presented with their Merit Award cards allowing them a nice variety of special privileges and opportunities.
- Thank you to the middle school staff and students who visited the 6th grade students in each of our sending district elementary schools. Our current 7th grade students and staff did a wonderful job in answering the many questions the students had about middle school. Information and handouts on our many programs, activities and sports were left at each school, along with a general list of supplies, dress code information and of course, their summer reading assignment and a WHRMS Blue Streak pencil! This effort has proven to be one of the most popular and beneficial transition activities for our incoming students and we are happy that all the sending districts welcome us each year!
- The 7th grade field day took place on 5/29/15. It was a beautiful day – the weather was perfect while students and staff engaged in a variety of activities. We thank the staff for the planning and implementation of this great event and would especially like to thank Ms. Manfra and her HS Sophomore leadership students for their assistance!

10. Danielle Sykora, a senior student, was chosen to participate in a videotaping for the **"Canines for Disabled Kids."** The video will be

used for training purposes for people with guide dogs as well as a Public Service Announcement on television.

11. The Coalition for Healthy and Safe Communities has announced that two students from Peer Leadership were selected as finalists in the **“Follow Me, I Choose to be Drug Free” poster contest** sponsored by the Coalition and the Warren County PTA Council. There were over 200 entries this year from grades 4 through 12. All entries will be on display on 15 June at Warren County Community College beginning at 7:00PM during the award presentation for 1st, 2nd, 3rd Place and Honorable Mention. Our winners are: 9th – 12th Grade Finalists: Nick Gagliano and Amanda Oberly and their Teacher/Advisor: Mrs. Giamoni. Congratulations!

12. Warren Hills Regional High School ensembles performed very well at the **Music in the Parks competition** in Hershey, PA. Warren Hills Jazz band took first place in the high school jazz category with an excellent rating. Warren Hills Concert band took second place in the high school band category with an excellent rating. Warren Hills Concert Choir took first place in the mixed choir I category with a superior rating. Warren Hills Select Choir took first place in the mixed choir II category with a superior rating and was awarded "Best Overall Choir" of the day. Select choir also received an unprecedented amount of perfect 10 scores (3 out of 5 categories) from the judges! Excellent performances from our Warren Hills Fine Arts Department!

13. The **middle school Spring Concert** was held Tuesday, 2 June 2015. Thank you to Mrs. Russo and all the support staff who worked to bring the evening together. The students did a wonderful job and the audience appreciated the culmination of all their hard work!

14. High School **Students of the Month** for May:
Stacy Giordano
Rachel Schmieder
Anne Marie Ward
Rob Servilio.

15. The 8th grade **Dorney Park Math and Science Learning day** was held on 29 May. Students had an enjoyable day applying math and science concepts learned throughout the school year to the “real life” roller coasters they enjoy. A special thank you to staff, parent chaperones, and bus drivers who assisted with the unfortunate situation on the ride home that evening. We would also like to thank our students for their excellent behavior and complete cooperation throughout the entire day and through a difficult situation, as well. They were terrific!

16. In **FFA news**, congratulations to Stacey Giordano who received 3 scholarships totaling over \$6,000.00 at the state FFA Convention. Stacey

was also recognized as the highest rated individual for New Jersey in the National Sweepstakes Recognition. Brooke Ross earned 4 scholarships in excess of \$2,500.00. Also at the state convention, Belicia Monroy won second place for her chapter scrapbook, Brittany Smith placed 2nd in the Dairy Cattle evaluation and 4th in Veterinary Science. Colin Cudworth and Peter Mount placed 3rd and 4th respectively in the Fruit and Vegetable evaluation.

17. The following is an update regarding the finalized number of incidences of **Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying** this school year. Each month I will provide a comparison from the previous month and a cumulative summary for the year in progress. The following is the information for May:

Cases	April 2015			May 2015		Total District Cases 2014-2015
	MS	HS		MS	HS	
Total Cases Investigated	0	0		7	4	30
Cases resulting in: NO HIB	0	0		1	2	9 (30%)
Cases resulting in: HIB	0	0		6	2	21 (70%)

Comm. Reports

Committee Reports:

Mrs. Marshall met regarding Middle States proposal for an exemplary attendance award and Google Classroom.

Mrs. Golda met with the DEAC Committee regarding a staff survey.

Mr. Havrisko reported that the Wall of Fame Committee met. Their banquet is next April.

Dr. Altonjy recommended all personnel items.

I. PERSONNEL

Employ G Bowen

Moved by Kathleen Halpin and seconded by Lisa Marshall to approve employment of Dr. Gary R. Bowen as Interim Superintendent of Schools at a per diem rate of \$605.77, effective July 1, 2015 through October 31, 2015.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 6 Nayes 0

Employ
A Kline Moved by Kathleen Halpin and seconded by Lisa Marshall to approve employment of Ms. Amy Kline, high school Agriculture teacher, for the 2015-2016 school year on Step G-7, MA, with an annual salary to be determined when negotiations are finalized, effective September 1, 2015.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 6 Nays 0

Employ R.
DeStefano Moved by Kathleen Halpin and seconded by Lisa Marshall to approve employment of Mrs. Risa De Stefano, high school Special Education teacher, for the 2015-2016 school year on Step H-8, MA+15, with an annual salary to be determined when negotiations are finalized, effective September 1, 2015.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 6 Nays 0

Leave of
Absence Moved by Kathleen Halpin and seconded by Lisa Marshall to approve a maternity disability leave for Mrs. Hope Ranalli, effective date as 8/28/15 through 9/18/15, and a Family Leave of Absence, without pay, for the period 9/21/15 through the end of the second marking period. Hope plans to return to WHR on the first day of the 3rd marking period.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 6 Nays 0

Employ
E. McKeown Moved by Kathleen Halpin and seconded by Lisa Marshall to approve a transfer for Mrs. Elizabeth McKeown from middle school English teacher to middle school Library Media Specialist for the 2015-2016 school year.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 6 Nays 0

Summer
Work Moved by Kathleen Halpin and seconded by Lisa Marshall to approve employment of Ms. Maggie Devine for 30 hours of summer library work plus 6 hours of Gifted and Talented Program work at a rate to be determined when negotiations are finalized.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 6 Nays 0

Rescind
J. Case Moved by Kathleen Halpin and seconded by Lisa Marshall to rescind Board of Education motion of May 26, 2015 to employ Jeffrey Case as a paraprofessional for the Extended School Year Program.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 6 Nays 0

Mentor Moved by Kathleen Halpin and seconded by Lisa Marshall to approve Mrs. Patricia Hetrick, middle school Principal, to serve as mentor for Ms. Heather Heslin, Centenary College student, to complete her Field Supervision Internship for the 2015-2016 school year.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 6 Nayes 0

Mentor Moved by Kathleen Halpin and seconded by Lisa Marshall to approve Mr. Earl Clymer, high school Principal, to serve as mentor for Mr. Nicholas Sarlo, Centenary College student, to complete his Field Supervision Internship for the 2015-2016 school year.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 6 Nayes 0

Parent Volunteer Moved by Kathleen Halpin and seconded by Lisa Marshall to approve Mrs. Corrin Siersma for addition to the middle school parent volunteer list.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 6 Nayes 0

II. EDUCATION AND POLICY

Textbook Proposals Moved by Lisa Marshall and seconded by Donna Golda to approve the attached list of textbook proposals to update the resources and materials for the courses of study per the Five Year Curriculum Plan 2012-2017. [attached]

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 6 Nayes 0

Research Study Moved by Lisa Marshall and seconded by Donna Golda to approve Ms. Heather Heslin, Special Education teacher at the middle school, to complete an Action Research Study in our district for partial fulfillment toward her Master’s Degree in Educational Leadership from Centenary College.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 6 Nayes 0

Research Study Moved by Lisa Marshall and seconded by Donna Golda to approve Mr. Nicholas Sarlo, Business Education teacher at the high school, to complete an Action Research Study in our district for partial fulfillment toward his Master’s Degree in Educational Leadership from Centenary College.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 6 Nayes 0

Travel & Conference Moved by Lisa Marshall and seconded by Donna Golda to approve the following Travel and Conference Requests:

NAME	TITLE	LOCATION	COST
Sharon Fretz	Nonviolent Crisis Intervention Training	Crisis Prevention Institute, Allentown, PA	\$1419. Registration + Mileage

Debbie Rokosny	Summer AP Institute for Teachers	Drew University	\$880. Registration + Mileage
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ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 6 Nayes 0

Field Trip Requests Moved by Lisa Marshall and seconded by Donna Golda to approve the following Field Trip Requests:

Requested by:	Trip	Location
Project Graduation Committee	Project Graduation	Play America, Freehold, NJ

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 6 Nayes 0

III. BUDGET AND FINANCE

Tuition Contract Moved by Donna Golda and seconded by Lisa Marshall to approve the following 2015-2016 Extended School Year and Regular School Year Special Education tuition contracts:

<u>Student</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Aide</u>	<u>Effective</u>
12-16	Willowglen Academy	\$85,776.60		July 8, 2015
13-16	Willowglen Academy	\$85,776.60	\$18,900	July 8, 2015

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 6 Nayes 0

WCSSSD Aides Moved by Donna Golda and seconded by Lisa Marshall to approve a Memorandum of Agreement with Warren County Special Services School District to provide two (2) full time paraprofessionals for two Warren Hills students who are attending Great Meadows School District, for the 2015-2016 school year, at the rate of \$38,000 per paraprofessional.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 6 Nayes 0

WCSSSD Aides Moved by Donna Golda and seconded by Lisa Marshall to approve a Memorandum of Agreement with Warren County Special Services School District to provide nine (9) Paraprofessionals for the 2015 extended summer program, at the rate of \$3,000 per paraprofessional.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 6 Nayes 0

Tuition Rates Moved by Donna Golda and seconded by Lisa Marshall to approve the following per pupil tuition rates for non-resident students attending Warren Hills Regional programs for the 2015-2016 school year:

High School (including Oxford)	\$14,500
Middle School	\$14,500

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 6 Nayes 0

Lease Agreement Moved by Donna Golda and seconded by Lisa Marshall to approve a lease agreement with Key Government Finance [Core BTS] for purchase of computer equipment to be financed over a three-year period, as recommended by the Technology Committee and Mr. Brian DeBoer, Supervisor.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 6 Nayes 0

Toilet Room Upgrades Moved by Donna Golda and seconded by Lisa Marshall to award the contract for “Warren Hills Regional School Toilet Room Upgrades and Warren Hills Regional Middle School Toilet Room Upgrades” to Aero Plumbing & Heating, Co., in the amount of \$348,128, in accordance with the bid opening on May 21, 2015.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 6 Nayes 0

Citizens Part. Citizens Participation:

Two field hockey students asked about the coaches for next school year and practices. Dr. Altonjy responded that the positions will be advertised in Sunday’s Star Ledger and hopefully will be on the June 23rd agenda or appointed prior to next meeting.

Mr. Daryl Detrick expressed a concern about number of staff teaching Math. He requested the Board consider an additional Mathematics teacher for the 2015-2016 school year.

Executive Session Moved by Lisa Marshall and seconded by Donna Golda to go into Executive Session as indicated by item **a.** 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

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. Action is not anticipated.

Ayes 6 Nays 0

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

Kristin Fox arrived at 8:03 p.m.

Reconvene Moved by Kathleen Halpin and seconded by Christopher Hamler to reconvene into open session at 8:15 p.m.

Ayes 6 Nays 0

Adjournment Moved by Christopher Hamler and seconded by Kathleen Halpin to adjourn at 8:20 p.m.

Ayes 6 Nays 0

Maureen Joyce
Business Administrator/Bd. Sec'y.

dmg