

**Warren Hills Regional
Board of Education
Regular Meeting
March 15, 2016**

The Warren Hills Regional Board of Education met in Regular Meeting on March 15, 2016 at 6:35 p.m. in the Board Meeting Room.

Call to Order The meeting was called to order by Richard Havrisko, President.

Roll Call Roll call was taken by Estrella Molinet. Members present were Daniel Brundage, Linda Feller, Donna Golda, Kathleen Halpin, Richard Havrisko, Lisa Marshall and Richard Young. Also present were Gary R. Bowen, Estrella Molinet and Earl C. Clymer.

Executive Session Moved by Kathleen Halpin and seconded by Daniel Brundage to go into Executive Session as indicated below:

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) *Superintendent's Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying ("HIB") update/recent matters and investigations, if any; and*
- 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.

Ayes 7 Naves 0

The Board entered into Executive Session at 6:35 p.m.

Reconvene Moved by Kathleen Halpin and seconded by Lisa Marshall to reconvene into open session at 6:55 p.m.

Ayes 7 Naves 0

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 providing academic and co-curricular opportunities to become successful, productive members of the global community.

Pledge of Allegiance

Minutes Moved by Daniel Brundage and seconded by Lisa Marshall to approve the Minutes of the Regular and Executive Session meetings of March 1, 2016.

Ayes 6 Nays 0
Abstain 1 (Halpin)

Comm. Communications: Mrs. Molinet read the letter for the open board seat.

Citizens Citizens Participation: None.
Part

Student Student Report – Student Council Representatives:
Report

<u>Middle School</u>	<u>High School</u>
Kharissa Muhammad	Amanda Elbassiouny
Christopher Fluta	Samantha Thompson

The above student representatives reported on:

Middle School:

Builders Club
National Junior Honor Society
Pillar recognition recipients
International Club Festival
Opening of Spring Sports

High School:

Select Choir
J. Bamford and A. Veneziano scoring 1,000 point for the boys basketball team
Winter Pep Rally
National Honor Society Coat and Food Drive
Cheerleaders to Florida
Debate Team at Harvard Model Congress
DECA trip
Best Buddies Library Showcase
Ski Club trip to Vermont

Superintendent's Report:

Superintendent's Report - Dr. Gary R. Bowen

Recognition/Presentation – Peer Leadership Group – Jennifer Giamoni,
Advisor

Progress Report of District Goals for the 2015-2016 School Year

- *Review, research, assess, and recommend fiscal efficiencies in the instructional and operational/ non-instructional components or the 2016-2017 district budget. (Goal Completed March 2016)*
- *The middle school Gifted & Talented program for grades 7-8 will be reviewed, assessed, researched for optimal methodologies resulting in recommendations for modification as may be appropriate. (Goal Completed March 2016)*
- *Resources in time and outside expert consultation will be made available to the Middle and High School Bell Schedule (EBD) committees so that each may fully and fairly consider future modifications to their respective daily instructional schedules in grades 7-8 and 9-12 independently. (Goal Completed January 2016)*

Good News and Progress

▪ This year's annual **Prism Concert** theme was *Once Upon a Time* and featured performances by the concert band, jazz band, choir, and student-led vocal and instrumental ensembles. The groups performed "Prism" style from various locations around the perimeter of the auditorium. In addition to the band and choir performances, the Drama Club performed a sneak-peak of their upcoming spring production, *Guys and Dolls*. Proceeds from the concert helped support the band's trip to Music in the Parks, an annual competition held at Hershey Park.

▪ Corinne Antonelli's **animated film** *Small Fry* won another award. Her film was named BEST HIGH SCHOOL FILM at this year's RTF MediaFest at Rowan University. She was honored at this year's film festival March 4, 2016 at the King Auditorium of Bozorth Hall at Rowan University. The RTF Department Chair Dr. Keith Brand and Dean of the College of Communication and Creative Arts Dr. Lorin Arnold presented her with a prize and certificate at the event. This is the first time we entered this festival and her film was selected from hundreds of entries. [Update: Corinne Antonelli's film, "Small Fry" that was selected as a finalist in this year's Delta Moon Student Film Festival did not win for best film, but it was one of only 23 films to be accepted in the festival over 400 submissions. This was a great accomplishment for her.]

- Two more Warren Hills film students won awards at the **Radio, Television & Film MediaFest** at Rowan University! Congratulations to Holly Grobholz and Ann Marie Ciulla for their film “Hue.” Their film won **BEST HIGH SCHOOL NEW MEDIA PROJECT** at this year’s festival. They will also be honored in a ceremony at Rowan University. If you see them, please feel free to congratulate them as they worked very hard on this project.

- The **Advanced Placement United States Government and Politics** class traveled to the **New Jersey Supreme Court** on February 29, 2016 to observe the judiciary at work. In particular, they observed oral arguments in front of the Supreme Court. Prior to the start of arguments, Associate Justice Anne Patterson greeted our students and spoke to them about what they were going to witness, what their plans for post-secondary education are, and how their chosen majors can lead them into a successful career in law. She also individually greeted and welcomed each student. The point of law argued was relevant to all of the students’ lives: Do cell phone call records require a search warrant if they are part of a grand jury investigation? Oral arguments lasted two hours, and the Warren Hills students represented our district well. Students were attentive and demonstrated exemplar courtroom decorum. As he adjourned the court for a brief recess the Chief Justice of New Jersey, Stuart Rabner, recognized and thanked Warren Hills’ students from the bench. It was a wonderful day and the students were talking about the merits of the legal arguments and question for the rest of the day.

- The **New Jersey FFA Association** held the Horticultural Exposition Friday, March 11, 2016 and Saturday, March 12, 2016 at Mercer County Community College. Visitors viewed 775+ high/middle school student horticulture and floral entries in 100 classes. All entries were designed by agricultural education students throughout the State.

- Ninth grade Horizons student Jason Teets won two awards for his poetry submitted to the Scholastic Art & Writing Awards. Jason received a Silver Key for his poem *Hope* and an Honorable Mention for his poem *Apocalypse*.

- Concert Band students assisted in the annual **Warren County 6th Grade All Star Band** day and performance on March 2, 2016 at the high school. This All Star Band is a collection of the most outstanding sixth grade band students from each school in Warren County. These county students were selected based on an audition and participated in both a rehearsal at Warren Hills, as well as a concert on the same night. The host school rotates every 3 years, with Warren Hills proud to host and assist this year.

- Streak Nation hosted a **Senior Citizen Technology Forum** on Wednesday, February 24, 2016 in the high school library. Members of

Streak Nation, Key Club and our Computer Science classes worked together to provide technology help to the senior citizens of our community. Many seniors brought their own tablets, laptops and cell phones, while others used the resources in the high school library. Both the senior citizens and our students thoroughly enjoyed their time together and have requested more classes in the future.

- A recent **musical Library Showcase** featured Ryan Connors, Warren Hills Alumni, along with a couple of his band mates of Dynamo, who performed in the high school library and talked about music and making a living as a musician. The band tours the United States and their music fuses jazz, rock, and funk with elements of soul and R&B.
- Another high school **Library Showcase** was held on Thursday, February 25, 2016, *Undoing Hatred through Understanding*. The Warren Hills Human Rights Club and the Warren Hills Gay/Straight Alliance explained the Pyramid of Hate and its devastating effects. Students had an opportunity to participate in the Pyramid of Hate Clothesline project, which will be showcased in the library.
- The **Warren Hills Chapter of Best Buddies** offered a Library Showcase presentation, People's First Language: Spread the Word to End the R-Word which talked about changing the conversation by eliminating the demeaning use of the R-word from today's popular speech and replace it with RESPECT. Best Buddies presented this Library Showcase on March 4, 2016 for National Day of Awareness to promote tolerance, acceptance, and inclusion. The goal was to create awareness a more accepting world for people with intellectual disabilities, and for people who may appear to be different but who have unique talents to share with the world.
- Senator Doherty's office presented us with a Senate Resolution recognizing the students' efforts with the **Traffic Awareness Project** from the Driver Education classes. His Constituent Liaison, Dawn Higgins, presented this honor February 24, 2016.
- **World Language** teachers in the entire **Warren Hills cluster** assembled on March 25, 2016 for a workshop on "Teaching in the Target Language" by Ms. Laura McClintock, a session that addressed best practices and methods for instructing our courses in the target language, regardless of the age or level of the learner. Research shows that this means of instruction is most effective and how we learn our first language. Participants role played students learning French and experienced a variety of engaging activities, as well as opportunities to reflect and brainstorm.
- The **MS International Club** ran its 3rd annual festival on March 11th after school. Students enjoyed international foods, time to visit with

friends, volleyball and basketball, watching a movie and enjoying karaoke! Thank you to all the staff who helped and especially to those who contributed the delicious international foods!

- The **MS MD program** had a donation of twenty tickets for our students, staff, nurse, and bus drivers who attended the Big Apple Circus on Thursday, 3/3/16. This was a wonderful community based instructional trip for our students and we thank those at the circus, who made this possible.
- **Members of the Warren County Prosecutors Office** recently spent time in small group settings with our 8th grade students to review topics on drug and alcohol awareness and prevention. This was a good reminder and reinforcement of information presented to students through the 7th grade Health curriculum, especially before they move on up to the high school level. We thank the presenters and members of the Municipal Alliance for their efforts to bring this important program to our students.
- **Currently our Builders Club** is collecting donations in the “Pennies for Patients” fundraiser to support leukemia research, while our NJHS is running a drive to collect needed items for our service troops stationed abroad. We are proud of our students efforts in helping others!
- **Over 45 middle school students** were recently recognized for displaying the character trait of “Responsibility.” We congratulate them and are proud to have so many extremely responsible students in our middle school!

Comm.
Reports

Committee Reports:

Education & Policy Committee met this evening. They discussed the trying to get movement on PARCC through delegate assembly, audit of our policies, AP scores good report.

Budget and Finance Committee met on March 14, 2016.

Buildings and Grounds Committee met on March 8, 2016.

Richard Young left at 8:00 p.m.

Dr. Bowen recommended all personnel items.

I. PERSONNEL

Appoint-
ments

Moved by Kathleen Halpin and seconded by Daniel Brundage to approve/accept the following appointments/adjustments/resignations/retirements:

Code No.	Name	Nature of Action	Position	Salary	Location	Date Effective	Date Terminated	Discussion
1	Patrick Murphy	Resignation	Director of Plants & Facilities	N/A	District	3/11/16		
2	Karen Jurkowski	Resignation	School Nurse	N/A	High School	6/30/16	6/30/16	
3	Jeremy Willis	Appoint	Technology Education Teacher	\$2,600	High School	9/1/15	6/30/16	Fifth preparation assignment per WHREA, Article VIII, A.9
4	Kevin Call	Appoint	Head Athletic Trainer	\$96,382	District	7/1/15	6/30/16	Retroactive to July 1, 2015
5	Courtney Zywicki	Appoint	Social Studies Teacher	\$255.61 per diem	High School	On or about 4/7/16	6/30/16	Maternity Replacement Laura Filan
6	William Adams	Appoint	Substitute Driver	As Assigned	District	3/16/16	6/30/16	Not included in WHREA-CBA: Weekdays \$19/hour Weekends \$19.50/hour Midday \$20.50/hour
7	Joseph Werner	Approve	Centenary College Student	N/A	High School	TBD	N/A	6 Hours of Observation required for Centenary College student
8	Kimber Barr	Approve	Volunteer Softball Coach	N/A	Middle School	3/16/16	6/30/16	Background Check Complete & On File

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 6 Nays 0

Leave of Absence Moved by Kathleen Halpin and seconded by Daniel Brundage to approve the following Leave of Absence:

Code No.	Name	Reason	Position	Location	Leave Start Date	Sick Days to be used	Unpaid FMLA Start Date	Unpaid NJFLA Start Date	Unpaid Leave without Benefits	Return Date	Discussion
1	Laura Filan	Maternity Leave	Social Studies Teacher	High School	On or about 4/11/16	30.5 Available	5/23/16 [Half Day]	5/23/16 [Half Day]	N/A	9/1/16	Revision to 1/19/16 motion

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 6 Nays 0

Job Description Moved by Kathleen Halpin and seconded by Daniel Brundage to approve the following job descriptions [Documents 1 & 2]:

- School Security Personnel
- District News and Information Coordinator

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 6 Nays 0

II. EDUCATION AND POLICY

Calendar Moved by Lisa Marshall and seconded by Donna Golda to approve the 2016-2017 School Year Calendar. [Attachment A]

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 6 Nays 0

Comprehensive Equity Plan Moved by Lisa Marshall and seconded by Donna Golda to authorize the submission of the 2016-2018 Comprehensive Equity Plan and to maintain compliance with all applicable laws, codes and regulations governing equity in education including but not limited to: N.J.S.A. 18A:36-20; N.J.S.A. 10:5; N.J.A.C. 6A:7; Titles VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964; Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972; Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973; The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990; Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (I.D.E.A.) of 1997.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 6 Nays 0

HIB Moved by Lisa Marshall and seconded by Donna Golda to affirm the administrative decision regarding the following HIB case:

MS – 011
HS – None

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 6 Nays 0

Field Trip Requests Moved by Lisa Marshall and seconded by Donna Golda to approve the following field trip requests in accordance with Policy 2340:

Code	Requested by:	Trip	Board of Education cost	Discussion/Destination
1	Adam Slack & Mark Smith	Archery Club to compete in Regional Tournament	Substitute & Transportation	Keansburg High School
2	Kathleen Morgan	Middle School French Classes to Zimmerli Art Museum & Dining at Sophie's Bistro	Substitute & Transportation	New Brunswick & Somerset, NJ, not to exceed \$30 per student cost [Transportation paid by board]- Learning about French Art & Tasting French Cuisine
3	Barbara Russo & Michael Perruso	Middle School Chorus Club & Jazz Band Music in the Parks Competition	Substitutes	Dorney Park - \$54 per student cost – Transportation + Admission
4	Nicole Silvis, Vittoria Busardo & Josephine Potter	HS & MS Student Councils to attend NJASC Spring Awards Ceremony	Substitutes	Great Adventure, Jackson, NJ – Not to exceed \$60 per student cost – Transportation
5	Nicole Silvis, Hope Ranalli & Michael Arminio	8 th grade ALC students to participate in problem solving & confidence building activities	Substitute & Transportation	Overnight trip to Camp Mohican, Blairstown, NJ - \$15 per student cost for meals
6	Kimberly Roost, Richard Patricia & Vittoria Busardo	Fine Art Students to Warren County Teen Arts Festival	Substitutes & Transportation	Washington, NJ – Students will display art work and view other Warren County students' art work

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 6 Nays 0

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

Code	Name	Title	Location	Cost/Mileage	Date and Discussion
1	Earl C. Clymer	NJASA Spring Leadership Conference	Atlantic City, New Jersey	Registration- \$525 Lodging- \$210 Plus Mileage, Meals and Incidentals	May 11-13, 2016
2	Lourdes Garcia	2016 Bilingual Educators Spring Conference	New Brunswick, NJ	\$59 Membership Renewal, \$229 Registration + Mileage	June 3, 2016

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 6 Nayes 0

III. BUDGET AND FINANCE

Financial Reports Moved by Donna Golda and seconded by Linda Feller to approve the February, 2016 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, 2016; 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 overexpended 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.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 6 Nayes 0

Bills Moved by Donna Golda and seconded by Linda Feller to approve the bill list for the period February 17, 2016 through March 11, 2016 in the amount of \$2,321,494.02.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 6 Nayes 0

Transfers Moved by Donna Golda and seconded by Linda Feller to approve transfers in the amount of \$428,210.64 for the month of February.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 6 Nayes 0

Student Activities Moved by Donna Golda and seconded by Linda Feller to approve Student Activity Transactions for the month of February, 2016.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 6 Nayes 0

Related Services

Moved by Donna Golda and seconded by Linda Feller to approve a Related Services Contract with Morris-Union Jointure Commission to be administered at the Developmental Learning Center [DLC] in New Providence, for Student 03-16 for the 2015-2016 school year for the period February 2, 2016 through June 13, 2016, for 30-minute sessions per week, at a rate of \$245.00 per hour.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 6 Neyes 0

Tutoring Services

Moved by Donna Golda and seconded by Linda Feller to approve an Agreement with Saint Clare’s Hospital for Tutoring Services for student 2017071 for one hour per day at the rate of \$55.00 per hour, as may be required for the remainder of the 2015-2016 school year.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 6 Neyes 0

Preliminary Budget

Moved by Donna Golda and seconded by Linda Feller to approve submittal of the preliminary tentative 2016-2017 budget to the Executive County Superintendent for advertising and compliance review with QSAC and Core Content Standards as follows:

	Budget	Local Tax Levy
General Fund	\$36,753,305	\$20,646,591
Special Revenue	547,440	
Debt Service	2,173,009	
Total Base Budget	\$39,473,754	

A transfer from the Capital Reserve account to the Capital Projects account in the amount of \$1,388,000 will fund the capital projects included in the preliminary tentative 2016-2017 budget above.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 6 Neyes 0

Tuition Contract

Moved by Donna Golda and seconded by Linda Feller to approve a tuition contract with Oxford Township School District to accept 85 regular education students to attend Warren Hills Regional High School for the 2016-2017 school year at a tuition rate of \$15,717 per student.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 6 Neyes 0

Citizens Part.

Citizens Participation:

Geri McKelvey asked about a revised calendar and when staff members would be notified [putting 2 snow days back in calendar].

Executive Session

Moved by Kathleen Halpin and seconded by Donna Golda to go into Executive Session.

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) 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.

Ayes 6 Nays 0

The Board entered into Executive Session at 8:08 p.m.

Reconvene Moved by Lisa Marshall and seconded by Kathleen Halpin to reconvene into open session at 8:25 p.m.

Ayes 6 Nays 0

Adjournment Moved by Linda Feller and seconded by Daniel Brundage to adjourn at 8:25 p.m.

Ayes 6 Nays 0

Estrella M. Molinet
Business Administrator/Bd. Sec'y.

dmg