

**Warren Hills Regional
Board of Education
Regular Meeting
May 20, 2014**

The Warren Hills Regional Board of Education met in Regular Meeting on May 20, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. in the Board Meeting Room.

Call to
Order

The meeting was called to order by Donna Golda, 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 John Bell, Daniel Brundage, Linda Feller, Kristin Fox, Donna Golda, Kathleen Halpin, and Lisa Marshall. Also present were Thomas Altonjy and Maureen Joyce.

Vice
President

Moved by Linda Feller and seconded by John Bell to appoint Richard Havrisko vice president of the Warren Hills Regional Board of Education for the administrative year 2014.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 7 Nayes 0

Minutes

Moved by Lisa Marshall and seconded by John Bell to approve the Minutes of the Regular and Executive Session meetings of May 6, 2014.

Ayes 7 Nayes 0

Comm.

Communications: None.

Citizens
Part

Citizens Participation: None.

Superintendent's Report:

Dr. Altonjy reported on the following:

1. At the **Ocean County Library Film Festival**, there were over 230 submissions and three student films from Warren Hills Regional were featured at the festival on 10 May. Tom Fama walked away with a trophy for "Best Animation" for his film, "Life is but a Suite." The other two films featured were "Far From the Tree" by Peter Despres and "Broke and Famous" by John General. We congratulate them – to have their work screened at the festival was an awesome accomplishment!

2. John General's, "Broke and Famous: The Story of the Cardboard Drummer," has been selected by a jury of professionals as one of the top three entries in the **film festival at Cresskill High School**. This Thursday, his film will be screened in front of a live audience during the Warren Hills awards ceremony.

3. English teachers Mrs. Chiara, Ms. Wight, Mr. Oakley, and Mr. O'Neill escorted many students in the junior class to see a production of **Macbeth** at the Mayo Performing Arts Center in Morristown on 7 May.

4. In celebration of May as National Poetry Month, Ms. Devine, Librarian/Media Specialist, hosted a **Poetry Slam** in the high school library on 8 May.

5. Three **cluster articulation meetings** were held in Technology and Business by Mr. DeBoer, English/Language Arts by Mr. Dennison, and World Languages by Ms. Brown. Thank you to all who participated in this collaborative venture.

6. Mrs. Moore and Mr. DeBoer attended a NJ DOE workshop on 16 May regarding **Student Growth Objectives** (SGO) and received the most recent updates on the process. Ms. Brown, Mr. Dennison, and Mr. Steele will be attending the same workshop 30 May. This will assist us in taking the next steps to improve the SGO process for the 2014-2015 school year.

7. Thank you to Mr. Steele, Mr. DeBoer and the middle school math/science department teachers for their efforts in preparing and hosting our **Second Annual Family STEM Night**. Also, thank you to Mr. Detrick, Mr. Eisner and the high school students for their collaboration and contributions. Families in attendance had a great time enjoying the robotics presentation, the games, and science demonstrations held throughout the evening. The power point presentation served to emphasize to all in attendance just how important the careers in these fields will be in the future.

8. Congratulations to the **MS Chorus Club and Jazz Band**, along with their advisor, Mrs. Russo, for receiving First Place trophies with an excellent rating for both groups at the Music in the Parks competition on 9 May!

9. The **Best Buddies Prom** was held on 10 May and a wonderful time was had by all. There were 105 people in attendance. Mt. Olive's Best Buddies Chapter participated as well. Many staff members joined in the festivities. There was food catered from Mama's in Hackettstown and Tyler Whitmore's father was the DJ. Everyone danced the night away!

10. Danielle Sykora was honored as the "**Most Courageous**" athlete. She is a blind student that throws the discus and shot put for the Blue Streaks track team. The award is named after a journalist who covered local sports in Hunterdon County who won several awards for his writing while overcoming medical hardships. Danielle is completing her third season!

11. Warren Hills Senior, John General, will receive an "Award of Excellence" for his film "Broke and Famous" as part of the **National PTA Reflections Program**. John and his family are invited to join in celebration of the arts at the Annual National PTA Convention in Austin, Texas on 19 – 22 June. Reflections award recipients and their families are also invited to attend the National PTA Reflections art exhibit opening ceremony on Tuesday, 13 January 2015 at the U.S. Department of Education, LBJ Education Building, in Washington, DC. At the National Level for Film, there is one award for "outstanding interpretation", three awards for "Excellence" and three awards of "Merit". This is the second time that John has had a film win at the National level. Congratulations to John for his achievement!

12. The regular and make-up **NJASK** administration for grades 7 & 8 is now complete. As a reminder as we transition to PARCC testing, only the NJASK grade 8 Science administration is set to continue as a paper-based assessment.

13. The **GPA committee** continues to move forward with their diligent work. Results from the initial survey raised another concern regarding whether or not to maintain the current practice of allowing the minimum failing grade of 50% for a marking period to be posted regardless of whether the actual grade earned was significantly lower. Therefore, a follow-up survey was developed regarding this topic and made available to both MS and HS staff. Results of this survey as well as relevant policies were on the agenda for the committee's 15 May agenda. Additionally, consultation was held with Infinite Campus regarding its capabilities to support the committee proposals efforts. It has been confirmed that Infinite Campus does have the capabilities to technologically support the GPA committee's proposed transition! The

committee is set to have a second reading at the Middle States Steering Committee meeting tomorrow evening.

14. Three **Career Exploration Showcases** were held at the high school ranging from 50-100 students in attendance. Each showcase consisted of two presenters sharing similar career backgrounds. Community members were invited to volunteer to speak to our students about their chosen careers and provide insight into topics such as educational requirements, responsibilities, pros/cons, potential for growth, related opportunities, salary range, factors to consider, and any other additional pertinent information related to their specific career.

15. The **Senior Prom** was held at the Skylands in Randolph on Friday, 16 May. The student turn-out was great and everyone had an excellent time, despite the torrential downpours. Thank you to Ms. Wight, Senior class advisor, and the senior executive committee for their time and effort in organizing this annual event.

16. Just a reminder that tomorrow is an **early dismissal day** for staff professional development. This was rescheduled due to the day's cancellation in February because of snow!

Comm.
Reports

Committee Reports:

Mrs. Feller reported that Ed and Policy met tonight to preview new textbooks for adoption. The next meeting is Tuesday, June 3rd.

Mrs. Marshall reported on the Delegate Assembly. One of the resolutions recommended is on the agenda tonight on Superintendent's Cap. Other resolutions passed regarding School Choice, Professional Development, pre-school education, sending district ability to vote at Board meetings.

Mrs. Golda reported that she, Kathleen Halpin and Lisa Marshall attended a Legislative meeting. She also reported that Personnel met.

Dr. Altonjy recommended all personnel items.

I. PERSONNEL

Retire V. Rhoads Moved by Kathleen Halpin and seconded by Lisa Marshall to accept, with regret, the retirement of Mrs. Vickie Rhoads, Technology Manager, effective June 30, 2014.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 7 Nays 0

Resign
J. Hajdu

Moved by Kathleen Halpin and seconded by Lisa Marshall to accept, with regret, the resignation of Mr. John Hajdu, Mathematics Teacher, effective June 30, 2014.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 7 Nayes 0

Employ D.
M. Turner

Moved by Kathleen Halpin and seconded by Lisa Marshall to approve employment of Ms. Deana Marie Turner as a Business Education teacher at the high school for the 2014-15 school year on Step 1, BA, with an annual salary of \$50,718, effective September 1, 2014.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 7 Nayes 0

Leave of
Absence

Moved by Kathleen Halpin and seconded by Lisa Marshall to approve a maternity/disability leave of absence for Mrs. Brigitte Burstein commencing June 9, 2014 through June 19, 2014, and a Family Leave of Absence, without pay, to commence August 27, 2014 through approximately November 3, 2014. Brigitte plans to return to WHR on approximately November 4, 2014.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 7 Nayes 0

Leave of
Absence

Moved by Kathleen Halpin and seconded by Lisa Marshall to approve a maternity/disability leave of absence for Mrs. Ingrid Garofalo commencing June 2, 2014 through June 19, 2014, and a Family Leave of Absence, without pay, to commence August 27, 2014 through approximately November 19, 2014, and a Child Care Leave, without pay, to commence November 20, 2014 through the end of the second marking period. Ingrid plans to return to WHR at the beginning of the third marking period.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 7 Nayes 0

Leave of
Absence

Moved by Kathleen Halpin and seconded by Lisa Marshall to approve a maternity/disability leave of absence for Mrs. Rebecca Nugent commencing June 9, 2014 through June 19, 2014, and a Family Leave of Absence, without pay, to commence August 27, 2014 through approximately November 19, 2014. Rebecca plans to return on approximately November 20, 2014.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 7 Nayes 0

Leave of
Absence

Moved by Kathleen Halpin and seconded by Lisa Marshall to approve a maternity/disability leave of absence for Mrs. Gina Legora commencing August 27, 2014 through September 1, 2014, and a Family Leave of Absence, without pay, to commence September 2, 2014 through approximately November 3, 2014. Gina plans to return to WHR on approximately November 4, 2014.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 7 Nayes 0

Extended School Year Program Moved by Kathleen Halpin and seconded by Lisa Marshall to approve employment of the following individuals for the Extended School Year Program for a 20-day period [July 7 through August 1, 2014] for 5/6 hours per day, at an hourly rate of \$45 for teachers and nurses, and \$30 for paraprofessionals:

<u>Teachers: 6 hours per day</u>	<u>Paraprofessionals: 5 hours per day</u>	
Shannon McDowell	Tammie Kerkendall	Danielle Miksch
Karen Menke	Michael Quinto	Renee Smola
Heather Heslin	Priscilla Jacobson	Toni Manfra

Nurse: 5 hours per day
Bonita Duryea

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 7 Nayes 0

Employ L. Ross Moved by Kathleen Halpin and seconded by Lisa Marshall to approve employment of Mrs. Lyandra Ross as a maternity replacement Social Studies teacher at the high school for the period June 2, 2014 through June 19, 2014, with a salary of \$252.34 per day.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 7 Nayes 0

Substitute Teacher Moved by Kathleen Halpin and seconded by Lisa Marshall to approve employment of Ms. Samantha Davey for addition to our substitute teachers list.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 7 Nayes 0

II. EDUCATION AND POLICY

Policies Moved by Linda Feller and seconded by Lisa Marshall to approve the second and final reading of the following new and revised selected policies for inclusion in the district’s policy manual, as endorsed by the superintendent and Education and Policy Committee:

- 0141** Board Member Number and Term
- 0143** Board Member Election and Appointment
- 1581** Victim of Domestic or Sexual Violence Leave
- 3125** Employment of Teaching Staff Members
- 3230** Outside Activities
- 3240** Professional Development for Teachers and School Leaders + Regulations
- 4125** Employment of Support Staff Members
- 4230** Outside Activities
- 6510** Payroll Authorization

8508 Lunch Offer Versus Serve (OVS)

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 7 Nays 0

HIB Moved by Linda Feller and seconded by Lisa Marshall to affirm
Cases the administrative decisions regarding the following HIB case:

MS-13-14 - 016

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 7 Nays 0

Travel & Moved by Linda Feller and seconded by Lisa Marshall to approve
Conference the following Travel and Conference Requests.

NAME	TITLE	LOCATION	COST
Cesar Mendes	AP Spanish Summer Institute	Rutgers University	Registration \$1,025
Alexandra Helle	AP Environmental Science Institute	Middlesex County College	Registration \$900. + Mileage
Patricia Hetrick, Susan Rader & Jaclyn Russo	Legal One – Annual Training	FEA, Monroe Township	Registration \$150. + Mileage

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 7 Nays 0

Field Trip Moved by Linda Feller and seconded by Lisa Marshall to approve
Requests the following Field Trip Requests.

Requested by:	Trip	Location
Daryl Detrick & Adam Slack	Robotics Club to competition	Montgomery High School
Project Graduation Committee	Project Graduation	Play America, Freehold, NJ
Penny Giamoni	Teen Summit	Centenary College, Hackettstown, NJ
Nicole Silvis	NJASC Leadership Training Conference	The College of New Jersey, Trenton, NJ
Lee Ann Kubbishun	7 th & 8 th Grade Alternative Classes	Merrill Creek Reservoir

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 7 Nays 0

Science Moved by Linda Feller and seconded by Lisa Marshall to approve
Practicum Ms. Maria Corall, College of St. Elizabeth student, for a Science
Chemistry Practicum at the middle school [one half day per week for 5 weeks] and high school [one half day per week for 5 weeks] commencing

September 15, 2014 through November 21, 2014, under the direction of Mrs. Hetrick and Mr. Clymer.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 7 Nayes 0

Resolution Moved by Linda Feller and seconded by Lisa Marshall to approve attached Resolution supporting A-2930/S-1987 [Eliminates superintendent salary cap].

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 7 Nayes 0

III. BUDGET AND FINANCE

Financial Moved by Kristin Fox and seconded by Kathleen Halpin to Reports approve the April, 2014 Board Secretary and Treasurer’s Reports 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 these reports, 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 reports of the Secretary and the Treasurer for the month of April, 2014; 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 7 Nayes 0

Transfers Moved by Kristin Fox and seconded by Kathleen Halpin to approve transfers.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 7 Nayes 0

Bills Moved by Kristin Fox and seconded by Kathleen Halpin to approve the regular lists of bills.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 7 Nayes 0

Student Moved by Kristin Fox and seconded by Kathleen Halpin to Activities approve Student Activity transactions for the month of April, 2014.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 7 Nayes 0

Shared Services

Moved by Kristin Fox and seconded by Kathleen Halpin to approve a Shared Services Transportation Agreement with Washington Township School District for the 2014-15 school year, commencing July 1, 2014 and ending June 30, 2015, in the amount of \$81,716.00.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes 7 Nays 0

Citizens Part.

Citizens Participation: None.

Executive Session

Moved by Lisa Marshall and seconded by John Bell to go into Executive Session as indicated by item **a., c. and i.** 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 7 Nays 0

The Board entered into Executive Session at 7:30 p.m.

Reconvene

Moved by John Bell and seconded by Kathleen Halpin to reconvene into open session at 10:35 p.m.

Ayes 7 Nays 0

Adjournment Moved by Daniel Brundage and seconded by John Bell to adjourn
at 10:50 p.m.

Ayes 7 Nays 0

Maureen Joyce
Business Administrator/Bd. Sec'y.

dmg