MINUTES
SPECIAL BOARD MEETING
BOARD OF EDUCATION
WARREN WOODS PUBLIC SCHOOLS
October 26, 2026

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by President Schulte at 6:00 p.m.in the Media Center of Warren Woods Middle School, 13400 12 Mile Rd. Road Warren, MI.

Roll Call

Members present: Chamberlain, Fitzpatrick, Garcia, Hiller, Nitz, Schulte, and Spicer. Also present were Superintendent Stacey Denewith-Fici, Deputy Superintendent Neil Cassabon, Curriculum Director Michelle Voelker, Director of Facilities and Transportation Don Ball, Warren Woods Middle School principal Donny Sikora, and Student Representatives Mya Spicer and Aiden Paruszkiewicz.

Pledge of Allegiance

Agenda Approval

It was moved by Fitzpatrick supported by Hiller to approve the Agenda as presented. The motion carried 7 – 0.

Minutes

It was moved by Fitzpatrick supported by Nitz to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of October 12, 2026. The motion carried 7-0.

Correspondence

None

Treasurer's Report

Deputy Superintendent Cassabon presented the Treasurer's Report for September 2026. He began with General Fund Revenue consisting mainly of Local tax collections, in addition to Adult Ed tuition, earnings on investments, and gate receipts. Incoming Transfers included an Enhancement Millage payment from the ISD.

Next a review of Food Service Local Revenue reflected investment earnings in addition to some ala carte food sales, while Federal Revenue reflected reimbursement for Federal Free and Reduced lunch claims.

Finally, a review of the ISD Center Program reflected no revenue as we wait for the MISD to pass along the first State Aid payment. These programs are currently being covered by the fund balance.

Payment of the Bills

It was moved by Spicer supported by Hiller to pay the following bills as presented:

Building & Site	$	59,507.00
2020 Bond Series I	$	4,156.00
2023 Energy Bond	$	247,648.03

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Payment of the Bills (continued)

2025 Capitol Projects Fund	$	484,329.8

Mr. Schulte noted the importance of maintaining a healthy fund balance to cover bills until revenue begins to come in.

The motion carried 7 – 0.

Old Business

None.

New Business

Reports

Student Representatives

Student Representative Mya Spicer began her report with an update on the WWT attendance contest. She stated that current leaders are:
9th grade: Dias, Stewart, Corpuz
10th grade: Thielk, Portalski, Eberhardt
11th grade: Sunde, Carnes, Sullivan
12th grade: Vukich, Smith, Walczy

Moving on to other events at WWT, Mya stated that Communication camp is currently in process and will be returning October 27. She also stated that the new Film Club had a great turnout at their first meeting and the Political Awareness Club will be having their meeting soon.

Aiden continued with the student report catching up on the WWT Halloween spirit week themes:
Monster Mash Monday
Texas Tuesday
Wednesday, we wear Pink-in honor of Breast Cancer Awareness
Throwback Thursday
- Staff- 50's
- Freshman- 60's
- Sophomores- 70's
- Juniors- 80's
- Seniors- 90's

Frightening Friday-wear your Halloween costume
Aiden continued with Halloween week excitement stating that on Friday there will be a PBIS Incentive of Dodgeball staff vs students.

Aiden concluded his report with fall sports wrapping up. Some of the teams have already finished their season but there are a few still competing. He stated that overall the teams did an amazing job and reported the following team records:
Football 3-6
Girls Volleyball 18-15
Boys Soccer 16-2-2 -losing in Divisions to DLS
Girls Swim 8-3

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New Business (continued)

Reports

Student Representatives (continued)

Boys Tennis 0-5
Cross Country 10-5

Building Report: Warren Woods Middle School

Donny Sikora, Principal of Warren Woods Middle School, introduced members of the WWMS Leadership Squad, a student leadership group selected by staff to represent the school. The students presented "This is WWMS: Our School, Our Story, Our Pride," providing the Board with a student perspective on academics, athletics, extracurricular activities, and school culture.

The presentation began with an overview of academics, highlighting opportunities in English Language Arts, Mathematics, Social Studies, and Science. Students shared information about classroom experiences, instructional topics, and the opportunity for middle school students to earn high school credits while attending WWMS.

Students also discussed the athletic programs available at the middle school, including volleyball, football, cheer, dance, basketball, wrestling, track and field, baseball, softball, and swim. They emphasized how participation in athletics helps students develop teamwork, leadership skills, and school pride.

In addition to athletics, the presenters highlighted a variety of extracurricular opportunities that allow students to explore interests and build connections with their peers. Clubs and activities include Robotics, Art Club, Dungeons & Dragons, Chess Club, Spanish Club, and E-Sports. Students also shared information about Student Council and the National Junior Honor Society (NJHS). They explained that Student Council members help plan school events such as the 6th Grade Mixer, Holiday Hangout, Glow Dance, Pep Rally, and Spirit Days, while NJHS members demonstrate the pillars of Scholarship, Leadership, Service, Citizenship, and Character.

The presentation concluded with highlights of several additional programs available to students. The Yearbook program provides students with opportunities to document school events, athletic competitions, field trips, and activities throughout the year. Students also noted that 33% of the WWMS student population participates in Band. Finally, presenters discussed the Peer-to-Peer program, which fosters understanding, inclusion, and meaningful connections among students of all abilities. Through weekly meetings and activities, students develop relationships that promote acceptance and real-world social connections.

The student presenters concluded by thanking the Board of Education for its leadership and continued support of Warren Woods Middle School and its students.

Student Representative Aiden asked for an explanation on the 6th grade mixer. The Student presenters discussed that the mixer is bringing all 6th graders together for the event so that students from all three elementaries and new transfer students can get to know one another.

Mr. Garcia asked the students about the cell phone policy at WWMS.

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New Business (continued)

Reports

Building Report: Warren Woods Middle School (continued)

The students expressed a variety of opinions. Some said it encouraged conversations in the lunchroom because they can't play on their phones, while others stated that it discouraged conversations because they did not have games and posts to discuss. Overall, the WWMS students stated the transition has not been too bad and Mr. Sikora commented that discipline has been minimal.

Resolution: Authorizing 2027 Bond Refunding

Deputy Superintendent Neil Cassabon presented the Resolution establishing parameters for the sale of the District's 2027 Refunding Bonds. He explained that adoption of the Bond Authorizing Resolution allows the District to proceed with the issuance of the bonds but does not obligate the District to do so. The Resolution authorizes the issuance of 2027 Refunding Bonds to refinance all or a portion of the District's 2018 School Building and Site Bonds. Mr. Cassabon further explained that the Resolution grants authority to the Superintendent and Deputy Superintendent to complete the transaction without requiring additional Board approval.

Mr. Garcia asked whether the bonds would be repaid over the same period of time. Mr. Cassabon replied that the current plan is to repay the bonds within the existing timeline, with no extension of the repayment period.

It was moved by Fitzpatrick supported by Chamberlain, to approve the **Resolution:** Authorizing 2027 Bond Refunding**.** The Motion carried 7-0.

Change Order: Bid Pack #3 Summer 2026 Renovations

Deputy Superintendent Cassabon explained that this change order includes 17 changes equating to a total cost of $4,205.14.

The Change Order consists of changes to the projects at Warrens Woods Middle School, Warren Woods Tower, and Briarwood Elementary.

Ms. Nitz inquired whether the change involved the temporary access road on Martin Road. Neil Cassabon confirmed that it did, stating that the modification was limited to that one large area.

It was moved by Fitzpatrick supported by Chamberlain, to approve the **Change Order: Summer 2026.** The Motion carried 7-0

Personnel Items

Leaves:

One Unpaid Medical Leave, one Intermittent FMLA Care of a family member, and one Extended Unpaid Medical Leave were presented.

It was moved by Fitzpatrick supported by Nitz, to approve and accept the **Leaves** as presented. The Motion carried 7-0.

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Personnel Items (continued)

New Hires:

Ali, Janice – Kitchen Helper - WWT – date of hire 10/19/26.

It was moved by Hiller supported by Chamberlain to approve the **New Hires** as presented. The motion carried 7 – 0.

Public Expression

Mrs. Spicer commented that she had the opportunity to chaperone the WWMS Spanish II field trip to the DIA and Mexican town. She reported the students loved the experience and had a great time.

Mr. Fredlund informed the Board that the 2028 International Trip has been officially postponed. The trip will move to 2029 to allow an additional year to fundraise.

Mr. Chamberlain shared that the Michigan High School Baseball Coaches Association has chosen WWT Varsity Baseball Coach Jose Jimenez to be one of the five coaches selected into the 2027 MHSBCA Hall of Fame. He stated the Coach Jimenez is a solid coach that focuses both on academics and athletics.

Mr. Schulte expressed his appreciation for the opportunity to attend the Michigan Association of School Boards (MASB) Conference in Lansing. He reported that he attended five sessions and earned his Advocacy Certificate.

Mr. Garcia added that a total of five Board members attended the MASB Conference. He noted that the experience is always enlightening and provides valuable insights for Board members.

Adjournment

It was moved by Nitz supported by Chamberlain to adjourn the meeting at 6:48 PM. The motion carried 7 – 0.

Respectfully submitted,

Nicole Spicer
Secretary

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