

**MINUTES
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
BOARD OF EDUCATION
WARREN WOODS PUBLIC SCHOOLS
APRIL 17, 2023**

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by President Green at 6:00 p.m. in the Board Room of the Administrative Service Center, 12900 Frazho Road, Warren, MI.

Roll Call

Members present: Green, Schulte, Walsh, Zannetti, Fitzpatrick, Hiller and Garcia. Also present were Superintendent Stacey Denewith-Fici, Deputy Superintendent Neil Cassabon, Curriculum Director Kara Beal, Special Services Director Stacie Sward, Student Representatives to the Board Isabella Burke and Natalya Bonkowski and Executive Assistant Jackie Miracle.

Pledge of Allegiance

Agenda Approval

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

Minutes

Superintendent Denewith-Fici presented the Minutes from the March 27, 2023 Special Meeting. It was moved by Zannetti supported by Hiller to approve the Minutes of the Special Meeting of March 27, 2023 as presented. The motion carried 4 – 0 – 2 with Schulte and Fitzpatrick abstaining due to absence.

Correspondence

None

Treasurer's Report

Deputy Superintendent Cassabon presented the Treasurer's Report for March 2023. He began with General Fund local revenue, which included interest earnings and Adult Education tuition, along with local grants, and noted there were no March incoming taxes. State revenue included payments for State Aid, Adult Ed and GSRP, while Federal revenue included ESSER II, IDEA and Perkins Grant reimbursement. Incoming Transfers reflect payment from the ISD Enhancement Millage and Insurance Fraud Surplus Fund rebate. Mr. Cassabon noted Expenses included three pay periods for the month of March. Food Service Local Revenue included State Aid, in addition to investment earnings, catering revenue and WWT food sales, which are mainly from ala cart sales. Federal Revenue reflected Free and Reduced breakfast and lunch claims. Lastly, Deputy Superintendent Cassabon reviewed the ISD Center Program which reflected State Aid from the MISD.

Treasurer Zannetti noted a payment to Advanced Building Group for water damage and asked if it would be covered by insurance. Deputy Superintendent Cassabon explained that the charge was due to damage caused by flooding of the records storage room at the ASC and yes, it will be an insurance claim minus the deductible. Next, Mr. Zannetti inquired about two payments to Michigan Schools Energy Coop and Mr. Cassabon explained it was for gas and electricity billing.

Treasurer's Report (continued)

Trustee Garcia thanked Deputy Superintendent Cassabon for clarification on the questions he submitted prior to the meeting.

Payment of the Bills

It was moved by Walsh supported by Schulte to pay the following bills as presented:

General Fund	\$	1,138,912.52
Center Programs		4,127.67
Food Service Fund		168,543.99
Child Care Fund		3,732.89
Campus Corner		4,086.14
Bond 2020 Series I		227,563.10

The motion carried 7 – 0.

Old Business

None

New Business

Reports

Student Representatives

Superintendent Denewith-Fici introduced Student Representatives Natalya Bonkowski and Isabella Burke and invited them to report on activities at WWT.

Natalya reported that Spring sports are now underway, but weather continues to play a factor causing cancellations and forcing indoor practices. She added the recent Staff versus Students Dodgeball Game sponsored by NHS was a success.

Bella stated students are returning from Spring Break and are immersed in testing while the Interact Club is sponsoring a Day of Caring Field Trip. She added that she and two other students would be representing WWT at the DECA National Competition in Orlando, Florida next week.

Staff Recognition: Teacher of the Year

Superintendent Denewith-Fici recognized WWPS 2022-23 Outstanding Teachers and presented those present with a Certificate of Recognition. Courtney Joondeph, third grade teacher, Pinewood Elementary, Jennifer Astfalk, OT, WWMS and Eric Martin, English, WWT.

Ms. Denewith-Fici read student statements for each candidate and thanked them for their dedication and service, and for always doing what is best for kids.

New Business (continued)

Course Adoption: AP Government

Curriculum Director Kara Beal presented the Course Adoption information for a semester-long elective course being offered beginning with the 2023-24 school year, and explained this was an opportunity to expand offerings to high school students.

It was moved by Schulte supported by Fitzpatrick to approve the **Course Adoption:** AP Government as presented. **ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes:** Schulte, Walsh, Zannetti, Fitzpatrick, Hiller, Garcia, and Green. **Nays:** 0. The motion carried 7 – 0.

Resource Adoption: AP Government

Curriculum Director Kara Beal explained that this would provide student and teacher edition textbooks, in addition to supplementary materials, to support the new AP Government Course.

It was moved by Schulte supported by Fitzpatrick to approve the **Resource Adoption:** AP Government as presented. **ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes:** Schulte, Walsh, Zannetti, Fitzpatrick, Hiller, Garcia, and Green. **Nays:** 0. The motion carried 7 – 0.

Course Adoption: Women in History

Curriculum Director Kara Beal presented the Course Adoption information and explained this was a semester-long elective class. It provides an opportunity to expand course offerings and allow high school students to explore content in greater depth.

It was moved by Walsh supported by Fitzpatrick to approve the **Course Adoption:** Women in History as presented. **ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes:** Schulte, Walsh, Zannetti, Fitzpatrick, Hiller, Garcia, and Green. **Nays:** 0. The motion carried 7 – 0.

Resource Adoption: Kesler Science 6 – 8

Curriculum Director Kara Beal presented the **Resource Adoption:** Kesler Science 6 – 8 and explained this was for six, one-year subscriptions to supplement the Middle School Science Program.

It was moved by Zannetti supported by Walsh to approve the **Resource Adoption:** Kesler Science 6 – 8 as presented. **ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes:** Schulte, Walsh, Zannetti, Fitzpatrick, Hiller, Garcia, and Green. **Nays:** 0. The motion carried 7 – 0.

Ms. Elizabeth Mors, Middle School Science Teacher, expressed her support for the resource stating she loves that it is aligned with and focused on practicing standards for engineering. Ms. Beal added that it pairs very well with Kagan structures.

Purchase: School Bus

Deputy Superintendent explained the Board suggested moving forward with the approval of the purchase of an additional replacement bus at the March 27, 2023 Board Meeting. After consideration of lead times and price increases, this recommendation allows us to stay on track with the current bus replacement schedule. It was moved by Fitzpatrick, supported by Schulte to approve the **Purchase:** School Bus as presented. The motion carried 7 – 0.

Mr. Zannetti asked if any consideration has been given to purchasing electric buses in the future. Some discussion followed regarding what infrastructure improvements are required to support electric vehicles in the near future, such as tearing up the new parking lot in order to support the installation of charging stations.

2022-2023 Budget Amendment

Deputy Superintendent Cassabon stated the Finance Committee met on April 12 to review the recommended changes in detail and noted that this was the second budget amendment for the year.

First, Mr. Cassabon reviewed General Fund recommendations and detailed Local, State and Federal Revenue. He noted a property tax capture from the City for the Lipari and Brownfield redevelopment has created a shift in revenue from Local to State sources.

Mr. Cassabon also noted an increase in local revenue due to an increase in investment earnings. State Revenues now also include \$2.49 million in MPSERS UAAL one-time payment funds that will flow through the District back to the State. State sources were also adjusted to include the new school security and mental health grants the District was awarded.

Federal sources were adjusted to updated projected grant spending for the remainder of the year. Total changes in revenues resulted in a recommended increase of \$2.95 million in total revenue.

Next, Mr. Cassabon reviewed all sections of expenditures highlighting how the one-time MPSERS pass through impacts this budget amendment. In addition, he stated this amendment reflects the new contract with AFSCME, staff resignation/replacements, docked days and insurance changes, increased utility and building maintenance costs, along with the addition of security grant funding impacting maintenance and technology.

Mr. Cassabon presented the budget outlook moving forward noting the one-time Federal stimulus funding will be ending, the pending results of the Non-Homestead Millage, upcoming contract negotiations, MPSERS funding and the results of the May Revenue Estimating Conference.

Finally, Mr. Cassabon reviewed revenue and expense amendments for the Centers Program and Child Care Fund, noting the Child Care Stabilization Grant usage which allowed the district to provide tuition assistance to families for SACC and childcare services as well as bonus and retention payments for the childcare staff. Mr. Cassabon noted a review of the Campus Corner Fund reflected the highest fund balance in Campus Corner history; and finally, the Food Service Fund reflected an increase in earnings on investments, strong ala carte sales, and a Supply Chain Assistance Grant which has helped to offset rising food costs. Mr. Cassabon also noted that included in the recommended changes are slight adjustments to the budgets for the Student/School Activity Fund, Building and Site Fund, 2018 Bond Issue Fund and 2020 Bond Issue Fund.

It was moved by Zannetti, supported by Fitzpatrick to approve the **2022-23 Budget Amendment** as presented. **ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes:** Schulte, Walsh, Zannetti, Fitzpatrick, Hiller, Garcia, and Green. **Nays:** 0. The motion carried 7 – 0.

Mr. Zannetti thanked Mr. Cassabon for his detailed explanation.

Mr. Garcia commented on his appreciation for Deputy Superintendent Cassabon's command of numbers.

Personnel Items

Leaves:

As presented.

It was moved by Fitzpatrick supported by Walsh to approve the **Leaves** as presented. The motion carried 7 – 0.

New Hires:

Kelly Knill – Special Education Paraprofessional – WWT – Hire date 4/10/23

It was moved by Fitzpatrick supported by Walsh to approve the **New Hire** as presented. The motion carried 7 – 0.

Public Expression

Lisa Grzywacz, WWEA Vice President, addressed the board to share some staff accomplishments recently featured in the media. First, she shared the article recently published in *C & G News* highlighting Pinewood teacher Pam Ansell and her Read Across America Program. Next, she shared a story recently published in *MEA Magazine* featuring O.T. Michele Morgan and the “Maker Space” lab. Finally, Ms. Grzywacz commended WWMS Todd Bloch for organizing a visit to the middle school from Detroit Red Wing Defensemen Ben Chiarot.

Superintendent Denewith-Fici thanked Ms. Grzywacz and the WWEA for informing voters of the upcoming election and participating in the literature drop last week.

Student Representative Natalya announced that a Blood Drive will be held at WWT on April 24. She added that Ms. Morgan, mentioned previously, also works with the Peer2Peer Program and recently organized an effort where members had an opportunity to practice life skills by washing chef coats for the students in the CTE Foods Class.

Mr. Zannetti addressed Superintendent Denewith-Fici and Deputy Superintendent Cassabon and requested more information on the recently announced Teacher Cadet Program.

Adjournment

It was moved by Zannetti, supported by Hiller to adjourn the meeting at 7:02 PM. The motion carried 7 – 0.

Respectfully submitted,

Kay F. Walsh, Secretary