MINUTES
ORGANIZATIONAL AND REGULAR BOARD MEETING
BOARD OF EDUCATION
WARREN WOODS PUBLIC SCHOOLS
JULY 14, 2025

Appoint Acting Secretary

It was moved by Fitzpatrick supported by Zannetti to appoint Hiller as Acting Secretary for the July 14, 2025 Organizational and Regular Board of Education Meeting. The motion carried 6 – 0.

Election of Temporary Chairperson

It was moved by Fitzpatrick, supported by Hiller to appoint Mike Schulte temporary Chairperson for the purpose of organizing the Board. The motion carried 6 – 0.

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Temporary Chairperson Schulte at 6:03 p.m. in the Board Room of the Administrative Service Center, 12900 Frazho Road, Warren, MI.

Roll Call

Members present: Zannetti, Fitzpatrick, Hiller, Garcia, Spicer and Schulte. Absent with notice: Nitz. Also present were Superintendent Stacey Denewith-Fici, Deputy Superintendent Neil Cassabon, Director of Facilities and Transportation Don Ball and Executive Assistant Jackie Miracle.

Pledge of Allegiance

Organization of the Board

It was moved by Hiller, supported by Fitzpatrick, that the current Board officers continue for 2025/2026, which would have Schulte serving as President, Zannetti as Vice President, Hiller as Secretary and Fitzpatrick as Treasurer. Hearing no other nominations, the President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer were elected by acclamation. **ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes:** Zannetti, Fitzpatrick, Hiller, Garcia, Spicer and Schulte. **Nays:** None. The motion carried 6 – 0.

Agenda Approval

It was moved by Fitzpatrick, supported by Hiller to approve the Agenda as presented. The motion carried 6 – 0.

Minutes

It was moved by Hiller, supported by Zannetti, to approve the Minutes of the Special Meeting of June 24, 2025 and the Minutes of the Closed Session of June 24, 2025 with the following change: replace Kay Walsh, Secretary with Scott Hiller, Secretary. The motion carried 5 – 0 – 1 with Fitzpatrick abstaining due to absence.

Correspondence

None.

Payment of Bills

It was moved by Hiller, supported by Fitzpatrick to pay the bills in the following amounts:

General Fund	$ 867,854.16
Center Programs Fund	4,988.37
Food Service Fund	102,315.59
Child Care Fund	2,458.10
Campus Corner	904.07
Bond 2020 Series I	230,811.35
2023 Energy Bond	363,455.83
2025 Capital Projects Fund	210,201.46

The motion carried 6 – 0.

Old Business

None.

New Business

Reports

Student Achievement – Back to School Professional Development Draft

Superintendent Denewith-Fici shared a draft schedule for the professional development sessions planned for August 20 and 21. These sessions will take place as staff return to their classrooms for the new school year. Elementary teachers (Grades K–5) will participate in training on the Science of Reading, Mathematical Practices, and the CKLA program launch. Secondary teachers will attend content-specific sessions, Kagan Engagement Extension training, and a workshop focused on alignment and assessment. Additionally, counselors, special education staff, GSRP educators, and

<u>New Business</u>

Reports

Student Achievement – Back to School Professional Development Draft (continued)

office personnel will receive targeted training tailored to their roles.

Resolution: The Interlocal Purchasing System

Superintendent Denewith-Fici stated that this resolution will enable the district to participate in the cooperative purchasing program, allowing it to acquire the new literacy program at consortium pricing.

It was moved by Fitzpatrick supported by Garcia to approve the **Resolution:** The Interlocal Purchasing System as presented. **ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes:** Zannetti, Fitzpatrick, Hiller, Garcia, Spicer and Schulte. **Nays:** None. The motion carried 6 – 0.

Vice President Zannetti asked who ran the program and if there were any costs associated with it. Deputy Superintendent Cassabon replied that there were no costs associated with it as the program is a national purchasing cooperative whose primary members are educational institutions, government entities and non-profits.

Business Office Annual Actions

Superintendent Denewith-Fici noted that the Business Office items were annual action items for the Board.

Bank Resolution - Depository

Deputy Superintendent Cassabon commented that this Resolution names the savings and checking account banks.

It was moved by Fitzpatrick supported by Hiller, that the Board adopt the Resolution to use Michigan School District Liquid Asset Fund c/o PFM Asset Management, Flagstar Bank and Citizens Bank as depositories of savings and checking account funds of the Warren Woods Board of Education for the fiscal year 2025/2026. **ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes:** Zannetti, Fitzpatrick, Hiller, Garcia, Spicer and Schulte. **Nays:** None. The motion carried 6 – 0.

Bank Resolution - Investments

Deputy Superintendent Cassabon reviewed the Resolution naming investment institutions.

It was moved by Fitzpatrick supported by Garcia, that the Board adopt the Resolution to name Citizen's Bank, JP Morgan Securities Inc./JP Morgan Chase, MI School District Liquid Asset Fund c/o PFM Asset Management, Flagstar Bank, Huntington Bank and Comerica Bank as depositories of investment funds of the Warren

<u>New Business</u>

Bank Resolution – Investments (continued)

Woods Board of Education for the fiscal year 2025/2026. **ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes:** Zannetti, Fitzpatrick, Hiller, Garcia, Spicer and Schulte. **Nays:** None. The motion carried 6 – 0.

Business Office Annual Actions

Bank Resolution – Electronic Transactions Authorization

Mr. Cassabon reviewed this annual Resolution that allows the Deputy Superintendent to have the authority to process electronic payments. It was moved by Fitzpatrick supported by Garcia, that the Board adopt the Resolution authorizing the Deputy Superintendent to enter into ACH arrangements as the Electronic Transactions Officer for the Warren Woods Board of Education for fiscal year 2025/2026 as presented. **ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes:** Zannetti, Fitzpatrick, Hiller, Garcia, Spicer and Schulte. **Nays:** None. The motion carried 6 – 0.

Resolution – Delegating Authority to Assign Fund Balance

Deputy Superintendent Cassabon explained that this resolution is delegating authority to the Superintendent to assign fund balance under accounting procedures, GASB Statement #54. It was moved by Hiller, supported by Fitzpatrick, that the Board adopt the Resolution delegating the authority to the Superintendent to assign fund balance under GASB Statement #54 for the Warren Woods Board of Education for fiscal year 2025/2026. **ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes:** Zannetti, Fitzpatrick, Hiller, Garcia, Spicer and Schulte. **Nays:** None. The motion carried 6 – 0.

Authorization for Signatories

Deputy Superintendent Cassabon reported on this annual authorization naming the Board President and Treasurer as signatories for some funds, as well as the Superintendent or designee, for other funds.

It was moved by Fitzpatrick supported by Hiller, that the Board authorize that 1) General Fund, payroll, debt fund, building and site, trust and agency, and capital project fund checks be electronically signed by the President and Treasurer of the Warren Woods Board of Education; 2) Federal Aid applications, contracts with local/state agencies, agreements, contracts and purchase orders for goods/services (in keeping with district by-laws and policies on behalf of the Board), internal and petty cash checks, and reports to the Michigan Department of Education and other governmental units be signed by the Superintendent or her designee. **ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes:** Zannetti, Fitzpatrick, Hiller, Garcia, Spicer and Schulte. **Nays:** None. The motion carried 6 – 0.

New Business

Business Office Annual Actions

Appoint Auditor of Record

Deputy Superintendent Cassabon recommended continuing the district's relationship with the accounting firm of Plante & Moran as Auditor of Record.

It was moved by Fitzpatrick supported by Zannetti, that the Board appoint the accounting firm of Plante & Moran as Auditor of Record to represent the Warren Woods Board of Education for year 2025/2026. **ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes:** Zannetti, Fitzpatrick, Hiller, Garcia, Spicer and Schulte. **Nays:** None. The motion carried 6 – 0.

Trustee Garcia inquired about the auditor fees and whether they had increased significantly. Mr. Cassabon responded that the fees are typical and that any increases have been standard.

Mr. Zannetti asked if it was possible to skip a year of auditing after receiving an "Unmodified" rating for several consecutive years. Mr. Cassabon explained that, because the funds are public, a yearly audit is required by state law.

Appoint Legal Counsel

Deputy Superintendent Cassabon recommended appointing the following firms as legal counsel: Miller, Canfield, Paddock & Stone; Clark Hill, PC; Thrun Law Firm; Collins & Blaha, PC, and Secrest Wardle to represent the Warren Woods Board of Education for year 2025/2026. It was moved by Fitzpatrick, supported by Garcia, that the Board appoint the following firms as Legal Counsel to represent the Warren Woods Board of Education for 2025/2026 Miller, Canfield, Paddock & Stone; Clark Hill, PC; Thrun Law Firm, Collins and Blaha, PC and Secrest Wardle. **ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes:** Zannetti, Fitzpatrick, Hiller, Garcia, Spicer and Schulte. **Nays:** None. The motion carried 6 – 0.

Board Finance Committee

It was noted that Zannetti, Fitzpatrick and Garcia served during the 2024/2025 school year. Nitz served as the alternate. It was moved by Zannetti supported by Hiller, that the Board appoint Zannetti, Fitzpatrick and Garcia to serve as the 2025/2026 Board Finance Committee, and Nitz be appointed to serve as alternate. The motion carried 6 – 0.

Board Policy Committee

Superintendent Denewith-Fici reported that the Policy Committee for 2024/2025 was Fitzpatrick, Hiller and Garcia with Walsh as alternate. It was moved by Fitzpatrick, supported by Garcia that the Board appoint Fitzpatrick, Hiller and Garcia to serve as the

<u>New Business</u>

Board Policy Committee (continued)
Board Policy Committee for 2025/2026, and Spicer be appointed to serve as alternate. The motion carried 6– 0.

Expulsion Reinstatement Committee

Superintendent Denewith-Fici noted that Schulte and Hiller served on this committee for 2024/2025.

It was moved by Hiller supported by Zannetti, that the Board appoint Hiller and Spicer to serve as Board representatives to the Expulsion Reinstatement Committee for 2025/2026, and Schulte be appointed alternate. The motion carried 6 – 0.

Macomb County School Board Association (MCSBA) Legislative Committee Representative(s) Appointment

Superintendent Denewith-Fici noted that Schulte served in this role for 2024/2025. It was moved by Zannetti, supported by Hiller, that Schulte be appointed as the 2025/2026 MCSBA Legislative Committee Representative with Zannetti as the alternate. The motion carried 6– 0.

Michigan Association of School Boards (MASB) – Membership Renewal

Superintendent Denewith-Fici commented that the Board has maintained membership to the Michigan Association of School Boards (MASB). The MASB provides Board Member Certification among its many services.

It was moved by Fitzpatrick supported by Garcia, that the Board approve membership with the Michigan Association of School Boards and Legal Trust Fund with payment of the 2025/2026 membership dues. The motion carried 6 – 0.

Michigan Association of School Boards (MASB) – Legislative Relations Network – Representative Appointment

Superintendent Denewith-Fici noted that Schulte served on this committee for 2024/2025, with Garcia serving as alternate. It was moved by Hiller supported by Fitzpatrick, that the Board designate Schulte as the Legislative Relations Network appointee for the 2025/2026 school year with Garcia serving as alternate. The motion carried 6 – 0.

Appointment: Professional Development Committee

Superintendent Denewith-Fici presented the recommendation to appoint members of the WWPS District Student Achievement Team to the District's Professional Development Advisory Committee in accordance with the State School Aid Act. It was

New Business

Appointment: Professional Development Committee (continued)
moved by Hiller supported by Fitzpatrick to approve the **Appointment:** Professional Development Committee as presented. The motion carried 6 – 0.

Estimated Board Expenses

Superintendent Denewith-Fici presented the estimated expenses for Trustee Garcia to attend the MASB Summer Institute in in Lansing, MI from 8/14 – 8/16. It was moved by Zannetti supported by Fitzpatrick that the Board approve the **Estimated Board Expenses** as presented. The motion carried 6 – 0.

Personnel Items

Superintendent Denewith-Fici presented the Personnel Items for Board Approval.

Leaves:
As Presented

It was moved by Fitzpatrick supported by Zannetti to approve the **Leaves** as presented. The motion carried 6 – 0.

New Hires:
Destiny Brown – Childcare Assistant – ECC – date of hire 7/1/25

Neeha Haque – Childcare Assistant – ECC – date of hire 6/23/25.

Brittany Sefton-Ereaux – Special Education Paraprofessional – WWT – date of hire 8/20/25.

Troy Hufziger – 5th Grade Teacher – Pinewood – date of hire 7/9/25.

Lily Kersheske – Special Education Paraprofessional – WWT- date of hire 8/20/25.

Christopher Kylies, Jr. – Freshman Boy's Basketball Coach – WWT – date of hire 7/1/25.

Amy Selmon – Childcare Assistant – ECC – date of hire 6/16/25.

Venus Smith – Special Education Paraprofessional – Briarwood- date of hire 8/20/25.

<u>Personnel Items</u>

New Hires: (continued)
Joseph Zuccarro – Secondary Summer School Teacher – date of hire 7/7/25.

It was moved by Fitzpatrick supported by Hiller that the Board approve the New Hires as presented. The motion carried 6 – 0.

Termination:
As Presented

It was moved by Zannetti supported by Fitzpatrick that the Board approve the **Termination** as presented. The motion carried 6 – 0.

President Schulte asked if this was a probationary employee and/or what was the cause for dismissal and Superintendent Denewith-Fici replied the employee had several consecutive days no call/no show. Vice President Zannetti asked if the employee had reached out upon notice of termination and Ms. Denewith-Fici stated they had not.

<u>Public Expression</u>

Lisa Grzywacz, representative of the WWEA, and resident of the district, commented on how well the construction projects throughout the district are progressing.

Superintendent Denewith-Fici announced that the Summer School Program was off to a great start and thanked Summer School Administrators Donny Sikora and Tim Baldwin and the entire Summer School staff for their efforts.

Vice President Zannetti asked if the district was offering the "Meet Up and Eat Up" program again this summer and Superintendent Denewith-Fici stated that free breakfast and lunch were provided for anyone ages 18 and under throughout the summer.

<u>Negotiations</u> (Closed Session)

It was moved by Fitzpatrick supported by Zannetti that the Boad move to Closed Session for discussion of Negotiations. **ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes:** Zannetti, Fitzpatrick, Hiller, Garcia, Spicer and Schulte. **Nays:** None. The motion carried 6 – 0.

The Board moved to Closed Session at 6:32 PM.

The Board returned from Closed Session at 7:26 PM.

Adjournment

It was moved by Fitzpatrick, supported by Zannetti to adjourn the meeting at 7:26 PM. The motion carried 6 – 0.

Respectfully submitted,

Scott Hiller, Secretary