MINUTES
ORGANIZATIONAL AND REGULAR BOARD MEETING
BOARD OF EDUCATION
WARREN WOODS PUBLIC SCHOOLS
JULY 13, 2026

Appoint Acting Secretary

It was moved by Zannetti supported by Garcia to appoint Hiller as Acting Secretary for the July 13, 2026, Organizational and Regular Board of Education Meeting. The motion carried 5 – 0.

Election of Temporary Chairperson

It was moved by Zannetti, supported by Garcia 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 6:01 p.m. in the Board Room of the Administrative Service Center, 12900 Frazho Road, Warren, MI.

Roll Call

Members present: Zannetti, Hiller, Garcia, Spicer, and Schulte. Also present were Superintendent Stacey Denewith-Fici, Deputy Superintendent Neil Cassabon, Curriculum Director Michelle Voelker, Director of Facilities and Transportation Don Ball, Business Supervisor Linda Renno, and Executive Assistant Diana Rende.

Pledge of Allegiance

Organization of the Board

It was moved by Zannetti, supported by Garcia, that the Board officers take the following roles for 2026/2027, which would have Schulte serving as President, Hiller as Vice President, Spicer 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, Hiller, Garcia, Spicer and Schulte. **Nays:** None. The motion carried 5 – 0.

Agenda Approval

It was moved by Hiller, supported by Spicer, to approve the Agenda as presented. The motion carried 5 – 0.

Minutes

It was moved by Zannetti, supported by Hiller to approve the Minutes of the Special Meeting of June 23, 2026 as presented. The motion carried 5 – 0.

Correspondence

Superintendent Denewith-Fici explained that this correspondence is the letter from the building sub that was neglected to be on the last agenda.

It was moved by Zannetti, supported by Hiller to receive and file the correspondence. The motion carried 5 – 0.

Payment of the Bills

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

General Fund	$	978,791.24
Center Programs	$	12,794.65
Food Service Fund	$	64,115.81
Child Care Fund	$	7,503.29
Campus Corner	$	40.05
Building & Site	$	-
2020 Bond Series I	$	14,239.99
2023 Energy Bond	$	1,106,607.75
2025 Capitol Projects Fund	$	2,531,203.28

Mr. Garcia inquired whether the $30,000 catch basin expense was related to the new football field project. Deputy Superintendent Cassabon explained that the cost is associated with preemptive work on the parking lot pipe separation, including jetting and cleaning the storm drains prior to paving the parking lots.

Mr. Garcia also questioned the $20,000 pool-related expense and asked whether the pool would be ready for use. Deputy Superintendent Cassabon responded that the costs are related to the ongoing maintenance required to operate and maintain the district's two swimming pools.

Lastly, Mr. Garcia asked whether Drivergent bus drivers are compensated by the hour or by route. Deputy Superintendent Cassabon explained that drivers receive a flat rate equivalent to six hours of work, with additional compensation provided for time worked beyond six hours. The motion carried 5 – 0.

Old Business

None.

New Business

Reports

Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Denewith-Fici informed the Board of the recent termination of an employee for insubordination and attendance and noted that it was appropriate to acknowledge the matter during a Board meeting.

Superintendent Denewith-Fici also took a moment to recognize Board Vice President Paul Zannetti for his 17 years of dedicated service to Warren Woods Public Schools. She praised his extensive knowledge, expertise, and the significant contributions he has made to the district throughout his tenure. Superintendent Denewith-Fici expressed her sincere appreciation
for his friendship and unwavering commitment to the Warren Woods community and thanked him once again for his years of service.

Policy: First Reading

The Policy Committee met on June 23, 2026 to review policy updates as per NEOLA recommendation. This is the First Reading of the following Policies being recommended for adoption 0100, 1410, 2370.01, 4210, 6320, 6325, 7540.09, 8120.09, 8402, 5121, 5136. Recommended rescind: 3120.09, 4120.09, 5122, 5895. This is the first reading, so no action needs to be taken at this time.

Appointment: Warren Woods Tower High School Principal

Superintendent Denewith-Fici thanked Curriculum Director Michelle Voelker and her interview team for their diligence through the interview process. She presented the Board with her recommendation for Principal, Jason Henshaw. Mr. Henshaw taught history at Warren Woods Tower for nine years, leaving to pursue administrative opportunities to broaden his leadership experience. His expertise in Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS) will help to bring the district forward as we welcome him back home.

It was moved by Hiller supported by Garcia to approve and accept the

Appointment: Warren Woods Tower High School Principal as presented.

Mr. Zannetti stated that he believed this was a good fit. Mr. Schulte echoed his sentiments, adding that it speaks volumes to the community when staff members choose to return home

Mr. Hiller commented that this is the type of appointment the Leadership Committee looks for.

New Business (continued)
Appointment: Warren Woods Tower High School Principal (continued)

ROLL CALL VOTE: Zannetti ✓ ~~Fitzpatrick~~ Hiller ✓ Garcia ✓

~~Nitz~~ Spicer ✓ Schulte ✓ Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Motion carried 5-0.

Appointment: Warren Woods Tower High School Assistant Principal

Superintendent Denewith-Fici presented the Board with her recommendation for Assistant Principal Daniel Graves. Mr. Graves brings more than 25 years of educational experience with six of those years being at Warren Woods Tower. During his time at Tower he has served in many capacities and has developed innovative student-centered initiatives that have allowed him to build strong connections with students while contributing to improving the WWT community.

Mr. Schulte commented that Mr. Graves is a great asset and he loves to see the District promoting within.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Zannetti ✓ ~~Fitzpatrick~~ Hiller ✓ Garcia ✓

~~Nitz~~ Spicer ✓ Schulte ✓ Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Motion carried 5-0.

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 moved by Hiller, supported by Spicer, to approve the **Appointment:** Professional Development Committee as presented. The motion carried 5 – 0.

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 Zannetti supported by Garcia, that the Board adopt the

New Business (continued)

Business Office Annual Actions

Bank Resolution – Depository (continued)

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 2026/2027.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Zannetti _____ ~~Fitzpatrick~~ _____Hiller_____ Garcia____

~~Nitz~~_____ Spicer_✓_____ Schulte____✓_ Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Motion carried 5-0.

Bank Resolution - Investments

Deputy Superintendent Cassabon reviewed the Resolution naming investment institutions.

It was moved by Hiller supported by Garcia, that the Board adopt the

Bank Resolution – Investments

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 Woods Board of Education for the fiscal year 2026/2027.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Zannetti _____ ~~Fitzpatrick~~ _____Hiller_____ Garcia____

~~Nitz~~_____ Spicer_✓_____ Schulte____✓_ Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Motion carried 5-0.

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 Zannetti supported by Hiller, 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 2026/2027 as presented.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Zannetti _____ ~~Fitzpatrick~~ _____Hiller_____ Garcia____

~~Nitz~~_____ Spicer_✓_____ Schulte____✓_ Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Motion carried 5-0.

New Business (continued)

Business Office Annual Actions

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 Garcia supported by Hiller, 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 2026/2027.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Zannetti _____ ~~Fitzpatrick~~ _____Hiller_____ Garcia____

~~Nitz~~_____ Spicer✓_____ Schulte____✓ Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Motion carried 5-0.

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 Zannetti supported by Spicer, 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: Zannetti _____ ~~Fitzpatrick~~ _____Hiller_____ Garcia____

~~Nitz~~_____ Spicer✓_____ Schulte____✓ Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Motion carried 5-0.

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 Hiller supported by Garcia, that the Board appoint the accounting firm of Plante & Moran as Auditor of Record to represent the Warren Woods Board of Education for year 2026/2027.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Zannetti _____ ~~Fitzpatrick~~ _____Hiller_____ Garcia____

~~Nitz~~_____ Spicer✓_____ Schulte____✓ Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Motion carried 5-0.

New Business (continued)

Business Office Annual Actions

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 2026/2027.

It was moved by Garcia, supported by Spicer, that the Board appoint the following firms as Legal Counsel to represent the Warren Woods Board of Education for 2026/2027 Miller, Canfield, Paddock & Stone; Clark Hill, PC; Thrun Law Firm, Collins and Blaha, PC and Secrest Wardle.

Appoint Legal Counsel

ROLL CALL VOTE: Zannetti _____ ~~Fitzpatrick~~ _____Hiller_____ Garcia____

~~Nitz~~_____ Spicer_____ Schulte____ Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Motion carried 5-0.

Board Finance Committee

It was noted that Zannetti, Fitzpatrick and Garcia served during the 2025/2026 school year. Nitz served as the alternate.

It was moved by Zannetti supported by Garcia, that the Board appoint Nitz, Fitzpatrick and Garcia to serve as the 2026/2027 Board Finance Committee, and Spicer be appointed to serve as alternate.
The motion carried 5 – 0.

Board Policy Committee

Superintendent Denewith-Fici reported that the Policy Committee for 2025/2026 was Fitzpatrick, Hiller and Garcia with Spicer as alternate.

It was moved by Garcia, supported by Spicer that the Board appoint Fitzpatrick, Hiller and Garcia to serve as the Board Policy Committee for 2026/2027, and Spicer be appointed to serve as alternate. The motion carried 5– 0.

Expulsion Reinstatement Committee

Superintendent Denewith-Fici noted that Spicer and Hiller served on this committee for 2025/2026 with Schulte as alternate.

It was moved by Hiller supported by Zannetti, that the Board appoint Schulte and Garcia to serve as Board representatives to the Expulsion Reinstatement Committee for 2026/2027, and Hiller be appointed alternate. The motion carried 5 – 0.

New Business (continued)

Leadership Committee

Superintendent Denewith-Fici reported that the Leadership Committee for 2025/2026 was Hiller, Nitz and Spicer.

It was moved by Zannetti, supported by Garcia that the Board appoint Hiller, Nitz and Spicer to serve as the Board Leadership Committee for 2026/2027.
The motion carried 5– 0.

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

Superintendent Denewith-Fici noted that Schulte served in this role for 2025/2026.

It was moved by Hiller, supported by Spicer, that Schulte be appointed as the 2026/2027 MCSBA Legislative Committee Representative with Garcia as alternate.
The motion carried 5-0

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 Hiller, supported by Spicer, that the Board approve membership with the Michigan Association of School Boards and Legal Trust Fund with payment of the 2026/2027 membership dues. The motion carried 5 – 0.

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

Superintendent Denewith-Fici noted that Schulte served on this committee for 2025/2026, with Garcia serving as alternate.

It was moved by Hiller supported by Garcia, that the Board designate Schulte as the Legislative Relations Network appointee for the 2026/2027 school year with Hiller serving as alternate. The motion carried 5 – 0.

Personnel Items

Leaves:

None Requested

Personnel Items (continued)

New Hires:

Kierra James – English Teacher – WWT – date of hire 8/19/26.

Lisa Kulpa - Elementary Teacher – Briarwood – date of hire 8/19/26.

Susan Lawrence – Speech and Language Pathologist .5 FTE – WWT – date of hire 8/19/26.

Frederick Macauley - Temporary Summer Custodian – date of hire 7/6/26.

Samantha Wandmacher – Resource Room Teacher – Pinewood – date of hire 8/19/26

It was moved by Hiller supported by Spicer to approve the New Hires as presented.

The motion carried 5 – 0.

Public Expression

Mr. Schulte thanked Mr. Zannetti for his service and expressed how much he will be missed.

Mr. Hiller thanked Mr. Zannetti for his guidance and friendship over the years.

Mr. Zannetti thanked the Board of Education and the Administration for the opportunity to serve the District for the past 17 years. He shared what a wonderful feeling it is to be trusted by the community. Mr. Zannetti encouraged the District to continue to strive and push each other and that it is up to all of us to make it a success. He urged the teachers to take the lead, and you will be supported. Mr. Zannetti also encouraged everyone to not fear change but to embrace it with the knowledge that everyone fails, but what matters is how you persevere.

Adjournment

It was moved by Zanetti, supported by Hiller, to adjourn the meeting at 6:42 PM. The motion carried 5 – 0.

Respectfully submitted,

Scott Hiller
Secretary