

**MINUTES
SPECIAL BOARD MEETING
BOARD OF EDUCATION
WARREN WOODS PUBLIC SCHOOLS
OCTOBER 24, 2022**

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, Special Services Director Stacie Sward, Director of Technology Kevin Hustek, Student Representative Isabella Burke and Executive Assistant Jackie Miracle.

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 Zannetti to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of October 10, 2022 as presented. The motion carried 6 – 0 – 1 with Walsh abstaining due to absence.

Correspondence

None

Treasurer's Report

Deputy Superintendent Cassabon presented the Treasurer's Report for September 2022. He began with General Fund Local Revenue consisting mainly of Local property taxes, in addition to Adult Ed tuition, earnings on investments and athletic gate receipts. State Revenue included payment for GSRP and Incoming Transfers are made up of Enhancement Millage payments from the ISD. Next, Mr. Cassabon reviewed Food Service Local Revenue which reflected investment earnings and a la cart sales, along with food sales from students at WWT who no longer receive universal free lunch, and some catering revenue. Finally, a review of Federal Revenue reflected reimbursement for free and reduced breakfast and lunch claims.

Mr. Hiller commented on disbursements for the month and asked if this was due to three pay periods. Mr. Cassabon responded yes, there were three pays in the calendar month. Next, Mr. Hiller asked about the gate receipts and if they are reflective of years pre-pandemic. Mr. Cassabon replied yes, first month gate receipts already seem to be back to pre-pandemic numbers. Finally, Mr. Hiller commented on ISD/Centers Program expenses and asked if the General Fund covered these until the district receives the first payment from the ISD, when should we expect payment? Mr. Cassabon replied he expected to receive payment by the end of October or beginning of November.

Payment of the Bills

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

2020 Bond Series I	\$	21,277.07
Building & Site		3,960.00

The motion carried 7 – 0.

Old Business

None

New Business

Reports

Student Representatives

Superintendent Denewith-Fici introduced Student Representative to the Board, Isabella, who was here this evening with an update on activities at WWT.

Isabella began her report by stating that fellow Representative to the Board Natalya, was currently attending WWT Communication Camp, along with several other students and staff members. Campers attend from Sunday through Tuesday and participate in leadership and team-building activities. Next, she reported on sports stating the Varsity Football Team played their neon-themed, final game last Friday against Mott where the Blue Crew showcased their spirit. The Girls' Swim Team will participate in finals next week and the Volleyball Team will be competing in District playoffs. The Fall season provides opportunities for NHS students to volunteer at the Westwood Tailgate or to participate in the annual NHS Rake and Run; and to celebrate Halloween, all students are invited to compete for the best group pic with a "hashtag." Finally, Bella stated that Mr. Daugherty's Leadership Class is now practicing Peer to Peer coaching and there will be a Band Concert at WWMS Tuesday, October 25 at 5:30 PM.

Student Achievement

Superintendent Denewith-Fici reported that NWEA testing is now complete, and we are in the process of submitting results to the State.

Ms. Denewith-Fici also updated the Board on WWT Communication Camp where several students and staff members will be participating from Sunday through Tuesday.

Finally, the Superintendent provided an outline of the variety of options being offered to staff throughout the day for Election Day professional development at both WWMS and WWT.

Mr. Zannetti asked if Election Day (November 8) was a mandatory work day for staff. Superintendent Denewith-Fici replied yes, this is a mandatory workday for staff, and their hours will be submitted to the state to count for instructional professional development. Mr. Zannetti followed up and asked if a staff member does not report to work that day what happens. Superintendent Denewith-Fici replied staff will be required to use a day from their bank and, if the PD hours being offered count toward licensing, they have to make up the professional development. Seventy percent of staff must be present that day in order for it to count as instructional time. If we don't meet that percentage, students would need to make up the day.

New Business
Reports

Principals' Month

In honor of Principals' Month, Superintendent Denewith-Fici read a Proclamation from Governor Whitmer recognizing the leaders of our district for their commitment and dedication.

Personnel Items

Superintendent Denewith-Fici presented the Personnel items.

Leaves:

As presented

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

New Hires:

Bailey DeSchutter – Social Worker – Elementaries – Hire Date 11/1/22.

Susan Florek – Adult Education ESL Teacher – Hire Date 10/17/22.

Lindsey Gogolin – Elementary Physical Education .5 FTE – Pinewood – Hire Date 10/24/22.

Carmelita Ivory – Custodian – WWMS – Hire Date 10/13/22.

Kelly Miracle – Kindergarten Teacher (conditional) – Briarwood – Hire Date 10/17/22.

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

Public Expression

Becki Borczyk, district resident and WWPS employee, thanked President Green and Trustee Fitzpatrick for their long-time service and commitment to the District.

Fred Huebener, district parent and WWPS BOE Candidate, stated he would like to address the Board regarding a couple of issues. First, Mr. Huebener stated he recently shared concerns with a district administrator regarding another employee being in violation of his son's FERPA rights and requested a follow-up discussion. It has been approximately two weeks and Mr. Huebener said he was still waiting for a response.

Next, Mr. Huebener commented on recent community events and stated that he has been getting negative attention on social media. He stated this participation is a common practice during campaigns. Mr. Huebener also took this opportunity to address specific comments regarding a WWPS parent/employee who shared concerns on his personal social media.

Treasurer Zannetti commented on the pick-up/drop-off and parking lot concerns at Westwood. He stated he was there at arrival time this morning to check out the situation and saw Principal Melissa Johnson in the parking lot directing traffic. Bond dollars have been

Public Expression (continued)

invested to expand the parking area and ensure the safety of our students; however, it appears as though further parking lot security measures need to be explored and implemented.

Trustee Fitzpatrick thanked the Board for allowing him to attend the MASB Annual Leadership Conference last week. He expressed appreciation for being afforded the opportunity to interact with other Board members on a State level and also to participate in CBA classes. Mr. Fitzpatrick stated that attendance at this conference reaffirmed his conviction that WWPS has best practices in place and is truly here to serve students, staff and community.

Vice President Schulte stated he also attended the Leadership Conference and one of the breakout sessions he attended was regarding the management of construction projects. Mr. Schulte stated it was reassuring to learn the District is managing these expenses exactly as they should be and he expressed appreciation in the trust and relationship between the Board, the administration and the community.

Bobby Compton, district parent and WWPS Board Candidate, thanked Mr. Zannetti for expressing his concern regarding the parking situation at Westwood. He also commended Ms. Johnson for her efforts but agrees the parking lot is not being used properly.

Mr. Zannetti asked if there was a Finance Committee Meeting scheduled soon and expressed concern that the next bond issue will be affected by an interest rate increase. Mr. Cassabon stated the bonds will be sold in late 2024 and a Finance Meeting will be scheduled soon.

Negotiations (Anticipated Closed Session)

It was moved by Schulte, supported by Zannetti to move to Closed Session for the purpose of Negotiations at 6:33 PM. **ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes:** Schulte, Walsh, Zannetti, Fitzpatrick, Hiller, Garcia and Green. **Nays:** 0. The motion carried 7 – 0.

The Board moved to Closed Session at 6:33 PM.

The Board returned from Closed Session at 6:57 PM.

Adjournment

It was moved by Fitzpatrick supported by Schulte to adjourn the meeting at 6:58 PM. The motion carried 7 – 0.

Respectfully submitted,

Kay F. Walsh