

**MINUTES  
SPECIAL BOARD MEETING  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
WARREN WOODS PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
AUGUST 28, 2023**

**Call to Order**

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

**Roll Call**

Members present: Walsh, Fitzpatrick, Hiller, Garcia and Zannetti. Absent with notice: Green and Schulte. Also present were Superintendent Stacey Denewith-Fici, Deputy Superintendent Neil Cassabon, Curriculum Director Kara Beal, Director of Student Services Stacie Sward and Executive Assistant Jackie Miracle.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Agenda Approval**

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

**Minutes**

Superintendent Denewith-Fici presented the Minutes from the August 14, 2023 Regular Meeting. It was moved by Fitzpatrick supported by Hiller to approve the Minutes of the August 14, 2023 Regular Meeting as presented. The motion carried 5 – 0.

**Correspondence**

None

**Old Business**

None

**New Business**

**Reports**

**Student Achievement:** Student Recognition

Superintendent Denewith-Fici introduced Lauren Gugala, fourth-grade teacher at Briarwood, and stated she was here this evening to highlight one of her students, Genuwine Lee, and his drone seed planter invention.

Ms. Gugala began by providing some background information on the Little Inventors Program, which is an international program sponsored by the MISD. She explained that this year's theme was "Go Green for a Better Planet" and Genuwine was a finalist out of 1,200 other Macomb County fourth graders. The Jay Enn Corporation was the program "maker" who sponsored Genuwine and actually built the drone seed planter, was pleased to present Genuwine with the drone to keep for himself.

In conclusion, Ms. Gugala stated this is the second year in a row that a student from her Briarwood Fourth-Grade class has been awarded this honor.

### **Policy Updates (Second Reading)**

Superintendent Denewith-Fici presented the recommended Policy Updates and stated this was the second reading of the **Policy Updates** recommended for adoption as a result of the August 2, 2023 Policy Committee Meeting. It was moved by Fitzpatrick supported by Hiller to approve the adoption of the following Policies: 0144.1, 0175.01, 1615, 3215, 4215, 5512, 7434, 2623, 2419.01, 5330.02, 6325, 6550, 6700, 7540.02, 7540.03, 7540.04, 8300, 8390, 8400, 9160, and 9700.01. **ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes:** Walsh, Fitzpatrick, Hiller, Garcia, Zannetti. **Nays:** 0. The motion carried 5 – 0.

### **Student Handbook Updates**

Superintendent Denewith-Fici presented the Student Handbook Updates and stated the selected changes were recommended by the building principals. It was moved by Walsh supported by Fitzpatrick to approve the Student Handbook Updates as presented. The motion carried 5 – 0.

Mr. Garcia asked for an explanation of the rationale behind a student-athlete not being allowed to tryout/participate in a sport if they quit a sport in the previous season. Superintendent Denewith-Fici replied that smaller teams have been left short players as the season progresses and students decide to quit, so hopefully this will encourage student-athletes to complete the season.

### **Appointment: MASB Delegate**

Superintendent Denewith-Fici stated that in addition to attending the MASB Leadership Conference in November 2023 she is recommending the appointment of Mike Schulte as 2023 MASB Assembly Delegate and Mike Fitzpatrick as the alternate. This will allow Vice President Schulte to represent the Board at the 2023 Delegate Assembly.

It was moved by Fitzpatrick supported by Garcia to appoint Mike Schult 2023 MASB Delegate and Mike Fitzpatrick as 2023 MASB Delegate alternate. The motion carried 5 – 0.

### **Personnel Items**

#### **Leaves**

Educational Leave of Absence

It was moved by Walsh supported by Fitzpatrick to approve the Educational Leave of Absence as presented. The motion carried 5 – 0.

Family/Medical Leave of Absence

It was moved by Hiller supported by Fitzpatrick to approve the FMLA as presented. The motion carried 5 – 0.

#### **Termination**

As presented.

Superintendent Denewith-Fici presented the Termination stating this was a result of a teacher being recalled and declining to return to the position. It was moved by Fitzpatrick supported by Walsh to approve the Termination as presented. The motion carried 5 – 0.

**Public Expression**

Superintendent Denewith-Fici stated she was looking forward to welcoming staff back tomorrow as they report for professional development. She added that she was disappointed to have to cancel Schoolapalooza due to the inclement weather; however, there was a good turnout for the junior varsity football game.

Mr. Zannetti asked if the district received any feedback regarding starting school after Labor Day. Superintendent Denewith-Fici stated although 87% of \_\_\_\_\_ districts have a pre-Labor Day start, most Warren Woods parents are used to starting after Labor Day. She added when we started prior to Labor Day in September 2020, we did receive some negative feedback.

**Adjournment**

It was moved by Hiller supported by Fitzpatrick to adjourn the meeting at 6:20 PM. The motion carried 5 – 0.

Respectfully submitted,

Kay F. Walsh, Secretary