

**MINUTES
SPECIAL BOARD MEETING
BOARD OF EDUCATION
WARREN WOODS PUBLIC SCHOOLS
DECEMBER 16, 2024**

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by President Schulte at 6:00 p.m. in the Media Center of Warren Woods Middle School, 13400 Twelve Mile Road, Warren, MI.

Roll Call

Members present: Walsh, Fitzpatrick, Hiller, Garcia, Nitz, Zannetti and Schulte. Also present were Superintendent Stacey Denewith-Fici, Deputy Superintendent Neil Cassabon, Curriculum Director Michelle Voelker, Special Services Director Stacie Sward, WWMS Principal Donny Sikora, WWMS Assistant Principal Jennifer Boggio, Director of Facilities and Transportation Don Ball, Student Representatives Nataly Chang and Valorie Lee, 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 7 – 0.

Minutes

It was moved by Zannetti supported by Fitzpatrick to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of December 2, 2024 as presented. The motion carried 7 – 0.

Correspondence

None

Treasurer's Report

Deputy Superintendent Cassabon presented the Treasurer's Report for November 2024. He began with General Fund Local Revenue consisting of local tax collections, Adult Ed tuition, investment earnings, and building rentals. State revenue reflected a State Aid payment in addition to Section 107 Adult Ed, MISD Educator on Loan payments, and a review of Federal revenue included reimbursement for Title I, Title II, ESSER III and Perkins grants. A review of Incoming Transfers included an Enhancement Millage payment from the ISD in addition to reimbursement from IAM.

Mr. Cassabon reviewed Food Service funds beginning with Local Revenue which consisted of investment earnings and a la carte sales, State Aid for lunch reimbursement, and Federal Revenue which reflected breakfast and lunch claims reimbursement. Finally, the ISD Centers Program reflected a State Aid payment.

Payment of the Bills

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

2020 Bond Series I	\$	1,317.31
2023 Energy Bond		14,296.61

Payment of the Bills (continued)

It was moved by Walsh supported by Hiller to approve the **Payment of the Bills** as presented. The motion carried 7 – 0.

Old Business

None.

New Business

Reports

Student Representatives

Superintendent Denewith-Fici introduced Student Representatives Nataly Chang and Valorie Lee and invited them to report on activities at WWT.

Nataly began with the many upcoming holiday celebrations including the StuCo Student/Staff Secret Santa gift exchange and breakfast, the third annual Open Mic Night and the celebration of Spirit Week. In addition, NHS is kicking off their fundraising efforts with pizza kit sales and they have also begun offering tutoring sessions twice a week.

Next, Valorie shared other news including 10 DECA students who will be advancing to State Competition after competing at Districts in Lake Orion and the Marketing II Class holiday sale brought in over \$900 worth of sales of customized winter gear! Valorie announced that the Jazz and Choir Holiday Concert would take place on Tuesday, December 3rd and lastly, she stated that the PBIS Staff vs. Students Basketball Game would take place Friday, December 4.

Board Member Recognition

President Mike Schulte announced that tonight's meeting is the last official meeting for Board Secretary Kay Walsh. Mr. Schulte thanked Ms. Walsh for her years of service and dedication to the Warren Woods community.

Superintendent Denewith-Fici stated she would like to take this opportunity to honor and celebrate Ms. Walsh for being a cornerstone of the WWPS community for over 28 years. In addition to being a proud graduate of the district, Ms. Walsh was also a devoted parent and committed volunteer. Ms. Denewith-Fici thanked Ms. Walsh for her unwavering passion, thoughtful leadership and commitment to the success of all WWPS students and stated that while her voice would be deeply missed at the table, her impact will continue to inspire and her legacy would always remain a part of Warren Woods.

Ms. Walsh thanked Superintendent Denewith-Fici and President Schulte for their kind words and stated it has been an honor and a pleasure to serve the students and residents of the WWPS community.

WWMS Report

Superintendent Denewith-Fici introduced WWMS Principal Donny Sikora, who welcomed those present to tonight's meeting. He stated tonight's report would highlight the great staff, students and families at the middle school and the commitment to social and emotional growth through programs such as Student Council and Peer 2 Peer. Mr. Sikora introduced WWMS CI Teacher Sydney Howard and Math Teacher Nicole Karr who are advisors for Peer 2 Peer and Counselor and StuCo Advisor Ms. Susan Casaceli, who was present this evening along with StuCo representatives and Peer 2 Peer members Kendall, Nathan, Emily and Peyton.

New Business **Reports**

WWMS Report (continued)

Ms. Casaceli greeted those present and thanked the Board for the opportunity to share some of the exciting things happening at the middle school. She began by stating that the mission of StuCo is to provide a platform for students to develop leadership skills by actively engaging in school activities and representing the voice of the student body. StuCo has already sponsored several events this year including a Halloween Pep Rally, and a Holiday Hangout Movie Night, providing students with a safe, carefree evening with their peers, in addition to a Holiday Door Decorating Contest with the winning class receiving donuts.

Next, Peer 2 Peer advisors Sydney Howard and Nichole Karr shared a slide show highlighting the impact of the Peer2Peer program at WWMS. The highlight of their year so far was the successful whole school showing of "Out of My Mind", a movie about a middle school student with cerebral palsy. They are also looking forward to starting a Unified Sports team.

President Schulte thanked the students and staff for presenting this evening and for their commitment to WWMS.

Off-site Meeting Change

Superintendent Denewith-Fici noted that due to a change in schedule she is recommending the Off-site Board Meeting originally scheduled to be held at Pinewood on January 27, 2025, be rescheduled to February 10, 2025 at Pinewood.

It was moved by Walsh supported by Nitz to approve the **Off-site Meeting Change** as presented. The motion carried 7 – 0.

Resolution: Bond Authorization

Deputy Superintendent Cassabon presented the Resolution that authorizes the issuance of the 2025 School Building and Site Bonds in an amount not-to-exceed \$27,700,000. Mr. Cassabon noted this would provide for building and technology upgrades to all buildings for the summer of 2026.

It was moved by Fitzpatrick supported by Hiller to approve the **Resolution:** Bond Authorization as presented. **ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes:** Walsh, Zannetti, Fitzpatrick, Hiller, Garcia, Nitz and Schulte **Nays:** None. The motion carried 7 – 0.

Trustee Garcia commended Deputy Superintendent Cassabon on the well-written Resolution.

Appointment: Parent Advisory Council Representative

Superintendent Denewith-Fici stated Special Services Director Stacie Sward was present this evening to make the recommendation.

Ms. Sward stated that she was recommending the appointment of Ms. Sabrina Tyszkowski as PAC representative and Ms. Heather Rebeaud as alternate representative to the MISD PAC. She shared some background on both Ms. Tyszkowski and Ms. Rebeaud and noted that Ms. Tyszkowski previously served as our district PAC alternate representative.

It was moved by Fitzpatrick supported by Walsh to approve the appointment of Ms. Sabrina Tyszkowski as PAC representative and Ms. Heather Rebeaud as alternate representative to the MiSD PAC as presented. The motion carried 7 – 0.

New Business

Appointment: Parent Advisory Council Representative (continued)

President Schulte asked if the appointments were for both a representative and an alternate and Ms. Sward confirmed the appointments were for both a representative and alternate.

Personnel Items

Leaves:

As presented

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

New Hires:

Cheryl Fuggerson – Lunch Supervisor – Pinewood – date of hire 12/3/24.

Briajah Tucker – Substitute Teacher – date of hire 12/10/24.

It was moved by Hiller supported by Zannetti to approve the **New Hires** as presented. The motion carried 7 – 0.

Public Expression

Former WWPS Teacher Debbie Palaczak addressed the Board on behalf of Board Secretary Kay Walsh. She thanked Ms. Walsh for her years of service and dedication and noted her long-time commitment to the WWPS community.

Jenny Filauro, Ms. Walsh’s daughter and former WWPS student, thanked Ms. Walsh for her commitment to the WWPS community.

Trustee Hiller thanked Ms. Walsh for the friendship and guidance she has provided. In addition, Mr. Hiller announced that 18 students from the Drama Club recently participated in the Thespian Society Workshop in Lansing, with most earning superior ratings and going on to compete at Festival in June. He noted that Brody Miller earned a \$20,000 scholarship and gave kudos to Director Bekka Wisbiski, as the WWPS program is the only “afterschool only” program.

Adjournment

It was moved by Walsh supported by Zannetti to adjourn the meeting at 6:50 PM. The motion carried 7 – 0.

Respectfully submitted,

Kay F. Walsh
Secretary