

**MINUTES
SPECIAL BOARD MEETING
BOARD OF EDUCATION
WARREN WOODS PUBLIC SCHOOLS
FEBRUARY 24, 2025**

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Vice President Zannetti at 6:02 p.m. in the Board Room of the Administrative Service Center, 12900 Frazho Road, Warren, MI.

Roll Call

Members present: Zannetti, Fitzpatrick, Hiller, Garcia, Nitz and Spicer. Absent with notice: Schulte. Also present were Superintendent Stacey Denewith-Fici, Curriculum Director Michelle Voelker, 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 Fitzpatrick supported by Nitz to approve the Agenda as presented. The motion carried 6 – 0.

Minutes

It was moved by Fitzpatrick supported by Hiller to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of February 10, 2025, as presented. The motion carried 6 – 0.

Correspondence

None

Treasurer's Report

Superintendent Denewith-Fici presented the Monthly Treasurer's Report for January 2025. She began with General Fund Local revenue consisting of local tax collections, interest on earnings, building rental, Adult Education tuition and Athletic gate receipts. State Revenue reflected a State Aid payment along with Section 107 Adult Ed funding from Wayne RESA, and Incoming Transfers reflected an Enhancement Millage payment from the MISD. Superintendent Denewith-Fici stated total Expenses of \$4.91M exceeded total Revenue of \$3.77M and noted three pay periods along with end of semester contractual obligations such as stipends and class-size overage payments. Next, Center Program Fund was reviewed noting the only revenue was a State aid payment.

In conclusion, Ms. Denewith-Fici reviewed Food Service funds beginning with Local revenue which included ala carte sales, investment earnings and catering revenue. State revenue consisted of a State Aid payment along with breakfast and lunch reimbursement and, finally, Federal revenue consisted of breakfast and lunch claims.

Vice President Zannetti asked if the State Aid payment for the Center Program Fund was a direct payment or a "pass-through" and Superintendent Denewith-Fici replied that it was a direct payment from the State.

Payment of the Bills

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

Bond 2020 Series I	\$	412,980.17
2023 Energy Bond		656,976.72

The motion carried 6 – 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 a report on the Unified Basketball Team stating that they have won both of their games so far and reminded everyone to save the date for the March 15 game at Little Ceasars Arena. She stated that tickets were currently on sale and would also cover admission for the Piston's game afterward. In other news, Nataly reported that NHS was continuing to offer tutoring every Tuesday, and finally, CTE Health Sciences Students have been provided with opportunities to job shadow doctors at Henry Ford Hospital on 12 Mile and Hoover.

Next, Valorie announced that students have begun the scheduling process for next school year after they were able to gain more knowledge of the many opportunities afforded to them at WWT during Promotions Week, where fellow classmates shared information to promote various courses, AP classes, electives and CTE programs in addition to sports and clubs. In sports news, Valorie noted that the Winter sports season was wrapping up and Spring sports were starting. She stated the Wrestling Team won their Regional Tournament and participated at States last weekend and the Varsity Dance Team took first place in Lyrical, as well as second place in the remaining three categories. In addition, the Boys Varsity Swim Team is scheduled to compete at the Division Meet this weekend at L'Anse Creuse North and, finally, the Girls' Bowling Team won Regionals and are headed off to States.

Student Achievement: CTE Month

Vice President Zannetti introduced CTE Director Steven Kay who was present tonight to provide an update on the Career and Technical Education program.

Mr. Kay thanked the Board and Administration for the opportunity to present this evening and noted that February is traditionally recognized as CTE Awareness Month to celebrate the value of CTE and the achievements and accomplishments of the programs and students. In addition, he stated that three WWT students were recently recognized at the annual Macomb Career Technical Education Awards Breakfast for their outstanding accomplishments: Cosmetology student Abigail, Culinary student Owen, and EMT student Christian.

Next, Mr. Kay noted that tonight's presentation would be showcasing the Marketing Program, led by WWT CTE Teacher Amy Ghattas. He stated that the program provides opportunities for work-based learning along with student leadership and noted the recent

New Business

Reports

Student Achievement: CTE Month (continued)

addition of National Retail Certification. In addition, Mr. Kay noted major updates to Campus Corner including a new point of sale system, and an increased enrollment as the Marketing Program continues to grow. Finally, Mr. Kay celebrated ongoing student success with DECA members competing at Regional, State and National levels, noting that this is the eighth year for DECA at the International level. WWT Business Teacher Amy Ghattas introduced herself and began with some background on Campus Corner noting that when she started as part-time in 2017, the school store was struggling. Fast forward to 2025 and the program now has six classes at capacity. She thanked the Board and administration for their support and accepting new ideas.

Next, Ms. Ghattas introduced DECA student Valorie and stated that she was here to share some of her experiences. Valorie stated DECA has been a transformative experience for her, allowing her the opportunity to travel and meet new people. Most importantly, DECA has helped her to realize she wanted to pursue a career in business.

The next student to speak was Casey, who stated she has had Ms. Ghattas for four years and appreciates her support.

Finally, Z addressed the Board and stated that she was running against 16 other students to become State DECA Representative. She stated that DECA has helped her discover her full potential and to push her limits. Z attended leadership camp at MSU MiLead and stated that DECA helps students learn skills not found in a regular classroom setting.

In conclusion, Ms. Ghattas thanked the Board and Administration for the support they have provided which has allowed students to have real-life experiences through DECA and Campus Corner.

Vice President Zannetti thanked Ms. Ghattas and the students for their presentation and for being here tonight.

Adoption: Minimum Wage Increase

Superintendent Denewith-Fici presented the recommendation stating recent legislative changes have mandated an increase in the minimum wage that would affect several employee categories within the district.

It was moved by Fitzpatrick supported by Nitz to approve the **Adoption:** Minimum Wage Increase as presented. The motion carried 5 – 0 – 1 with Hiller abstaining due to conflict of interest.

Vice President Zannetti asked if there would be another level moving forward and Superintendent Denewith-Fici stated the Finance Committee would be meeting to address the next steps in detail.

Personnel Items

Leaves:

As presented

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

Personnel Items (continued)

New Hires:

Aniya Brown - Substitute Teacher – date of hire 2/11/25.

Sirinapa Gugn – Lunch Supervisor – Briarwood – date of hire 2/19/25.

Venus Smith – Substitute Special Education Paraprofessional – date of hire 2/20/25.

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

Public Expression

Trustee Garcia commented that the DSAT Meeting held last week was very well done and shared three takeaways: 1) He observed teachers really drilling down on the massive amount of data that was presented; 2) Teachers are able to discuss which structures are most effective; and 3) Everyone knows the objectives. Mr. Garcia thanked Curriculum Director Michelle Voelker for her leadership.

Superintendent Denewith-Fici added that Ms. Voelker is currently training to become a Kagan trainer and that the last DSAT meeting was videotaped.

Vice President Zannetti thanked Mr. Garcia on behalf of the Board for attending the DSAT meeting and reminded those attending that tomorrow was the County Dinner.

Trustee Spicer stated that she had attended last month's dinner and inquired about the FAN information and Superintendent Denewith-Fici stated that it was being shared with Michelle Voelker and the counselors at WWMS so we could determine if additional opportunities for partnerships were available with FAN and WWPS.

Adjournment

It was moved by Fitzpatrick supported by Nitz to adjourn the meeting at 6:28 PM. The motion carried 6 – 0.

Respectfully submitted,

Scott Hiller
Secretary