MINUTES
SPECIAL BOARD MEETING
BOARD OF EDUCATION
WARREN WOODS PUBLIC SCHOOLS
JULY 28, 2025

Appoint Acting Secretary

It was moved by Garcia supported by Spicer to name Fitzpatrick as the Acting Secretary for tonight's meeting. The motion carried 4 – 0.

Call to Order

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

Roll Call

Members present: Fitzpatrick, Garcia, Spicer and Zannetti,. Absent with notice: Schulte, Hiller and Nitz. Also present were Superintendent Stacey Denewith-Fici, Deputy Superintendent Neil Cassabon, Curriculum Director Michelle Voelker and Director of Facilities and Transportation Don Ball.

Pledge of Allegiance

Agenda Approval

It was moved by Fitzpatrick supported by Spicer to approve the Agenda as presented. The motion carried 4 – 0.

Minutes

It was moved by Fitzpatrick supported by Spicer to approve the Minutes of the Regular/Organizational Meeting of July 14, 2025 and the Closed Meeting Minutes of July 14, 2025 as presented. The motion carried 4 – 0.

Correspondence

None

Payment of the Bills

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

Building & Site	$	1,350.00
Bond 2020 Series I		164,508.12
2023 Energy Bond		67,908.92
2025 Capital Projects Fund		1,584,814.15

The motion carried 4 – 0

Old Business

None.

New Business

Reports

None

Off-site Board Meetings

Superintendent Denewith-Fici presented the dates for the 2025-26 Off-site Board Meetings. She stated that the Board will travel to Enterprise High School on October 27, 2025 and Warren Woods-Tower on January 26, 2026 for the Special Board Meetings for those months.

It was moved by Fitzpatrick, supported by Spicer that the Board confirm and approve the **Off-site Board Meetings** as presented. The motion carried 4 – 0.

Change Order: Bid Package #2 Summer 2025 Renovations

Deputy Superintendent Cassabon presented the change order which included carpet removal along with removal of the rubber base from the platform risers next to the sinks from 10 classrooms at Pinewood. In addition, the change order covers the cost of additional cast stone for the WWMS exterior columns to ensure even sight lines across all columns.

Mr. Fitzpatrick asked about the size of the platform, and Mr. Cassabon responded that it was approximately four inches tall and extended the length of the old cubby system.

It was moved by Fitzpatrick supported by Spicer that the Board approve the **Change Order: Bid Package #2** as presented. The motion carried 4 – 0.

Handbook Updates

Superintendent Denewith-Fici presented the recommended updates to the Student Handbook. It was moved by Fitzpatrick supported by Spicer that the Board approve the changes to the Elementary, Middle and WWT Handbooks as presented. The motion carried 4 – 0.

Mr. Garcia inquired about students being able to complete their work while on suspension and Superintendent Denewith-Fici replied students are given additional time to complete assignments so they have access to instruction prior to completing assignments

Purchase: K-5 Literacy Materials

Curriculum Director Michelle Voelker presented and reviewed the quote for purchasing CKLA Amplify for Grades K-5 as recently adopted by the Board. The prices were secured from Consortium pricing via the Interlocal Purchasing System. She noted that there was an increase in shipping costs to allow for expedited shipping, ensuring materials would be in place for teachers to access on August 20.

Mr. Zannetti inquired if the student achievement of districts who are currently using the program had been reviewed. Ms. Voelker replied that for many districts the shift from balanced literacy to structured literacy is a stretch, but this product is the number one recommended by the State's literacy group. In addition, it has been vetted across the country, most notably in Mississippi, who has seen the fastest growth and with whom we have met.

New Business

Purchase: K-5 Literacy Materials (continued)

Mr. Fitzpatrick inquired how the new program would be rolled out to staff. Ms. Voelker replied that teachers will have five hours of professional development on August 21 and another full day in November. In addition, included in the quote is a day of overview training for Administration and coaches and four on-site coaching days. She stressed we will have to continue to support staff because this is a large shift in instruction.

Trustee Garcia complimented the program and pointed out that the district will need to be mindful of the $40-50K in consumables that we will need each year. He inquired if there is on-demand professional development that staff can access. Ms. Voelker replied there is some included in the adoption.

Mr. Garcia also commented on his concern regarding how poorly the boilerplate language of the contract was written. He stated that while he has concerns about the contract and the publisher's stepping back if issues arise, it will not prevent him from supporting the purchase because it is a great program for kids.

It was moved by Fitzpatrick supported by Spicer that the Board approve the **Purchase:** K-5 Literacy Materials as presented. The motion carried 4 – 0.

Resolution: 2025-2026 School Aid Budget Delays

Superintendent Denewith-Fici presented the Resolution and explained that the K-12 Alliance is working with legislators to secure approval of the State Aid budget. They have asked other Alliance members to support the resolution so it can be presented in Lansing as part of their advocacy efforts.

It was moved by Fitzpatrick supported by Spicer that the Board confirm and approve the **Resolution:** 2025-2026 School Aid Budget Delays. **ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes:** Fitzpatrick, Garcia, Spicer, Zannetti. **Nays:** None. The motion carried 4 – 0.

Personnel Items

Leaves:

As Presented.

It was moved by Fitzpatrick supported by Spicer that the Board approve the Leaves as presented. The motion carried 4 – 0.

New Hires:

Corey Cramb – Spanish/Social Studies Teacher - WWT – date of hire 7/21/25.

Daphne Hill – Substitute Nurse – date of hire 7/23/25.

Sheryl McIntosh – Special Education Paraprofessional – WWMS - date of hire 7/16/25.

Kelly Quesenberry – Substitute Nurse – date of hire 7/18/25.

Michele Stopinski – CI Teacher – Pinewood – date of hire 7/24/25.

Matthew Wood – Gym Teacher – Briarwood/Westwood – date of hire 7/11/25.

Personnel Items

New Hires: (continued)

It was moved by Fitzpatrick supported by Spicer to approve the New Hires as presented. The motion carried 4 – 0.

Public Expression

Deputy Superintendent Cassabon gave an update on the playground construction at all three elementary buildings.

Treasurer Fitzpatrick extended his thanks to the voters in the community and commented on the improvements to the tennis courts at WWT.

Negotiations (Closed Session)

It was moved by Fitzpatrick supported by Spicer that the Board move to Closed Session for discussion of Negotiations.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes: Garcia, Spicer, Nitz, and Zannetti. **Nays:** None. The motion carried 4 – 0.

The Board moved to Closed Session at 6:29 PM.

The Board returned from Closed Session at 7:46 PM

Ratification

It was moved by Fitzpatrick supported by Spicer to approve the three-year agreement with the members of AFSCME Local 1675 effective July 28, 2025 – June 30, 2028.

Vice President Zannetti recognized the members of AFSCME in the audience and commented on the Board's appreciation for all their efforts. He stated that the Board believes this contract reflects and recognizes those efforts. He commented that the Board values the work of the entire team and the contract shows that investment. He acknowledged that in negotiations, not everyone gets everything they want, but this is a good deal for the unit.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes: Garcia, Spicer, Nitz, and Zannetti. **Nays:** None. The motion carried 4 – 0.

Adjournment

It was moved by Fitzpatrick supported by Spicer to adjourn the meeting at 6:49 PM. The motion carried 4 – 0.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Fitzpatrick
Acting Secretary