

**MINUTES
SPECIAL BOARD MEETING
BOARD OF EDUCATION
WARREN WOODS PUBLIC SCHOOLS
MAY 19, 2025**

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by President Schulte at 6:06 p.m. in the Board Room of the Administrative Service Center, 12900 Frazho Road, Warren, MI.

Roll Call

Members present: Schulte, Zannetti, Fitzpatrick, Hiller, Garcia, Nitz and Spicer. Also present were Superintendent Stacey Denewith-Fici, Deputy Superintendent Neil Cassabon, Curriculum Director Michelle Voelker, Special Services Director Stacie Sward, 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 7 – 0.

Minutes

It was moved by Fitzpatrick supported by Zannetti to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of May 5, 2025, and the 6:00 PM Special Meeting Minutes of May 19, 2025 as presented. The motion carried 7 – 0.

Correspondence

None

Treasurer's Report

Deputy Superintendent Cassabon presented the April 2025 Treasurer's Report. He began with General Fund Local Revenue consisting of Local tax collections in addition to Adult Ed tuition, rental income and investment earnings. A review of State Revenue included State Aid in addition to Section 107 and GSRP funding, while Federal Revenue consisted of IDEA and Perkins Grant reimbursements. Incoming transfers included Special Education and Enhancement Millage payments, and a review of Food Service Local revenue included a la carte food sales, catering revenue and investment earnings. State revenue was comprised of State Aid as well as the State's portion of reimbursements for breakfast and lunch programs, and Federal revenue was derived from additional breakfast and lunch reimbursements. Lastly, the ISD Centers Program revenue consisted of a State Aid payment.

Mr. Fitzpatrick asked if any notifications regarding federal funding being withheld have been received. Deputy Superintendent Cassabon replied not at this point and explained that due to a change in FTEs next year's funding has already been appropriated and both IDEA and the ISD Enhancement Millage will reflect a decrease.

Payment of the Bills

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

2020 Bond Series I	\$	236,741.50
2025 Capital Projects Fund		346,603.63

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 share updates from WWT.

Valorie began by reporting that AP students completed their exams last week. She noted that the Juniors defeated the Seniors 27–0 in the annual Powderpuff Game. She also shared that the Talent Show sponsored by Student Leadership took place last week, with Abby Backer winning first place. Finally, Valorie mentioned that the WWT Concert Band held its final performance of the year.

Nataly reported that the StuCo recently hosted its end-of-year party to celebrate and send off the seniors, as this marks their final week of school. She added that elections for next year's StuCo positions will be held before the end of the year and welcomed letters of recommendation from Board members.

Student Achievement

Curriculum Director Michelle Voelker provided an update on the Summer Learning Program. She stated that all positions have been filled, and enrollment has begun with approximately 200 students registered and an additional 100 students expected for credit recovery.

Vice President Zannetti asked if credit recovery classes would be virtual or in-person and Ms. Voelker replied that both options are available based on licensing and need.

Change Order: Bid Package #2: Summer 2025 Renovations

Deputy Superintendent Cassabon presented the Change Order and stated that the original flooring scope included contingencies which were in place prior to the installation of the VUV units; however, upon completion it was discovered that various carpet borders, tackboards and demo would not be necessary due to the actual size of the VUV units.

It was moved by Fitzpatrick supported by Spicer to approve the **Change Order: Bid Package #2 Summer 2025 Renovations** as presented. The motion carried 7 – 0.

New Business (continued)

Recommendation: 2025-2026 Childcare Pay Rates

Deputy Superintendent Cassabon presented the childcare rates for 2025-26 stating a pay increase for all positions is recommended to stay ahead of the new minimum wage increases in the future. It was moved by Hiller, supported by Fitzpatrick to approve the 2025-26 Childcare Pay Rates as presented. The motion carried 7 – 0.

Vice President Zannetti asked what the average pay rate increase was, and Mr. Cassabon replied the average increase was 17%.

Resolution: Designation of Electoral Representative for the June 2, 2025 MISD Biennial Election Meeting

Superintendent Denewith-Fici presented the Resolution stating the purpose is to designate the electoral representative and alternate who will represent the District at the June 2, 2025 MISD Biennial Election Meeting, in addition to choosing the candidates, for which the Board has chosen to cast their vote. She added that incumbents Edward Farley and Donald Hubler are the recommended candidates based on their past service and the information they provided. No information was received about the third candidate.

It was moved by Fitzpatrick, supported by Hiller to approve the **Resolution:** Designation of Electoral Representative for the June 2, 2025 MISD Biennial Election designating Michael A. Schulte as representative and Paul Zannetti as alternate. The designated representative is directed to cast a vote on behalf of this Board for recommended incumbents Edward Farley and Donald Hubler. **ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes:** Zannetti, Fitzpatrick Hiller, Garcia, Spicer, Nitz, Schulte. **Nays:** None. The motion carried 7 – 0.

Purchase: School Bus

Deputy Superintendent Cassabon presented a recommendation to purchase a new bus through the MSBO Aggregate School Bus Purchasing Program. He noted that the new bus will replace a 12-year-old vehicle and is already built and available on the lot, with the purchase price locked in before recent tariff increases.

Mr. Fitzpatrick asked if the old bus was traded in and Mr. Cassabon replied that it would be sold off at auction.

Ms. Nitz asked if 215,000 miles was an average amount for a bus twelve years old and Mr. Cassabon replied yes and noted the high idle time.

It was moved by Fitzpatrick supported by Nitz to approve the **School Bus Purchase** as presented. The motion carried 7 – 0.

Mr. Cassabon noted the possibility of taking delivery at the same time as the bus that was ordered last fall. President Schulte thanked Facilities and Transportation Director Don Ball and Deputy Superintendent Cassabon for their diligence in securing the cost-effective purchase in a timely manner.

Bid: Beverages

Deputy Superintendent Cassabon presented a recommendation to award the **Bid:** Beverages to Pepsi Beverage Company based on Food Service Director John Estrada's recommendation. Mr. Cassabon noted that this was the only responsive bid received in a timely manner.

New Business

Bid: Beverages (continued)

It was moved by Garcia supported by Nitz to approve the **Bid: Beverages** as presented. The motion carried 7 – 0.

Mr. Zannetti asked if there was a specific reason for doing a one-year bid and Mr. Cassabon stated that products often change, and students are surveyed as to their preference.

Personnel Items

Leaves:

As presented

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

New Hires:

Feteemah Jawara – Auditorium Worker – date of hire 5/7/25

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

Public Expression

Mr. Zannetti asked how the district notifies parents of summer learning opportunities. Curriculum Director Michelle Voelker stated that a targeted approach is used due to a limited number of seats. She noted that at the elementary level teacher recommendation is used based on academic achievement and attendance, targeting the highest needs students first. WWMS Principal and Elementary Summer School Coordinator Donny Sikora will reach out to make direct contact to the parents of recommended elementary students and high school counselors notify students of credit recovery opportunities.

Mr. Garcia commented on the recent DSAT Meeting he and Mrs. Spicer attended. He commended Curriculum Director Michelle Voelker on her work facilitating the meetings noting a clear objective with aggressive targets. In addition, he stated the change to the curriculum adoption process that was recommended by Ms. Voelker at the DSAT Meeting will bring clarity to staff. Finally, he noted a celebration shared by Enterprise Coordinator Tim Baldwin during the meeting. Mr. Baldwin stated that Enterprise received an anonymous donation of \$3,000 for the "Pay it Forward" program.

Negotiations (Closed Session)

It was moved by Fitzpatrick supported by Hiller that the Board move to Closed Session for discussion of Negotiations. **ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes:** Zannetti, Fitzpatrick, Hiller, Garcia, Spicer, Nitz, Schulte. **Nays:** None. The motion carried 7 – 0.

The Board moved to Closed Session at 6:36 PM.

The Board returned from Closed Session at 7:24 PM

Adjournment

It was moved by Fitzpatrick supported by Nitz to adjourn the meeting at 7:25 PM. The motion carried 7 – 0.

Respectfully submitted,

Scott Hiller
Secretary