

**MINUTES
SPECIAL BOARD MEETING
BOARD OF EDUCATION
WARREN WOODS PUBLIC SCHOOLS
SEPTEMBER 22, 2025**

Call to Order

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

Roll Call

Members present: Zannetti, Hiller, Fitzpatrick, Garcia, Nitz, Spicer and Schulte. Also present were Superintendent Stacey Denewith-Fici, Deputy Superintendent Neil Cassabon, Curriculum Director Michelle Voelker and Director of Facilities and Transportation Don Ball, Nataly Chang and Valorie Lee and Executive Assistant Jackie Miracle.

Pledge of Allegiance

Agenda Approval

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

Minutes

It was moved by Fitzpatrick supported by Nitz to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of September 8, 2025 as presented. The motion carried 7 – 0.

Correspondence

None

Treasurer's Report

Deputy Superintendent Cassabon presented the Treasurer's Report noting it was a combined report for July and August 2025. He began with General Fund Revenue consisting mainly of Local tax collections, in addition to Adult Ed tuition and earnings on investments. State Revenue included GSRP funding from the MISD and Federal Revenue consisted of reimbursement for the Filter First grant for district-wide drinking fountain replacement. Incoming Transfers included an Enhancement Millage payment from the ISD in addition to a rebate from insurance for overages in the Set Seg insurance pool. Next a review of Food Service Local Revenue reflected investment earnings in addition to some ala carte food sales, while Federal Revenue reflected the summer food service program reimbursement in addition to the first few days of school. Finally, a review of the ISD Center Program reflected no revenue to date, which is typical as the MISD receives its first State Aid payment in October, and it takes the MISD to send that payment to us.

Payment of the Bills

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

2020 Bond Series I	\$ 91,739.87
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2025 Capital Projects Fund	1,333,981.54
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The motion carried 7 – 0.

Old Business

None.

New Business **Reports**

Student Representatives

Nataly began with a Student Council update, noting that the group recently held their second meeting of the year, during which they voted on Homecoming themes. She then shared that several seniors will be visiting Wayne State University tomorrow for a campus tour. Lastly, she announced that the Marketing class celebrated the grand opening of Campus Corner today, with managers training the new staff.

Next, Valorie announced that float building is underway as Homecoming quickly approaches. In Club News, she reported that the new theater club, Thespian Society, hosted a successful Karaoke Night last week at the ASC. She also revealed that this year's fall musical will be *Alice By Heart*. In Sports News, Valorie reported that the Varsity Football Team currently holds a 1–4 record, Boys' Soccer stands at 1–11, the Tennis Team is 1–5, and Girls' Volleyball is celebrating a successful season with a 7- 4 - 1 record.

Mr. Fitzpatrick asked what this year's Homecoming theme is and the student reps replied that this year's theme is Pixar.

Student Achievement: M-STEP Report

Curriculum Director Michelle Voelker presented a high-level overview of Spring 2025 data, with a focus on grade-level trends and the district's response plan moving forward. She clarified the distinction between MiCIP and Accountability, noting that while the State has revised its goals downward, the district has maintained its original, higher standards.

Ms. Voelker began with a historical review of Math and ELA data, including comparisons to State, County, and local district performance. She highlighted positive growth in ELA, attributing it to targeted MSTEP preparation supported by elementary instructional coaches, and anticipates continued growth with the adoption of the new K-5 resource for Literacy.

In Math, Ms. Voelker reported consistent gains since the adoption of the Bridges Curriculum, while acknowledging that there is still room for improvement. Science and Social Studies data also show upward trends, though additional supports are still needed in these areas.

In conclusion, Ms. Voelker outlined the district's improvement goals and strategies designed to enhance student achievement. These include the use of assessment tools and Kagan Engagement strategies to support curriculum alignment. She noted that the Middle School Math Curriculum is in its first year of implementation, and the High School is currently piloting a new resource for potential adoption. Additionally, the Elementary Literacy Curriculum is in its first year of use, and a new Tier III intervention resource is being piloted for comparison with existing supports.

Much discussion followed regarding the numerous factors to be considered when analyzing data specific to SAT with Vice President Zannetti emphasizing the importance of providing appropriate support resources for students.

New Business (continued)

Appointment: Executive Assistant to the Superintendent, Board of Education and Human Resources

Superintendent Denewith-Fici presented the recommendation to appoint Ms. Diana Rende to the position of Executive Assistant to the Superintendent. She noted that Ms. Rende has been an employee of the district since 2011 in various roles. Most recently, she has been working as APA to Curriculum Director Michelle Voelker.

It was moved by Zannetti supported by Nitz that the Board approve the **Appointment:** Executive Assistant to the Superintendent as presented. **ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes:** Zannetti, Hiller, Fitzpatrick, Garcia, Nitz, Spicer and Schulte. **Nays:** None. The motion carried 7 – 0.

Trustee Spicer asked if a replacement for the Curriculum Director APA position had yet been filled and Superintendent Denewith-Fici replied the position had not yet been filled.

Personnel Items

Leaves:

As presented

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

New Hires:

Terri Fields - Kitchen Helper – WWMS – date of hire 9/18/25.

Lisa Lawrence – Speech and Language Pathologist – WWT – date of hire 10/6/25.

Kaylee Pinks – District Technology Technician – date of hire 9/22/25.

Caden Pratt – Kitchen Helper – WWT – date of hire 9/16/25.

Ashley Reid - WWT – Class Advisor – date of hire 9/11/25.

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

Vice President Zannetti inquired about ESTA eligibility and whether a report could be provided. Deputy Superintendent Cassabon explained that part-time employees accrue one hour of sick time for every 30 hours worked, and noted that these hours are frontloaded to simplify tracking.

Trustee Nitz noted that Kaylee Pinks was a former student and expressed that it was good to see WWT alumni return.

Next, Mr. Zannetti referenced the class advisor position and asked if no current teachers/employees were interested. Ms. Denewith replied there were no internal applicants.

Public Expression

None

Adjournment

It was moved by Hiller supported by Fitzpatrick to adjourn the meeting at 6:57 PM. The motion carried 7 – 0.

Respectfully submitted,

Scott Hiller
Secretary