

**MINUTES
SPECIAL BOARD MEETING
BOARD OF EDUCATION
WARREN WOODS PUBLIC SCHOOLS
AUGUST 22, 2022**

Call to Order

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

Roll Call

Members present: Green, Schulte, Walsh, Zannetti, Fitzpatrick, Hiller, and Garcia. Also present were Superintendent Stacey Denewith-Fici, Deputy Superintendent Neil Cassabon, Curriculum Director Kara Beal, Special Services Director Stacie Sward, Technology Director Kevin Hustek, WWMS Middle School Principal Donny Sikora 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 Fitzpatrick supported by Hiller to amend the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of August 1, 2022 with the following change: **Item #7 Payment of the Bills** should read moved by **Schulte**. The motion carried 5 – 0 – 2 with Walsh and Zannetti abstaining due to absence.

It was moved by Schulte, supported by Fitzpatrick to approve the Minutes of the Closed Session Meeting of August 1, 2022 as presented. The motion carried 5 – 0 – 2 with Walsh and Zannetti abstaining due to absence.

Correspondence

None

Payment of the Bills

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

2018 Bond	\$	12,224.26
2020 Bond Series I		267,526.45
Building & Site		13,765.50

The motion carried 7 – 0.

Old Business

None

New Business
Reports

Return to Learn/Continuity of Learning Plan

Superintendent Denewith-Fici stated that tonight's report is being presented as required to remain in compliance with Federal regulations in order to receive ESSER funding. She began by explaining that the CDC would continue to determine the COVID-19 community level for the county and based on the that level, in consultation with the MCHD, the District would determine the level of mitigation strategies to implement to foster optimal learning environments while simultaneously ensuring the health and safety of students and staff. Ms. Denewith-Fici detailed what strategies would be implemented at Low, Medium and High levels stating this would be evaluated on a regular basis with the MCCHD, as was done last year.

In conclusion, Superintendent Denewith-Fici said buildings would be providing testing as needed and there would be no remote offerings this year.

Mr. Zannetti asked if the schools would be allowed to test students "at will" or if parental permission would be required and if masks would be made available. Superintendent Denewith-Fici replied that masks would be made available and testing would be done as requested by parents for students exhibiting symptoms.

Mr. Zannetti followed up and asked if the WWPS Continuity of Learning Plan was in line with other districts and the Superintendent replied WWPS was the first in the area to have ESSER funds approved and she actually created the template being used by many districts in Macomb County.

Appointment: Elementary Principal

Superintendent Denewith-Fici stated that she was pleased to recommend Ms. Heather Brodi for the position of Pinewood Elementary Principal. She gave a brief summary of Ms. Brodi's previous experience which began in South Lake in 1998 as a Math and Science teacher and most recently as Elementary Principal in Van Dyke. It was moved by Zannetti, supported by Fitzpatrick to approve the **Appointment: Elementary Principal** as presented. **ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes:** Schulte, Walsh, Zannetti, Fitzpatrick, Hiller, Garcia and Green. **Nays:** 0. The motion carried 7 – 0.

Resolution: 164h Compliance: Teacher Effectiveness

Deputy Superintendent stated this Resolution was a result of recent bargaining and explained this language would ensure that eligible employees shall not advance on the salary schedule if they receive a rating of ineffective on their most recent evaluation. It was moved by Schulte, supported by Walsh that the Board approve the **Resolution: 164h Compliance** as presented. **Roll Call Vote: Ayes:** Schulte, Walsh, Zannetti, Fitzpatrick, Hiller, Garcia and Green. **Nays:** 0. The motion carried 7 – 0.

Personnel Items

Superintendent Denewith-Fici presented the Personnel items.

Leaves:

As presented

It was moved by Fitzpatrick supported by Walsh that the Board approve the **Leaves** as presented. The motion carried 7 – 0.

Personnel Items (continued)

New Hires:

Trae Gaskin – Social Worker – WWMS – Hire Date 7/27/22.

Alan Jackson – Custodian, Afternoon - Westwood – Hire Date 08/15/22.

Jy'Esha Morgan – Special Education Paraprofessional – Hire Date 7/21/22.

Elaine Ross – Social Worker – Early Childhood Center – Hire Date 7/21/22.

Christopher Suminski – Bus Driver – Hire Date 8/8/22.

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

Mr. Zannetti asked what shape the district was in with regard to filling positions from teachers on leave. Superintendent Denewith-Fici reported we are working to fill the vacancies as they arise and added she was anticipating two of them.

Public Expression

Superintendent Denewith-Fici announced that Schoolapalooza is this Thursday from 4:00-6:00 PM at WWT with the football game to follow.

Michele Bastian, WWEA President, along with several other members of the Bargaining Team were present to express their thanks to the Administration and Bargaining Team for the fair and equitable contract that members passed today.

Negotiations (Anticipated Closed Session)

It was moved by Fitzpatrick, supported by Schulte to move to Closed Session for the purpose of Negotiations at 6:21 PM. **ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes:** Schulte, Walsh, Zannetti, Fitzpatrick, Hiller, Garcia and Green. **Nays:** 0. The motion carried 7 – 0.

Ratification: WWEA Agreement

Deputy Superintendent Cassabon presented the contract negotiation status. He stated that the teams began bargaining June 15 and reached a Tentative Agreement on August 17. He stated that the district currently has the 32nd highest average teacher salary in the state and anticipated this agreement would move that even higher. He highlighted that the average increase for a teacher is 9.78% over the two years in addition to retention payments. He added that it reduced class size in grades K – 1, added a leave day and increased payout for unused leave days.

It was moved by Schulte supported by Fitzpatrick to approve the 2-year agreement with the Warren Woods Education Association, MEA-NEA Local 1 effective August 22, 2022 – June 30, 2024. **ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes:** Schulte, Walsh, Zannetti, Fitzpatrick, Hiller, Garcia and Green. **Nays:** 0. The motion carried 7 – 0.

Vice President Schulte thanked both teams for their work and recognized that the Lansing budget definitely helped ease financial concerns.

President Green also thanked both teams for their efforts in achieving an agreement.

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Adjournment

It was moved by Walsh supported by Zannetti to adjourn the meeting at 7:05 PM. The motion carried 7 – 0.

Respectfully submitted,

Kay F. Walsh