

WARREN TOWNSHIP SCHOOLS

Board of Education Meeting * February 23, 2026 * 6:30 PM
Warren Middle School and Virtual

The Warren Township Board of Education meeting will be held in person and virtual, with Board members and Administration. The public is welcome to attend in person or virtually at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83329278668?pwd=KljEaK4M6LMypyBv7WezoAzJxH0rob.1>

I. Call to Order and Statement of Presiding Officer Patricia Zohn, President

Re: Chapter 231 P.L. 1975: "The adequate notice of this regular meeting as required by the Open Public Meetings Act was provided by the posting, mailing/delivery, and filing of this notice on January 12, 2026. This notice was on that date posted on the bulletin board in the Township Office, sent to the Courier News, Echoes-Sentinel and TAP into Warren, and filed with the Township Clerk of the Township of Warren, all in accordance with the requirements of the Open Public Meetings Act."

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Roll Call

Kevin Brotspies

Laura Keller

Ryan Valentino

Nicole Dalton

Richard Molfetta

Todd Weinstein

Bridget Granholm

Stephen Toor

Patricia Zohn

IV. Minutes

- RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approves the public session minutes of the February 2, 2026 Board Meeting.

V. Correspondence and Information

- HIB Information

Total # of Investigations:

Total # of Determined Bullying Incident

2

0

- Suspension Report

In School:

Out of School:

0

0

- Fire Drills

<u>ALT</u>	<u>Central</u>	<u>Mt. Horeb</u>	<u>Woodland</u>	<u>Middle</u>
January 8	January 7	January 23	January 8	January 9
- Security Drills

<u>ALT</u>	<u>Central</u>	<u>Mt. Horeb</u>	<u>Woodland</u>	<u>Middle</u>
January 27 Hold in Place	January 13 Hold in Place	January 7 Hold in Place	January 13 Hold in Place	January 12 Hold in Place

VI. President's Remarks – Mrs. Patricia Zohn

VII. Superintendent's Remarks – Dr. Matthew Mingle

- Chronic Absenteeism Corrective Action Plans - Central and Mt. Horeb Schools

VIII. Presentation

- Warren Township Affordable Housing Update - Mayor Shaun Fine

IX. Discussion

X. Reports of Board Members Appointed to External Assignments

- New Jersey School Board Association Delegate Assembly
 - Stephen Toor, and Patricia Zohn - Alternate
- Somerset County Educational Services Commission
 - Nicole Dalton and Bridget Granholm - Alternate
- Watchung Hills Municipal Alliance Committee
 - Richard Molfetta and Ryan Valentino - Alternate
- Warren Township Opioid Advisory Committee
 - Kevin Brotspies
- Warren Township Mayor's Wellness Committee
 - Laura Keller

XI. Committee Reports

- Curriculum and Technology Committee - February 2, 2026
 - Stephen Toor - Chair, Kevin Brotspies, Todd Weinstein, Bridget Granholm - Alternate
- Finance, Operations, and Security Committee - February 9, 2026
 - Patricia Zohn - Chair, Rich Molfetta, Ryan Valentino, Kevin Brotspies - Alternate
- Personnel, Negotiations, and Communication Committee - No Meeting
 - Laura Keller - Chair, Nicole Dalton, Bridget Granholm, Todd Weinstein - Alternate
- Planning for Growth Working Group - February 2, 2026
 - Laura Keller - Chair, Patricia Zohn, Kevin Brotspies

XII. Public Commentary (agenda items only)

Note on public input at BOE meetings: Board Policy #0167, adopted on June 18, 2018, provides for public participation in Board of Education meetings. Such participation is governed by the following rules:

1. A participant must be recognized by the presiding officer and must preface comments by an announcement of his/her name, address, and group affiliation, if applicable;
2. Each statement made by a participant shall be limited to three minutes' duration. If necessary, the public comment portion of the meeting may be extended fifteen minutes with Board approval;
3. No participant may speak more than once on the same topic until all others who wish to speak on that topic have been heard;
4. All statements, questions, or inquiries shall be directed to the presiding officer and any questions or inquiries directed by a participant to another Board member shall be

redirected to the presiding officer who shall determine if such statement, question, or inquiry shall be addressed by the presiding officer on behalf of the Board;

The portion of the meeting during which participation of the public is invited shall be limited to fifteen minutes (limit may be adjusted at the discretion of the presiding officer as circumstances dictate).

The Board of Education welcomes and encourages input from the public. Being mindful of privacy rights regarding students and board employees and to avoid any potential liability on the part of the speaker, the board discourages references to specific individuals. While directing your comments or questions to the board president, please understand that the public comment portions of the meeting are not structured as question and answer sessions but rather are offered as opportunities for you to share your thoughts with the board. The board president may need to refer an issue to the superintendent if the particular issue has not been handled through the appropriate chain of command with the school district. However, responses may be provided at the end of this session. There are times when comments and questions will require additional fact gathering before a response is provided.

XIII. Items for Board Consideration/Action

The Superintendent recommends that it be:

A. Education

A.1. HIB Report

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education accepts the HIB Report submitted by the Superintendent for the period ending on February 23, 2026.

A.2. School Safety Data System (SSDS) Summary Report

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approves the SSDS Summary Report submitted by the Superintendent for the Report Period 1 of the 2025-2026 school year.

A.3. Fieldwork Site

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approves the following supervised observation hours at Warren Township Board of Education for the 2025-2026 School Year:

School	Clinical Field
Seton Hall University	School of Health & Medical Sciences

A.4. Out-of-District Placement

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approves the following change of Out-of District placement for the 2025-2026 School Year:

School	Student ID	Dates	SY Cost
* Montgomery Academy	#6633536241	January 20, 2026 through June 30, 2026	\$65,969

(*This motion supersedes previous approved motion from February 2, 2026)

B. Finance/Operations/Transportation

B.1. Payment of Bills

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approves the payment of bills for the month of February 2026 in the amount of \$4,958,161.98.

B.2. Board Secretary's and Treasurer's Report

WHEREAS, the Board of Education has received the report of the secretary for the month of January 2026.

WHEREAS, this report shows the following balances on January 31, 2026

FUND	CASH BALANCE	APPROPRIATION BALANCE	FUND BALANCE
(10) General Current Expense Fund	\$6,246,031.62		\$1,764,029.33
(10) General Current Expense		\$0.00	
(11) Current Expense		\$814,643.17	
(12) Capital Outlay		\$1,583,068.51	
(13) Special Schools		\$34.15	
(20) Special Revenue Fund	(\$373,076.02)	\$92,473.14	\$0.00
(30) Capital Projects Fund	\$2,353.84	(\$2,846,645.08)	\$586,804.37
(40) Debt Service Fund	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
TOTAL GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS	\$5,875,309.44	(\$356,426.11)	\$2,350,833.70
Wealth Mgmt - Capital Reserve	\$8,440,000.00		
Wealth Mgmt - Operating	\$3,200,000.00		
Wealth Mgmt - Capital Projects	\$8,567,101.00		
Wealth Mgmt - Debt Service	\$82,668.17		
TOTAL WEALTH MANAGEMENT	\$20,289,769.17		
(62) Food Service Account	\$237,863.78	(\$419,037.15)	\$108,603.29

WHEREAS, in compliance with law and code the secretary has certified that, as of the date of the reports, no budgetary line item account has obligations and payments (contractual orders) which in total exceed the amount appropriated by the district board of education, now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, the Board of Education accepts the above reference reports and certifications and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, in compliance with law and code, the Board of Education certifies that, after review of the secretary's monthly financial report (appropriation section), to the best of its knowledge, no major account or fund has been over expended in violation of law and code and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district's financial obligations for the remainder of the year.

B.3. Budget Transfers for Month of January 2026

RESOLVED, the Board of Education ratifies the attached transfers between budget line items that have been approved by the Superintendent of Schools and that are now being reported to the Board pursuant to Policy 6422.

B.4. Travel Approval

Whereas, in accordance with State of New Jersey School District Accountability Act (A-5) and the Warren Township Schools' Policy 6471-School District Travel, travel by school district employees and Board of Education members must be approved in advance.

Now Therefore Be It RESOLVED, the Warren Township Schools Board of Education approves the following expenses for faculty, staff, administrators, and board members for seminars, conferences and workshops. The expense includes travel costs, if applicable:

Name	School	Workshop/ Conference	Location	Month/Yr	Cost
Nichole Kaller	CS	Handle With Care Instructor Re-Certification	Hamilton	Apr 2026	\$657
Nancy Andrews	ALT	New Jersey Association for Gifted Children	Somerset	Apr 2026	\$300
Christine Cirrotti	MS	New Jersey Association for Gifted Children	Somerset	Apr 2026	\$320
Brielle Tuozzo	CS	New Jersey Association for Gifted Children	Somerset	Apr 2026	\$310
Christina Barlik	MH	2026 New Jersey Speech- Language- Hearing Association Annual Convention	Iselin	Apr 2026	\$435
Nicole Runfola	MH	2026 New Jersey Speech- Language- Hearing Association Annual Convention	Iselin	Apr 2026	\$435

All of the above travel has been approved by the Superintendent. The School Business Administrator shall track and record these costs to ensure that the maximum amount is not exceeded.

B.5. Student Transportation - SCESC

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approves the transportation contract with Somerset County Educational Services Commission during the 2025-2026 School Year as follows:

School	Student ID #	Transportation Cost (Per Diem)
Shepard School	7756726904	\$273.25
Deron School-Union	3311437766	\$290.13

B.6. Local Recreational Improvement Grant: Angelo L Tomaso School Playground
Whereas, the Warren Township Board of Education desires to apply for and obtain a grant from the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs ("Department") for approximately \$21,170 to carry out a project to create and construct a playground at the Angelo L Tomaso Elementary School;

Be it therefore RESOLVED, that the Warren Township Board of Education does hereby authorize the application for such a grant; and,

Recognizes and accepts that the Department may offer a lesser or greater amount and therefore, upon receipt of the grant agreement from the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs, does further authorize the execution

of any such grant agreement; and also, upon receipt of the fully executed agreement from the Department, does further authorize the expenditure of funds pursuant to the terms of the agreement between Warren Township Board of Education and the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs.

B.7. Approval of Woodland Parking Lot and Sidewalk/Stirling Road Crosswalk Project Bid Award

WHEREAS, a recommendation was made by the Superintendent of Schools to the Warren Township Board of Education ("Board") to seek a contract for construction services for the Woodland Parking Lot and Sidewalk/Stirling Road Crosswalk Project at district's maintenance building (hereinafter "Project"); and

WHEREAS, the Project was properly advertised to prospective bidders in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-4; and

WHEREAS, on Tuesday, February 3, 2026, the Board received the following bids from potential bidders in accordance with N.J.S.A.18A:18A-1, et seq.;

Vendor	Base Bid	Alternate #1	Alternate #2	Alternate #3	Alternate #4	Total Bid
Paving Materials and Contracting, LLC	\$571,570	\$211,210	\$109,108	\$37,373	\$53,535	\$982,796
Top Line Construction Corp.	\$543,750	\$278,500	\$156,500	\$47,500	\$27,350	\$1,053,600
Halecon, Inc.	\$590,500	\$349,500	\$225,500	\$22,250	\$34,750	\$1,222,500
AA Berms, LLC	\$628,384	\$395,600	\$46,900	\$156,980	\$101,800	\$1,329,664
De Sapiro Construction	\$718,000	\$317,000	\$48,000	\$267,000	\$115,000	\$1,465,000
Sea Coast Construction	\$1,059,198	\$277,227	\$10,443	\$206,083	\$160,798	\$1,803,749

WHEREAS, Paving Materials and Contracting, LLC's' bid has been reviewed by the design professionals and attorney and is the lowest and is responsive to the bid requirements for the Project,

NOW, THEREFORE:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board hereby awards the Project to Paving Materials and Contracting, LLC for nine hundred eighty two thousand seven hundred ninety six dollars (\$982,796.00). This contract and all of the project's professional and ancillary fees are to be paid from the district's general fund monies.

B.8. Approval of Woodland Restroom Addition Project Bid Award

WHEREAS, a recommendation was made by the Superintendent of Schools to the Warren Township Board of Education ("Board") to seek a contract for construction services for the Woodland Restroom Addition Project at district's maintenance building (hereinafter "Project"); and

WHEREAS, the Project was properly advertised to prospective bidders in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-4; and

WHEREAS, on Tuesday, February 3, 2026, the Board received the following bids from potential bidders in accordance with N.J.S.A.18A:18A-1, et seq.;

Vendors	Total
Westcraft Builders	\$125,500
Skoype, LLC	\$139,000
Drill Construction	\$140,500
GHS Construction	\$150,000
Northeast Construction Services, LLC	\$178,841
R.J. Michaels & Co., Inc.	\$202,710
Force Concrete & Masonry Corp.	\$203,000
Goksu Construction, LLC	\$204,950
K&D Contractors, LLC	\$210,000
De Sapiro Construction	\$214,000
Salazar & Associates, Inc.	\$256,000

WHEREAS, Westcraft Builders' bid has been reviewed by the design professionals and attorney and is the lowest and is responsive to the bid requirements for the Project,

NOW, THEREFORE:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board hereby awards the Project to Westcraft Builders' for one hundred twenty five thousand five hundred dollars (\$125,500.00). This contract and all of the project's professional and ancillary fees are to be paid from the district's general fund monies.

B.9. Playground Equipment Replacement Purchase Approval
 RESOLVED that the Board of Education approves the following purchases with Kompan, Inc. for playground equipment and installation:

Equipment	Cost
Woodland School Playground Equipment Replacement (per proposal)	\$368,036.73*
Angelo L Tomaso School Playground Equipment Replacement (per proposal)	\$401,304.35*
Total Purchase Price	\$769,341.08

(*Purchasing through Bergen Bid Co-op #BC-BID-24-35)

B.10. 2026-2027 Preschool Tuition Rate
 RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approves and sets the 2026-2027 preschool tuition rate at \$10,150/year.

C. Personnel/Student Services

C.1. Employment for the 2025-2026 School Year

RESOLVED, upon recommendation from the Superintendent that the Board of Education approve the following Personnel items including the emergent employment of the following employees (indicated by *) conditional upon the final approval by the New Jersey Department of Education. The Board further authorizes the submission of an application for emergency hiring pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:6-7.1, et. Seq., N.J.S.A. 18A:6.14.12, et. Seq., if applicable. Staff members shall be paid in accordance with provisions in their collective bargaining agreement and/or in accordance with a schedule provided to all

employees prior to the beginning of the contract or school year.

Name	Position	Location	Degree	Step	Base Salary	Stipend	Total Salary	Effective Date	Tenure	Discussion
Brianna Durka	1:1 Paraprofessional (30 Hours)	MTH Preschool	N/A	3	\$28,605	\$2,000	\$30,605	On or about March 2, 2026, through June 30, 2026	No	Replacing Employee #3924

C.2. Substitute Teachers

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approves the following to be appointed as substitute teachers for the 2025-2026 school year.

Name
Poonam Pathak
Elizabeth Eisinger
Elisabeth Weaver
Geraldine Heim

C.3. Substitute Speech Therapist

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approves the following to be appointed as a substitute speech therapist for the 2025-2026 school year.

Name	Daily Rate
Hebah Soliman	\$265

C.4. Leave Request

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approves the following leave requests:

Employee ID	Paid/Unpaid
#2691	FMLA - March 30, 2026, through April 20, 2026 (Paid) FMLA - April 21, 2026, through June 12, 2026 (UnPaid) NJFLA - June 15, 2026, through June 30, 2026 (Unpaid) NJFLA - August 31, 2026, through November 6, 2026 (Unpaid) Extended Leave - November 9, 2026, through January 26, 2027 (Unpaid)
#3637	Intermittent FMLA - February 4, 2026, through April 20, 2026 (Paid)
#2515	Intermittent FMLA - February 4, 2026, through June 30, 2026 (Paid)
#3644	Intermittent FMLA - January 8, 2026, through April 30, 2026 (Paid) (This motion supersedes the previous motion approved on February 2, 2026)
#2041	Intermittent FMLA - February 19, 2026, through March 31, 2026 (Paid)

C.5. Advancement on the Salary Guide

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approves the following staff for amended placements on the 2025-2026 salary guide:

Name	From	To	Effective
*Lyndsay Carroll	BA+15	MA	02/01/2026

(*This motion supersedes the previous motion approved on February 2, 2026)

C.6. Long Term Substitutes

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approves the following Long Term Substitutes:

Name	Dates	Employee #
Aimee DiMeo-Fine	On or about February 26, 2026, through on or about April 30, 2026	#3399
Hunter Seubert	On or about May 11, 2026, through June 30, 2026	#3452

C.7. Warren Academy Courses - Instructor Stipend 2025-2026

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approves the following staff for reimbursement as an Instructor. Each instructor will be reimbursed at the WTEA contractual rate \$50.00 per hour.

Staff Member	Course	Date	Prep Hours	Instructor Hours	Cost Total Not to Exceed
Beth Alcaraz	Autism and the Prompt Hierarchy	March 12, 2026	3	1	\$200

C.8. Clubs/After School Activities

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approves the following 2025-2026 after school clubs and instructors at the negotiated stipend rate.

Name	Club	School	Cost
Haley Isabella	Debate Club	CS	\$735

D. Policy

D.1. Policies and Regulations - Second Reading

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approves the second reading of the following policies and regulation:

Number	Policy Name	New/Revision	Source of Changes
P0142.1	Nepotism	R	SEA
P1220	Employment of Chief School Administrator	R	SEA
P1552	Sexual Harassment - Staff	N	SEA

Number	Regulation Name	New/Revision	Source of Changes
R1552	Sexual Harassment - Staff	N	SEA

D.2. Policies and Regulations - Abolish

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approves the abolishment of the following policies and regulations:

Number	Policy Name	Source of Changes
P3362	Sexual Harassment	SEA
P4352	Sexual Harassment	SEA

Number	Regulation Name	Source of Changes
R3362	Sexual Harassment of Teaching Staff Members Complaint Procedure	SEA
R4352	Sexual Harassment of Support Staff Members Complaint Procedure	SEA

D.3. Board Norms for Communications and Operations

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approves the Board Norms for Communication and Operations.

XIV. Unfinished Business

XV. New Business

XVI. Public Commentary (any topic)

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directing your comments or questions to the board president, please understand that the public comment portions of the meeting are not structured as question and answer sessions but rather are offered as opportunities for you to share your thoughts with the board. The board president may need to refer an issue to the superintendent if the particular issue has not been handled through the appropriate chain of command with the school district. However, responses may be provided at the end of this session. There are times when comments and questions will require additional fact gathering before a response is provided.

XVII. Executive Session

WHEREAS, the Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A.10:4-11, permits the Board of Education to meet in closed session to discuss certain matters, now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, the Board of Education adjourns to closed session to discuss:

- anticipated litigation or contract negotiation and/or matters of attorney-client privilege; and
- protection of public safety and property and/or investigations of possible violations or violations of law

Action will not be taken upon return to public session;

the length of the meeting is anticipated to be approximately 30 minutes; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, the minutes of this closed session be made public when the need for confidentiality no longer exists.

XVIII. Adjourn

District Mission Statement

"The mission of the Warren Township School District is to provide, through a safe, nurturing yet challenging environment, all students with an outstanding education that engages students and fosters academic excellence, healthy social and emotional development, and a lifelong passion for learning."

2025-2030 Strategic Plan Goals

1. Student Learning
 - 1.1 Elevate Academic Rigor and Engagement
 - 1.2 Personalize Learning and Provide Comprehensive Support for All Learners
2. Student and Staff Well-Being
 - 2.1 Foster a Safe, Supportive, and Inclusive School Climate
 - 2.2 Strengthen Mental Health and Wellness Supports
3. Planning for Growth
 - 3.1 Plan for Enrollment Growth and Space Needs

2025-2026 Board Goal

1. Each Board member will participate in at least one community outreach activity during the 2025-2026 school year to strengthen two-way communication with the broader community.