

WARREN TOWNSHIP SCHOOLS

Board of Education Meeting *January 5, 2026 * 6:30 PM
Warren Middle School

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/81311197608?pwd=QvkglvV7jCoq4te8aZLjmFrqVgP8vc.1>

I. Call to Order and Statement by Board Secretary Christopher Heagele

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 9, 2025. 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. Election Results

For entry into the minutes, Mr. Heagele provided the Somerset County Clerk certified results of the Annual School Election, held on November 4, 2025:

Warren Township - Three (3) Three Year Board of Education Seats

- Kevin Brotspies
- Nicole Dalton
- Patricia Zohn

IV. Oath of Office

- The Oath of Office will be administered to Mr. Brotspies, Mrs. Dalton, and Mrs. Zohn by Mr. Heagele.

V. Roll Call

Kevin Brotspies Laura Keller Ryan Valentino

Nicole Dalton Richard Molfetta Todd Weinstein

Bridget Granholm Stephen Toor Patricia Zohn

VI. Election of Board Officers

A. President: _____

The newly elected Board President will preside over the remainder of the meeting.

B. Vice President: _____

VII. Annual Reorganization Action Items

A. Board Meeting Dates

RESOLVED, the Board of Education approves the following list of meetings for the Calendar Year 2026:

**WARREN TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION
2026 MEETING SCHEDULE**

(NOTE: All meetings will be held in person and virtually. All meetings are assumed to be held in the Library at the Middle School. All meetings are to be held on a Monday.)

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>
January 5, 2026 REORGANIZATION	6:30 pm
January 26, 2026	6:30 pm
February 23, 2026	6:30 pm
March 16, 2026	6:30 pm
April 27, 2026	6:30 pm
May 11, 2026	6:30 pm
June 15, 2026	6:30 pm
July 20, 2026	4:00 pm
August 31, 2026	6:30 pm
September 28, 2026	6:30 pm
October 26, 2026	6:30 pm
November 16, 2026	6:30 pm
December 21, 2026	6:30 pm
January 4, 2027 REORGANIZATION	6:30 pm

B. Board Member Code of Ethics

RESOLVED, the Board of Education acknowledges that each Board Member has received and agreed to uphold the Code of Ethics as follows:

1. I will uphold and enforce all laws, state board rules and regulations, and court orders pertaining to schools. Desired changes should be brought about only through legal and ethical procedures.
2. I will make decisions in terms of the educational welfare of children and will seek to develop and maintain public schools which meet the individual needs of all children regardless of their ability, race, creed, sex or social standing.
3. I will confine my board action to policy making, planning, and appraisal and I will help to frame policies and plans only after the board has consulted those who will be affected by them.
4. I will carry out my responsibility, not to administer the schools, but, together with my fellow board members, to see that they are well run.
5. I will recognize that authority rests with the board of education and will make no

personal promises nor take any private action which may compromise the board.

6. I will refuse to surrender my independent judgment to special interest or partisan political groups or to use the schools for personal gain or for the gain of friends.
7. I will hold confidential all matters pertaining to the schools which, if disclosed, would needlessly injure individuals or the schools. But in all other matters, I will provide accurate information and, in concert with my fellow board members, interpret to the staff the aspirations of the community for its schools.
8. I will vote to appoint the best qualified personnel available after consideration of the recommendation of the Superintendent.
9. I will support and protect school personnel in proper performance of their duties.
10. I will refer all complaints to the Superintendent and will act on such complaints at public meetings only after failure of an administrative solution.

C. District Mission Statement

RESOLVED, the Board of Education readopts the district's mission statement as follows:

"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."

D. Appointments

1. The election of _____ as Board Representative to the NJSBA Delegate Assembly for the Calendar Year 2026 and the election of _____ as the alternate.
2. The election of _____ as the Board Representative to the Somerset County Educational Services Commission for the Calendar Year 2026 and the election of _____ as the alternate.
3. The election of _____ as Board Representative to the Watchung Hills Municipal Alliance Committee for the Calendar Year 2026 and the election of _____ as the alternate.
4. The appointment of the Superintendent of Schools as the Board Representative to the Morris Union Jointure Commission Board of Education for the Calendar Year 2026.
5. The appointment of the Superintendent of Schools and Board of Education president as liaisons to the Warren Township committee.
6. Somerset County SBA Representative
RESOLVED, that the Board of Education appoints _____ as the 2026 Representative to the Somerset County School Boards Association.
7. Warren Township Opioid Crisis Advisory Committee
RESOLVED, that the Board of Education appoints _____ as the 2026 Representative to the Warren Township Opioid Advisory Committee.

*****End of Reorganization Items*****

VIII. Minutes

- RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approves the public and executive session minutes of the December 22, 2025, Board Meeting.

IX. Correspondence and Information

• HIB Information

Total # of Investigations: _____ Total # of Determined Bullying Incidents: _____

0

0

• Suspension Report

In School: _____ Out of School: _____

0

0

• Fire Drills

<u>ALT</u> December 10	<u>Central</u> December 18	<u>Mt. Horeb</u> December 4	<u>Woodland</u> December 18	<u>Middle</u> December 10
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• Security Drills

<u>ALT</u> December 8 Hold in Place	<u>Central</u> December 1 Hold in Place	<u>Mt. Horeb</u> December 19 Hold in Place	<u>Woodland</u> December 4 Hold in Place	<u>Middle</u> December 5 Hold in Place
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X. President's Remarks

XI. Superintendent's Remarks - Dr. Matthew Mingle

XII. Presentations

- Law Enforcement Appreciation Day
- Demographic Study - Dr. Matthew Mingle

XIII. Discussion

XIV. Committee Reports

XV. 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.

XVI. Items for Board Consideration/Action

The Superintendent recommends that it be:

A. Education

A.1. HIB Report

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approves the HIB Report submitted by the Superintendent for the period ending on December 22, 2025.

A.2. RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approves the following supervised clinical fieldwork at Warren Township BOE for the 2025-2026 School Year:

School	Clinical Field
Rutgers Graduate School of Education	Music Education

B. Finance/Operations/Transportation

B.1. Travel Reimbursement Mileage Rate

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby approves the reimbursement rate for district travel in a personal vehicle to be \$0.47 per mile, per the New Jersey State Appropriations Act.

B.2. Purchasing Approval

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby approves the following annual Cooperative purchasing:

- Atra Janitorial Supply Co, through Ed Data Services Bid #10425 for assorted janitorial supplies, at an amount not to exceed \$300,000.
- Cablevision Lightpath - NJ, Inc. through cooperative purchasing agreement NJDRLAP through ESCNJ, for internet and voice services, at an amount not to exceed \$350,000.
- Dell, through State Contract M0483, for computer equipment, peripherals and related services, at an amount not to exceed \$500,000.
- School Specialty, through State Contract T0114 and various ED Data Service Bids, for school supplies, at an amount not to exceed \$250,000.
- SHI International Corp, through cooperative purchasing agreement E-8801-NJSBA-ACESCP as well as other cooperative purchasing agreements, for technology purchasing, at an amount not to exceed \$275,000.
- Staples Business Advantage, through various Ed Data Services Bids, for office/computer supplies, at an amount not to exceed \$175,000.

B.3. Phones Free Grant Acceptance

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby accepts funds from the Phones Free Schools Grant Program in the amount of \$4,384.98.

C. Personnel/Student Services

C.1. Hiring

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education authorizes the Superintendent to extend offers of employment for which there may be a vacancy or which are predicated by enrollment numbers between January 6, 2026 through January 4, 2027, subject to ratification of the Board at its next scheduled meeting.

C.2. REACH Parent Presentations - Staff

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approves the following employees for a REACH Parent Information session in the 2025-2026 School Year, at the WTEA contractual rate of \$50 per hour per employee, for a total cost not to exceed \$400.00.

Names	
Susan Kline	Christine Cirrotti
Nancy Andrews	Brielle Tuozzo

C.3. Leave Request

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

Employee ID	Paid/Unpaid
#3958	Medical Leave - March 2, 2026, through March 23, 2026 (Paid) FMLA - March 24, 2026, through March 27, 2026 (Paid) FMLA - March 30, 2026, through April 24, 2026 (Unpaid) NJFLA - April 27, 2026, through June 30, 2026 (Unpaid) NJFLA - August 31, 2026, through September 18, 2026 (Unpaid) (This motion supersedes previous approved motion from October 27, 2025)
#3461	FMLA - December 2, 2025, through January 16, 2026 (Paid) (This motion supersedes previous approved motion from July 21, 2025)
#3440	FMLA - October 27, 2025, through November 17, 2025 (Paid) FMLA - November 18, 2025, through January 26, 2026 (Unpaid) (This motion supersedes previous approved motion from November 17, 2025)

C.4. Approval to Abolish Position

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby approves to abolish the following position for the 2025-2026 school year:

Location	Position	Full-Time Equivalent
WMS	1:1 Paraprofessional (1 Hour 40 Minutes per day)	0.277

C.5. WTEA Stipend Position 2025-2026 - Resignation

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education accepts the resignation of the following position effective December 23, 2025.

Name	Grade	Position
Leslie Ortega	6	MS Lunchroom Supervisor

C.6. WTEA Stipend Position 2025-2026 - Lunchroom Supervisor
 RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approves the following position effective January 5, 2026.

Name	Grade	Position
John Seremula	6	MS Lunchroom Supervisor

XVII. Unfinished Business
 XVIII. New Business
 XIX. Public Commentary (any topic)

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XX. Adjourn

District Mission Statement

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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.