

WARREN TOWNSHIP SCHOOLS

Board of Education Meeting * November 18, 2024 * 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/89278157366?pwd=SXp6N0uru60to169cCEcKbNF96sbeS.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, 2024. This notice was on that date posted on the bulletin board in the Township Office, sent to the Courier News, 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

___ Nicole Dalton	___ Richard Molfetta	___ Ryan Valentino
___ Mehul Desai	___ Scott Otto	___ Todd Weinstein
___ Laura Keller	___ Stephen Toor	___ Patricia Zohn

IV. 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:

- a matter involving the purchase, lease, or acquisition of real property with public funds,
- pending or anticipated litigation or contract negotiation and/or matters of attorney-client privilege and
- material the disclosure of which constitutes an unwarranted invasion of individual privacy

Action will be taken upon return to public session;

the length of the meeting is anticipated to be approximately 60 minutes; and be it

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

V. Motion to return to Open Session

***NOTE: It is anticipated that the regular business portion of the meeting will begin at approximately 7:30 P.M.**

VI. Minutes

- RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approves the public session minutes of the October 28, 2024 Board Meeting.

VII. Correspondence and Information

· HIB Information

Total # of Investigations:

Total # of Determined Bullying Incidents:

2

1

· Suspension Report

In School:

Out of School:

0

0

· Fire Drills

ALT
October 10

Central
October 8

Mt. Horeb
October 23

Woodland
October 9

Middle
October 9

· Security Drills

ALT
October 8
Bomb Threat

Central
October 7
Bomb Threat

Mt. Horeb
October 8
Bomb Threat

Woodland
October 15
Bomb Threat

Middle
October 29
Bomb Threat

VIII. President's Remarks – Mrs. Patricia Zohn

IX. Superintendent's Remarks – Dr. Matthew Mingle

X. Presentation

- Student Achievement Report - Mr. Kimmick

XI. Discussion

XII. Committee Reports

- Curriculum and Technology Committee - No meeting
 - Stephen Toor - Chair, Mehul Desai, Rich Molfetta, Laura Keller - Alternate
- Finance, Operations, and Security Committee - No meeting
 - Patricia Zohn - Chair, Scott Otto - Vice Chair, Ryan Valentino, Rich Molfetta - Alternate
- Personnel, Negotiations, and Communication Committee - No meeting
 - Laura Keller - Chair, Nikki Dalton, Todd Weinstein, Stephen Toor - Alternate
- Ad Hoc Strategic Planning Committee - October 28, 2024
 - Laura Keller, Stephen Toor, Patricia Zohn

XIII. 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.

XIV. 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 October 28, 2024.

A.2. Settlement Agreement

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby approves a settlement agreement and general release with the guardian of student #700523.

B. Finance/Operations/Transportation

B.1. Payment of Bills

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approves the payment of bills for the month of November 2024 in the amount of \$3,131,874.23.

B.2. Student Transportation - SCESC

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approves the transportation contract with Somerset County ESC during the 2024-2025 School Year as follows:

School	Student ID #	Transportation Cost (60 days)
Angelo L. Tomaso School	4376622801	\$112.89 per diem

B.3. Sale/Disposal of Obsolete Items

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education declares as obsolete the following items:

Item	Description	Identification Number
Truck #4	2013 Ford Dump Truck with plow and salter	VIN #: 1FDUF5HT4DEB90661

B.4. High Impact Tutoring Grant Award Acceptance
 RESOLVED, that the Board of Education accepts the adjusted New Jersey High Impact Tutoring Reissue Competitive Grant award to the amount of **\$124,344**. (*This motion supersedes previous motion from July 22, 2024.)

C. Personnel/Student Services

C.1. Employment for the 2024-2025 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/PCR	Location	Degree	Step	Base Salary	Stipend	Salary	Effective Date	Tenure	Discussion
Sydney Lynn	Special Education Teacher	ALT	MA+30	8	\$83,550	\$0	\$83,550	On or around January 2, 2025 through June 30, 2025	Yes	Replacing Employee #2954
Nicole Sharkey*	Leave Replacement - ASAP Math	ALT	MA+30	5	\$79,248	\$0	\$79,248	November 22, 2024 through April 11, 2025	No	Replacing Employee #3679
Daniel Ring	1:1 Paraprofessional (32.5 hours)	CS	N/A	2	\$29,884	\$2,000	\$31,884	December 2, 2024 through June 30, 2025	No	New Position

*(This motion supersedes the previous motion from October 28, 2024)

C.2. Substitute Teacher
 RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approves the following to be appointed as a substitute teacher for the 2024-2025 school year.

Name
Sitwat Mir

C.3. Long Term Substitute
 RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approves the following Long Term Substitute:

Name	Dates	Employee #
Darcy Passaro	*September 16, 2024 through November 20, 2024	#2954

(*This motion supersedes the motion from September 16, 2024)

C.4. Leave Request
 RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approves the following leave requests:

Employee ID	Paid/Unpaid
#3223	Administrative Leave - May 31, 2024 through December 16, 2024 (Paid) (This motion supersedes the previous motion from October 28, 2024)
#3580	FMLA - October 8, 2024 through November 1, 2024 (Paid) (This motion supersedes the previous motion from September 16, 2024)
#2055	FMLA - August 27, 2024 through November 15, 2024 (Paid) Extended Leave - November 18, 2024 through June 30, 2025 (Paid) (This motion supersedes the previous motion from October 28, 2024)
#3384	FMLA - December 4, 2024 through January 15, 2025 (Paid)
#3832	FMLA - March 21, 2025 through April 25, 2025 (AM) (Paid) FMLA - April 25, 2025 (PM) through May 16, 2025 (Unpaid) NJFLA - May 19, 2025 through June 30, 2025 (Unpaid)

- C.5. Retirement/Resignation
RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approves the retirement/resignations of the following staff:

Name	Position	Location	Retirement/Resignation	Dates of Service
Dana Weber	Leave Replacement - Multi-Duty Paraprofessional (30 hours)	ALT	Resignation	August 27, 2024 through November 27, 2024
Lisa Cohen	1:1 Paraprofessional (32.5 hours)	CS	Resignation	September 2, 2022 through November 27, 2024

- C.6. Clubs/After School Activities
RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approves the following 2024-2025 after school club and instructor at the negotiated stipend rate.

Name	Club	School	Cost
Beth Alcaraz	Math Kangaroo	CS	\$1470

- C.7. Warren Academy Courses - Instructor Stipend 2024-2025
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	Differentiation in the classroom	December 9, 2024	1	1	\$100
Cynthia Cassidy	Using Canva to Support SEL	January 9, 2025	3	1	\$200
Cynthia Cassidy	Canva Make and Take	January 16, 2025	1	1	\$100

Cynthia Cassidy	Canva for the Intermediate/Advanced User	January 30, 2025	3	1	\$200
Ann Marie Christou	Battle Brackets	December 11, 2024	3	1	\$200
Ann Marie Christou	Cooperative Learning Old School Style	January 6, 2025	3	1	\$200
Susan Cooper	Mnemonic devices to improve student memory	December 3 & 4, 2024	2	1	\$150
Francesca Frosoni	Being a Reader: Conference	December 10, 2024	3	1	\$200
Kristen Stoyanov	Classroom Management	December 16, 2024	1	1	\$100
MaryEllen Weaver	Meditation for Middle School Educators: Deep Stress Relief and Renewal	December 2, 2024	3	1	\$200

- C.8. WTEA Stipend Position for 2024-2025
RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approves the following WTEA stipend per the contracted rate for the 2024-2025 school year.

Position	Name
Boys Basketball B	Angel Menendez

- C.9. Approval of Inservice Day Presenters
RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approves the following November 5, 2024 Inservice Day presenters at the WTEA contractual rate for prep per employee for a total cost not to exceed \$2200.00.

Names		
Nichole Kaller	Marilyn Orejuela	Jaclyn Cohen
Rebecca Hartman	Lyndsay Carroll	Francesca Frosoni
Cynthia Cassidy	Kristen Stoyanov	Patricia Iannacone

(*This motion supersedes previous motion from October 28, 2024)

- C.10. Extended Day Coordinators
RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approves the adjusted Extended Day Coordinators stipend in the indicated schools, to be paid commensurate with building program funding sources. The total cost not to exceed \$12,000 and to be fully funded by Federal Grants.

Names	School	Amount
MaryBeth Greco	ALT	\$4,000
Linda Yu	WMS	\$4,000
Cristina Trump	MTH	\$4,000

XV. Unfinished Business

XVI. New Business

XVII. Public Commentary (any topic)

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

XIX. 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."

2020-2025 Strategic Plan Goals

1. Competencies Goal 1 - Strengthen each student's academic competencies by fostering a supportive instructional culture.
2. Competencies Goal 2 - Strengthen each student's social-emotional competencies to maximize growth and capabilities.
3. Voice & Engagement Goal 1 - Streamline existing two-way communications between district stakeholders to maximize consistency, efficiency, and effectiveness.
4. Voice & Engagement Goal 2 - Investigate and adopt a partnership-driven change management process.
5. Equity & Consistency Goal 1 - Provide each student with a rich array of academic, enrichment, and diverse social experiences.
6. Equity & Consistency Goal 2 - Create a culture that values diversity.
7. Health, Wellness & Safety Goal 1 - Promote the health and social-emotional wellness of students by equipping each staff member with skills to identify related factors and enhance support systems.
8. Health, Wellness & Safety Goal 2 - Maintain and improve all district facilities in conjunction with the district safety and security plan.

2024-2025 District Goals

1. Student Achievement
 - a. Improve student outcomes in:
 - i. English Language Arts (ELA) by focusing on a consistent set of best practices and standards alignment in all ELA classrooms;
 - ii. Math by focusing on a consistent set of best practices and standards alignment in all math classrooms; and
 - iii. Social-Emotional Learning competencies (SEL) by clarifying expectations for staff roles in implementing SEL to promote academic and social growth of students.
2. Belonging
 - a. Increase the cultural proficiency of educators by:
 - i. Engaging staff in conversations that help them recognize and improve their own cultural proficiency; and
 - ii. Engaging staff in lessons on culturally responsive teaching.
 - b. Increase student sense of belonging by:
 - i. Creating spaces where all are empowered to develop their authentic selves;
 - ii. Getting to know students' evolving stories, strengths, ambitions, and needs;
 - iii. Providing programs that foster student wellness and resilience;
 - iv. Ensuring dignity and kindness for all, in every situation; and
 - v. Building bridges across race, culture and identity to create a community where all are valued.
 - c. Improve Middle School culture by:
 - i. Engaging students in activities that foster student wellness and resilience;
 - ii. Building a culture of dignity and kindness for all; and
 - iii. Building bridges across race, culture and identity to create a community where all are valued.
3. Strategic Plan
 - a. Adopt a strategic plan for the years 2025-2030.

2024-2025 Board Goals

1. Comply with Board norms and represent the Board at school and community events.
2. Draft communications/messaging strategies for key community topics (eg., enrollment growth, strategic planning, referendum).
3. Support the implementation of year five strategic plan priorities and adopt a new five-year strategic plan.