

**WARREN COUNTY TECHNICAL SCHOOL BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**1500 ROUTE 57 ~ WASHINGTON, NJ 07882**  
**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**  
**February 17, 2021**

**CALL TO ORDER**

President Austin called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, February 17, 2021 at the Warren County Technical School, 1500 Route 57, Washington, NJ 07882.

**Flag Salute – Dr. Lori Austin**

**Opening Statement – President Austin**

Pursuant to the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et seq, the Board Secretary caused notice of this meeting to be given to the public and the press on November 18, 2020.

**Roll Call – Board Secretary Barkman**

X Dr. Lamonte  
X Mr. McDonough  
X Mr. Rutledge  
X Mrs. Warren  
X Dr. Austin

**Swearing in of new Board Member**

**Adopt the Meeting Agenda**

**Resolution 14279-21: Adopt the Meeting Agenda**

On the motion of Mr. McDonough, seconded by Dr. Lamonte, RESOLVED, that this Board adopts the Meeting Agenda for the February 17, 2021 meeting as published with any addenda.

VOICE VOTE: Yeas: 5

*Motion Carried: Yes*

**Resolution E680-21: Personnel, Negotiations and Legal Matters**

On the motion of Mr. McDonough, seconded by Dr. Lamonte, the Board moved into executive session at 5:05 p.m. by adopting the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Education of the Warren County Technical School as follows:

- A. That the public be excluded from the attendance at a portion of this meeting for the reason that the following subject matter be discussed:
  - 1. Superintendent contract discussion
- B. The Board may exclude the public from the meeting pursuant to N.J.S.A. 10:4-12, B3 & B8 of the Open Public Meetings Act.
- C. The matters discussed will be revealed to the public when the Board determines that such would not invade any right of privacy.
- D. Action may be taken.

VOICE VOTE: Yeas: 5

*Motion Carried: Yes*

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**Resolution E681-21:**

**Resume Regular Session**

On the motion of Mr. McDonough, seconded by Mr. Rutledge, the Board reconvened into regular session at 5:30 p.m.

VOICE VOTE: Yeas:5\_\_

*Motion Carried: Yes*

**Discussion**

- **PUBLIC COMMENTS** - Related to Agenda Items Only-None
  - Swearing in Tiffani Warren as a new Board Member
- **COMMUNICATIONS** - Included in Board Packet
- **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**
- **HIB REPORT/SUSPENSIONS**
  - Zero (0) HIB's since the last Board Meeting
  - One (1) Out of School Suspension since the last Board Meeting (Loss of Online Privileges)
- **BOARD PRESIDENT'S REPORT-None**
- **STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT-None**
  - Emily Smith - Class President
- **BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR REPORT-Ms. Barkman gave an update on the budget**
- **DISCUSS EDUCATIONAL ISSUES**
- **NEW BUSINESS**

**Minutes – Regular Meeting Minutes**

**Resolution 14280-21:**

**Approve Board Meeting Minutes as Listed Below**

On the motion of Mr. Rutledge, seconded by Mr. McDonough, RESOLVED, that this Board approves the following resolutions as listed below:

**Resolution 14281-21:**

**Approve January 20, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes**

**Resolution 14282-21:**

**Approve January 20, 2021 Regular Meeting Executive Session Minutes**

VOICE VOTE: Yeas:4\_\_ Nays:\_\_0\_\_ Abstain: Mrs. Warren\_\_ Absent:

*Motion Carried: Yes*

**Resolution 14281-21:**

**Approve January 20, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes**

On the motion of \_\_\_\_\_, seconded by \_\_\_\_\_, RESOLVED, that this Board approves the Regular Meeting Minutes of January 20, 2021.

**Resolution 14282-21:**

**Approve January 20, 2021 Regular Meeting Executive Session Minutes**

On the motion of \_\_\_\_\_, seconded by \_\_\_\_\_, RESOLVED, that this Board approves the Regular Meeting Executive Session Minutes of January 20, 2021.

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**FINANCE & FACILITIES**

**Resolution 14283-21:**

**Approve Finance & Facilities Resolutions as Listed Below**

On the motion of Mr. Rutledge, seconded by Mr. McDonough, RESOLVED, that this Board approves the following finance and facilities resolutions as listed below:

**Resolution 14284-21:**

**Receive, Accept, and Approve January 2021 Financial Reports**

**Resolution 14285-21:**

**Board of Education's Monthly Certification of Major Account/Fund Status**

**Resolution 14286-21:**

**Approve Payment of Bills for February 2021**

**Resolution 14287-21:**

**Approve Transfers for January 2021**

**Resolution 14288-21:**

**Approve The Nationwide Waiver of Food Service Management Company Contract Duration in The National School Lunch Program and Summer Food Service Program Extension for The 2021/2022 School Year**

**Resolution 14289-21:**

**Approve Mechanical Upgrades - Replacement of Roof Top HVAC Equipment Project**

**Resolution 14290-21:**

**Request Waiver of Requirements for Special Education Medicaid Initiative (SEMI) Program**

**Resolution 14291-21:**

**Approve Transportation Agreement between Warren County Special Services and Warren County Technical School for the 2021-2022 School Year**

ROLL CALL VOTE:

*Motion Carried: Yes*

Lamonte Abstain 14290-21\_\_\_ McDonough X\_\_\_ Rutledge X\_\_\_ Warren X\_\_\_ Austin X\_\_\_

**Resolution 14284-21:**

**Receive, Accept, and Approve January 2021 Financial Reports**

On the motion of \_\_\_\_\_, seconded by \_\_\_\_\_, RESOLVED, that the January 2021 financial reports of the Secretary and Treasurer be received, accepted, and approved.

Exhibit: F1

**Resolution 14285-21:**

**Board of Education's Monthly Certification of Major Account/Fund Status**

On the motion of \_\_\_\_\_, seconded by \_\_\_\_\_, RESOLVED, that the following Board of Education's Monthly Certification of Budgetary Major Account/Fund Status be approved: (1) Board of Education's Monthly Certification and (2) Budgetary Major Account/Fund Status Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10(c)4, we certify that February 2021, after review of the secretary's monthly financial report (appropriations section) and upon consultation with the appropriate district officials that to the best of our knowledge, no major account or fund has been over expended. The district board of education has implemented adequate controls to prevent the over-expenditure of any funds or yearly deficit in major accounts in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10(c) 4.

**Resolution 14286-21:**

**Approve Payment of Bills for February 2021**

On the motion of \_\_\_\_\_, seconded by \_\_\_\_\_, RESOLVED, that this Board approves the payment of bills as shown on the attached Bills List for February 2021 in the amount of \$964,319.76.

Exhibit: F2

**Resolution 14287-21:**

**Approve Transfers for January 2021**

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On the motion of \_\_\_\_\_, seconded by \_\_\_\_\_, RESOLVED, that this Board approves the transfers of monies for the month of January 2021.

Exhibit: F3

**Resolution 14288-21:**                    **Approve The Nationwide Waiver of Food Service Management Company Contract Duration in The National School Lunch Program and Summer Food Service Program Extension for The 2021/2022 School Year**

On the motion of \_\_\_\_\_, seconded by \_\_\_\_\_, RESOLVED, that this Board approves the Nationwide Waiver of Food Service Management Company Contract Duration in the National School Lunch Program and Summer Food Service Program Extension for the 2021/2022 school year.

Exhibit: F4

**Resolution 14289-21:**                    **Approve Mechanical Upgrades - Replacement of Roof Top HVAC Equipment Project**

On the motion of \_\_\_\_\_, seconded by \_\_\_\_\_, RESOLVED, that this Board approves the following:

**WHEREAS**, the Warren County Technical School Board of Education (the “Board”), a regular operating public school district in the State of New Jersey, has identified an anticipated capital improvements project (the “Project”) for which it wishes to seek the approval of the New Jersey Department of Education (“DOE”); and

**WHEREAS**, the anticipated Project identified by the Board is as follows:

**Mechanical Upgrades – Replacement of Roof Top HVAC Equipment**

**WHEREAS**, the Board, through its architect DIGroupArchitecture, LLC (the “Architect”), intends to submit an application for this Project to the DOE for approval.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board as follows: The Board hereby authorizes the Architect to submit to the DOE for approval an Application for said project.

**Resolution 14290-21:**                    **Request Waiver of Requirements for Special Education Medicaid Initiative (SEMI) Program**

On the motion of \_\_\_\_\_, seconded by \_\_\_\_\_, RESOLVED, adopt the following resolution:

**WHEREAS**, NJAC 6A:23A-5.3 provides that a school district may request a waiver of compliance with respect to the district’s participation in the Special Education Medicaid Initiative (SEMI) Program for the 2021-2022, and

**WHEREAS**, the Warren County Technical School Board of Education desires to apply for this waiver due to the fact that the district projects having fewer than 40 Medicaid eligible classified students.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Warren County Technical School Board of Education hereby authorizes the Superintendent to submit to the Executive County Superintendent of Schools in the County of Warren an appropriate waiver of the requirements of NJAC 6A:23A-5.3 for the 2020-2021 school year.

**Resolution 14291-21:**                    **Approve Transportation Agreement between Warren County Special Services and Warren County Technical School for the 2021-2022 School Year**

On the motion of \_\_\_\_\_, seconded by \_\_\_\_\_, RESOLVED, adopt the following resolution:

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**WHEREAS**, the Warren County Technical School Board of Education desires to transport students for the purpose of special education, non public school education, or their own public school students to specific destinations; and

**WHEREAS**, the Warren County Special Services School District hereinafter referred to as WCSSSD offers coordinated transportation services: and

**WHEREAS**, the WCSSSD will organize and schedule routes to achieve the maximum cost effectiveness;

**NOW THEREFORE**, it is agreed that in consideration of prorated contract costs, plus a 4% administration fee as presented to the Warren County Technical School board of Education as calculated by the billing formula adopted by the WCSSSD's Board of Education according to the following schedule:

**PERSONNEL**

**Resolution 14292-21:**                      **Approve Personnel Resolutions as Listed Below**

On the motion of Mr. McDonough, seconded by Mr. Rutledge, RESOLVED, that this Board approves the following personnel resolutions as listed below:

**Resolution 14293-21:**                      **Approve FMLA for Employee #0909**

**Resolution 14294-21:**                      **Approve FMLA for Employee #0540**

**Resolution 14295-21:**                      **Approve Request for Governor Murphy to Include Public School District Personnel in the Official Expert Vaccine Allotment Panel's Definition of Frontline Workers**

**Resolution 14296-21:**                      **Approve Stipends for the 2020-2021 School Year**

ROLL CALL VOTE:

***Motion Carried: Yes***

Lamonte Abstain 14295-21\_\_\_ McDonough \_X\_ Rutledge \_X\_ Warren \_X\_ Austin \_X\_

**Resolution 14293-21:**                      **Approve FMLA for Employee #0909**

On the motion of \_\_\_\_\_, seconded by \_\_\_\_\_, RESOLVED, that this Board approves FMLA for employee #0909 effective March 22, 2021 with an anticipated return date of June 14, 2021.

Exhibit: A

**Resolution 14294-21:**                      **Approve FMLA for Employee #0540**

On the motion of \_\_\_\_\_, seconded by \_\_\_\_\_, RESOLVED, that this Board approves FMLA for employee #0540 effective January 27, 2021, with an anticipated return date of June 14, 2021.

**Resolution 14295-21:**                      **Approve Request for Governor Murphy to Include Public School District Personnel in the Official Expert Vaccine Allotment Panel's Definition of Frontline Workers**

On the motion of \_\_\_\_\_, seconded by \_\_\_\_\_, RESOLVED, that this Board approves the following:

**WHEREAS**, the Warren County Technical School Board of Education recognizes that the United States, the State of New Jersey and local health authorities, as well as the World Health Organization, have declared a public health emergency regarding the Coronavirus or COVID-19 pandemic; and

**WHEREAS**, the federal and state authorities have put in place guidance detailing the precautionary measures schools must implement to stop its spread of this disease; and

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**WHEREAS**, public schools have a profound impact on millions of students, families and staff and are charged with the care, education, nourishment of their students and are an integral part of the health and safety of our communities; and

**WHEREAS**, our district has responded to the challenges brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic, providing students and staff members with the technology and resources necessary to ensure the efficient delivery of instruction, virtually and in-person; and

**WHEREAS**, the board has a substantial public interest in protecting the health and safety of its students, staff, and community and ensuring that the district can provide staff and students with a safe and effective educational environment that supports student achievement; and

**WHEREAS**, the board recognizes that this health emergency made it necessary to close schools and reinvent the educational programs in a virtual setting and that this may have an adverse impact on student achievement and the emotional and social wellbeing of students; and

**WHEREAS**, the COVID-19 Vaccination Plan published by the State of New Jersey Department of Health (December 15, 2020, pgs. 36-37) prioritizes the availability of vaccines to “essential workers” in Phase 1B of the vaccine protocol; and

**WHEREAS**, school district staff at all levels are essential to the day-to-day operations of this district, responsible for the thorough and efficient education of all students and their social and emotional wellbeing, are critical for virtual and in-class instruction and are “essential workers;”

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** the Warren County Technical School Board of Education finds a substantial public purpose exists to request that Governor Murphy give appropriate priority in the statewide administration of the COVID-19 vaccine to all public school district personnel. COVID-19 Vaccination Plan published by the State of New Jersey Department of Health, see:  
<https://nj.gov/health/legal/covid19/NJ%20Interim%20COVID-19%20Vaccination%20Plan%20-%20Revised%2012-15-20.pdf>

**RESOLVED**, that a copy of this resolution shall be forwarded to the member of the insert legislative district number legislative district delegation, Assembly Speaker Craig J. Coughlin, Senate President Stephen M. Sweeney, Governor Phil Murphy, and to the New Jersey School Boards Association

**Resolution 14296-21:                      Approve Stipends for the 2020-2021 School Year**

On the motion of \_\_\_\_\_, seconded by \_\_\_\_\_, RESOLVED, that this Board approves the following Stipend Positions as listed below:

Chaperone	Anthony Lusardi
Chaperone	Colleen Schiller
Chaperone	Bobby Cammarota
Chaperone	Pam Schell

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SkillsUSA Advisor	Kene Wene
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**TRAVEL**

**Resolution 14297-21: Approve Travel Resolutions as Listed Below**

On the motion of Mr. McDonough, seconded by Mr. Rutledge, RESOLVED, that this Board approves the following travel resolutions as listed below:

Date	Name	Description/Reason	Approx. Cost
2/10/2021	Diana Mai	Legal One Section 504	\$100.00
4/21/2021	Diana Mai	Legal One Due Process	\$100.00

ROLL CALL VOTE:

*Motion Carried: Yes*

Lamonte \_\_Abstain\_\_ McDonough \_\_X\_\_ Rutledge \_\_X\_\_ Warren \_\_X\_\_ Austin \_\_X\_\_

**POLICY**

**Resolution 14298-21: Approve Policy and Regulation Revisions as Listed Below**

On the motion of Mr. Rutledge, seconded by Mr. McDonough, RESOLVED, that this Board approves the following policy and regulation revisions as listed below:

R6112	REIMBURSEMENT OF FEDERAL AND OTHER GRANT EXPENDITURES (M)
R6422	BUDGET TRANSFERS (M)
R6471	SCHOOL DISTRICT TRAVEL PROCEDURES (M)
P5330.01	ADMINISTRATION OF MEDICAL CANNABIS (M)
R5330.01	ADMINISTRATION OF MEDICAL CANNABIS (M)
P7425	LEAD TESTING OF WATER IN SCHOOLS (M)
R7425	LEAD TESTING OF WATER IN SCHOOLS (M)
P7430	ABOLISHED (SCHOOL SAFETY)
R7430	ABOLISHED (SCHOOL SAFETY)
P2415.01	ABOLISHED (ACADEMIC STANDARDS, ACADEMIC ASSESSMENTS, AND ACCOUNTABILITY)
P2415.02	TITLE I - FISCAL RESPONSIBILITIES (M)
P2415.03	ABOLISHED (HIGHLY QUALIFIED TEACHERS)

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P2415.05	STUDENT SURVEYS, ANALYSIS, AND/OR EVALUATIONS (M)
P4125	EMPLOYMENT OF SUPPORT STAFF MEMBERS (M)
P6360	POLITICAL CONTRIBUTIONS (M)
P8330	STUDENT RECORDS (M)
P9713	RECRUITMENT BY SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS (M)

Exhibit: B

ROLL CALL VOTE:

***Motion Carried: Yes***

Lamonte   X   McDonough   X   Rutledge   X   Warren   X   Austin   X  

**ADDENDUM ITEMS**

**Resolution 14299-21**      **Accept letter from Mr. Zalewski requesting non-renewal of his contract**

On the motion of Mr. McDonough, seconded by Mrs. Warren, RESOLVED, that this Board approves the following

Be it resolved that the Board of Education acknowledges the request from Edmund Zalewski, Superintendent, that he does not wish that his contract be renewed and that his service as Superintendent will end on June 30, 2021 and WHEREAS;

Be it resolved that the Board of Education approves the placement of Mr. Zalewski on administrative leave with pay effective March 1, 2021.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

***Motion Carried: Yes***

Lamonte   Abstain   McDonough   X   Rutledge   X   Warren   X   Austin   X  

**Resolution 14300-21**

On the motion of Mr. McDonough, seconded by Mrs. Warren, RESOLVED, that this Board approves Derrick Forsythe as Acting Superintendent

Be it resolved that effective March 1, 2021 Mr. Derrick Forsythe shall be appointed Acting Superintendent upon approval of the Executive County Superintendent.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

***Motion Carried: Yes***

Lamonte   Abstain   McDonough   X   Rutledge   X   Warren   X   Austin   X



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**PUBLIC COMMENTS – Any topic not discussed earlier.**

Policy #0167- PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN BOARD MEETINGS

Section: Bylaws

Date Created: March, 2000

Date Edited: October, 2012

The Board of Education recognizes the value of public comment on educational issues and the importance of allowing members of the public to express themselves on school matters of community interest.

In order to permit the fair and orderly expression of such comment, the Board shall set aside a portion of every Board meeting, the length of the portion to be determined by the Board, for public comment on any school or school district issue that a member of the public feels may be of concern to the residents of the school district.

Public participation shall be 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, place of residence, and group affiliation, if appropriate;
2. Each statement made by a participant shall be limited to three (3) minutes' duration;
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 shall be directed to the presiding officer; no participant may address or question Board members individually;
5. The presiding officer may:
  - a. Interrupt, warn, or terminate a participant's statement when the statement is too lengthy, abusive, obscene, or irrelevant;
  - b. Request any individual to leave the meeting when that person does not observe reasonable decorum;
  - c. Request the assistance of law enforcement officers in the removal of a disorderly person when that person's conduct interferes with the orderly progress of the meeting;
  - d. Call for a recess or an adjournment to another time when the lack of public decorum so interferes with the orderly conduct of the meeting as to warrant such action; and
  - e. Waive these rules when necessary for the protection of privacy or the efficient administration of the Board's business.

Mrs. Jennifer Rieger asked the Board to look into policy as it pertains to snow days. She would like to see sports continue after school even if school is closed due to bad weather. She also asked the Board to reconsider participating in the Skylands Conference.

Ms. Megan Starck spoke on behalf of supporting the continuation of bowling in the Skylands Conference.

Mrs. Adrienne Starck would like the Board to reconsider participating in the Skylands Conference.

Ms. Lotus Markowitz said she feels it is unfair to the student bowlers not to be part of the Skylands Conference.

Ms. Eveliz Dorman expressed her disappointment over the decision to not be part of the Skylands Conference.

Ms. Emily Leidner asked the Board to reconsider the decision not to participate in the Skylands Conference.

Ms. Lotus Markowitz suggested that perhaps the students need more coaching and time to practice.

Mr. John Starck explained to the Board how important bowling is in his life.

Mr. Leidner wanted the Board to know how much being in the Skylands Conference had meant to his entire family.

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Board Member McDonough offered to work with Mr. Tierney on the matter of the Skylands Conference.

Principal Forsythe thanked the parents who spoke on behalf of the bowlers. Mr. Forsythe also welcomed new Board Member Tiffani Warren. And lastly Mr. Forsythe thanked Mr. Zalewski for the past three years of service.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Adjourn the Meeting**

On the motion of Mr. Rutledge, seconded by Mr. McDonough, the Board adjourned the meeting at 6:20 p.m.

**Upcoming Dates of Interest:**

March 3, 2021                      Board of Education Meeting Budget