

WARREN COUNTY TECHNICAL SCHOOL BOARD OF EDUCATION
1500 ROUTE 57 ~ WASHINGTON, NJ 07882
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
February 19, 2025

CALL TO ORDER

President Austin called the meeting to order at 5:01 p.m. on Wednesday, February 19, 2025, Via ZOOM.

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 on November 8, 2024.

Roll Call – Board Secretary Barkman

X Dr. Austin
A Dr. Lamonte
X Ms. Leahy
X Mr. McDonough
X Dr. Mlecz

Adopt the Meeting Agenda

Resolution 15882-25: Adopt the Meeting Agenda

On the motion of Mr. McDonough, seconded by Dr. Mlecz, RESOLVED, that this Board adopts the Meeting Agenda for the February 19, 2025 meeting as published with any addenda.

VOICE VOTE: Yeas: 4 Nays: 0 Abstain: 0 Absent: 1

Motion Carried: Yes

Resolution E745-25: Personnel, Negotiations, and Legal Matters

On the motion of Mr. McDonough, seconded by Ms. Leahy, the Board moved into executive session at 5:02 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 is excluded from attendance at a portion of this meeting for the reason that the following subject matter is discussed:
 - Personnel
 - Facility
- 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 to privacy.
- D. Action may be taken.

VOICE VOTE: Yeas: 4 Nays: 0 Abstain: 0 Absent: 1

Motion Carried: Yes

Resolution E746-25: Resume Regular Session

On the motion of Mr. McDonough, seconded by Dr. Mlecz, the Board reconvened into regular session at 5:25 p.m.

VOICE VOTE: Yeas: 3 Nays: 0 Abstain: 0 Absent: 1

Motion Carried: Yes

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Discussion

- **PUBLIC COMMENTS** - Related to Agenda Items Only-None
- **COMMUNICATIONS**-None
- **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**
 - Mr. Forsythe reminded the Board that Warren Tech is hosting the County Wide Health and Wellness event on April 4th. Mr. Forsythe thanked Ms. Barkman for her years of service and dedication.
- **HIB REPORT/SUSPENSIONS**
 - One (1) HIB since January's Board Meeting
 - Two (2) Out of School Suspensions since January's Board Meeting
 - Three (3) In School Suspensions since January's Board Meeting
- **BOARD PRESIDENT'S REPORT**-Dr. Austin thanked Ms. Barkman for strengthening the district financials over the past 5 years.
- **STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE**
 - Kate Martinez reported the following: Theatre Club is participating in Coffee House and Open Mic on 2/28, the Alumni is holding a fund raiser 3/7 and 3/8 and the Spring Musical will be on 3/20-3/23. The Key Club raised \$1,000 by selling Krispy Cream Donuts. The Military Appreciation Club raised \$380 from the sale of welded roses which were donated by the Welding Shop. Ms. Martinez reminded everyone that Take Your Child to Work Day is coming up.
- **DISCUSS EDUCATIONAL TOPICS**-Mr. Tierney congratulated Carter Smith for being the career student of the 2nd marking period and Mario Fonseca Garcia for being the academic student of the 2nd marking period.
- **NEW BUSINESS**-Mr. McDonough thanked the Culinary Class and the Key Club for participating in the Warren County Homeless Day.

MINUTES

Resolution 15883-25: Approve Board Meeting Minutes Listed Below

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

Resolution 15884-25: Approve January 15, 2025, Regular Meeting Minutes

Resolution 15885-25: Approve January 15, 2025, Regular Meeting Executive Session Minutes

VOICE VOTE: Yeas: 4 Nays: 0 Abstain: 0 Absent: 1

Motion Carried: Yes

Resolution 15884-25: Approve January 15, 2025, Regular Meeting Minutes

On the motion of _____, seconded by _____, RESOLVED, that this Board approves the Regular Meeting Minutes of January 15, 2025.

Resolution 15885-25: Approve January 15, 2025, Regular Meeting Executive Session Minutes

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On the motion of _____, seconded by _____, RESOLVED, that this Board approves the Regular Meeting Executive Session Minutes of January 15, 2025.

FINANCE & FACILITIES

Resolution 15886-25: Approve Finance & Facilities Resolutions as Listed Below

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

- | | |
|------------------------------------|---|
| <u>Resolution 15887-25:</u> | Receive, Accept, and Approve January 2025 Financial Reports |
| <u>Resolution 15888-25:</u> | Board of Education's Monthly Certification of Major Account/Fund Status |
| <u>Resolution 15889-25:</u> | Approve Payment of Bills for January 2025 |
| <u>Resolution 15890-25:</u> | Approve Transfers for January 2025 |
| <u>Resolution 15891-25:</u> | Approve Submission of the Perkin's Secondary Amendment |
| <u>Resolution 15892-25:</u> | Approve Submission of Application to NJDOE for Partial Roof Replacement |
| <u>Resolution 15893-25:</u> | Approve the Following Bank Signature Cards |
| <u>Resolution 15894-25:</u> | Approve the Submission of the 2023-2024 ESSER Performance Report to the NJ Department of Education |
| <u>Resolution 15895-25:</u> | Request Waiver of Requirements for Special Education Medicaid Initiative (SEMI) Program |
| <u>Resolution 15896-25:</u> | Approve Contract with HCESC for Paraprofessionals |

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Motion Carried: Yes

Austin _X_ Lamonte _A_ Leahy _X_ McDonough _X_ Mlecz _X_

Resolution 15887-25: Receive, Accept, and Approve January 2025 Financial Reports

On the motion of _____, seconded by _____, RESOLVED, that the January 2025 financial reports of the Secretary and Treasurer be received, accepted, and approved.

Exhibit: F1

Resolution 15888-25: 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) 3&4, we certify that February 2025, 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-expend. 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) 3&4.

Resolution 15889-25: Approve Payment of Bills for January 2025

On the motion of _____, seconded by _____, RESOLVED, that this Board approves the payment of bills as shown on the attached Bills List for January 2025, in the amount of \$957,088.19.

Exhibit: F2

Resolution 15890-25: Approve Transfers for January 2025

On the motion of _____, seconded by _____, RESOLVED, that this Board approves transfers for January 2025.

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Exhibit: F3

Resolution 15891-25: **Approve Submission of the Perkin's Secondary Amendment**

On the motion of _____, seconded by _____, RESOLVED, that this Board approves the submission of the Perkin's Secondary Amendment.

Exhibit: F4

Resolution 15892-25: **Approve Submission of Application to NJDOE for Partial Roof Replacement**

WHEREAS, the Warren County Technical School Board of Education (the "Board"), a regularly operating a public school district in the State of New Jersey has identified an anticipated capital improvement 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:

a. Partial Roof System Replacement

WHEREAS, the Board, through its architect DIGroup Architecture, 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:

Section 1: The Board hereby authorizes the Architect to submit to the DOE for approval a Project Application for the Project.

Resolution 15893-25: **Approve the Following Bank Signature Cards**

On the motion of _____, seconded by _____, RESOLVED, that this Board approves the following bank signature cards:

Payroll Acct Ending 233	Katherine DeRiso Treasurer, Donna M. Williams, School Business Administrator, Derrick Forsythe, Superintendent
Athletics Acct Ending 241	Derrick Forsythe, Superintendent Donna M. Williams, School Business Administrator
Unemployment Acct Ending 6268	Derrick Forsythe, Superintendent Donna M. Williams, School Business Administrator
General Acct Ending 6276	Lori Austin, Board President, Katherine DeRiso Treasurer, Donna M. Williams, School Business Administrator
Student Activities Acct Ending 6284	Derrick Forsythe, Superintendent Donna M. Williams, School Business Administrator
Agency Acct Ending 6292	Katherine DeRiso Treasurer,

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	Donna M. Williams, School Business Administrator
Summer Pay Acct Ending 6671	Derrick Forsythe, Superintendent Donna M. Williams, School Business Administrator
FSA Acct Ending 6031	Donna M. Williams, School Business Administrator
Cafeteria Acct Ending 9299	Derrick Forsythe, Superintendent Donna M. Williams, School Business Administrator

Resolution 15894-25: **Approve the Submission of the 2023-2024 ESSER Performance Report to the NJ Department of Education**

On the motion of _____, seconded by _____, RESOLVED, that this Board approves the submission of the 2023-2024 ESSER Performance Report to the NJ Department of Education.

Exhibit: F5

Resolution 15895-25: **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 2024-2025 school year, 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 2024-2025 school year.

Resolution 15896-25: **Approve Contract with HCESC for Paraprofessionals**
the motion of _____, seconded by _____, RESOLVED, that this Board approves the contract with the HCESC for paraprofessionals for the 2025-2026 school year.

Exhibit: F6

PERSONNEL

Resolution 15897-25: **Approve Personnel Resolutions as Listed Below**

On the motion of Mr. McDonough, seconded by Dr. Mlecz, RESOLVED, that this Board approves personnel resolutions as listed below, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent:

Resolution 15898-25: **Approve Adrianna McCann as a Substitute Custodian**

Resolution 15899-25: **Approve Kim McCormick to Mentor Kayla Dora**

Resolution 15900-25: **Approve John S Ilao as a Substitute Teacher Pending Approval of Criminal History Background Check**

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ROLL CALL VOTE:

Motion Carried: Yes

Austin X Lamonte A Leahy X McDonough X Mlecz X

Resolution 15898-25: **Approve Adrianna McCann as a Substitute Custodian**

On the motion of _____, seconded by _____, RESOLVED, that this Board approves Adrianna McCann as a substitute custodian, retroactive to February 3, 2025.

Resolution 15899-25: **Approve Kim McCormick to Mentor Kayla Dora**

On the motion of _____, seconded by _____, RESOLVED, that this Board approves Kim McCormick to mentor Kayla Dora for her Provisional Route program.

Resolution 15900-25: **Approve John S Ilao as a Substitute Teacher Pending Approval of Criminal History Background Check**

On the motion of _____, seconded by _____, RESOLVED, that this Board approves John S Ilao as a substitute teacher pending approval of criminal history background check.

EDUCATIONAL

Resolution 15901-25: **Approve Educational Resolutions as Listed Below**

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

Resolution 15902-25: **Approve Revision to the 2024-2025 School Calendar**

Resolution 15903-25: **Approve the 2025-2026 School Calendar**

Resolution 15904-25: **Approve The Submission of the Updated Comprehensive Equity Plan for the 2025-2028 School Years**

Resolution 15905-25: **Approve Student #251500 for Home Instruction February 18th through June 17, 2025**

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Motion Carried: Yes

Austin X Lamonte A Leahy X McDonough X Mlecz X

Resolution 15902-25: **Approve Revision to the 2024-2025 School Calendar**

On the motion of _____, seconded by _____, RESOLVED, that this Board approves revising the 2024-2025 School Calendar to reflect an early dismissal for students on April 4, 2025.

Exhibit: A

Resolution 15903-25: **Approve the 2025-2026 School Calendar**

On the motion of _____, seconded by _____, RESOLVED, that this Board approves the 2025-2026 School Calendar.

Exhibit: B

Resolution 15904-25: **Approve The Submission of the Updated Comprehensive Equity Plan for the 2025-2028 School Years**

On the motion of _____, seconded by _____, RESOLVED, that this Board approves the submission of the updated Comprehensive Equity Plan for the 2025-2028 school years.

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Exhibit: C

Resolution 15905-25: **Approve Student #251500 for Home Instruction February 18th through June 17, 2025**

On the motion of _____, seconded by _____, RESOLVED that this Board approve Student #251500 for Home Instruction from February 18th through June 17, 2025.

TRAVEL

Resolution 15906-25: **Approve the Following Travel Resolutions as Listed Below**

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

Resolution 15907-25: **Approve Field Trips as Listed Below**

Resolution 15908-25: **Approve Professional Development as Listed Below**

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Motion Carried: Yes

Austin _X_ Lamonte _A_ Leahy _X_ McDonough _X_ Mlecz _X_

Resolution 15907-25: **Approve Field Trips as Listed Below**

On the motion of _____, seconded by _____, RESOLVED, that this Board approves the field trips as as listed below:

3 22 2025	K. Wene	NJ Skills Competition- Somerset County Vo-Tech	\$560.00
3 29 2025	K. Wene	NJ Skills Competition- Gloucester County Institute of Technology	\$700.00
3 29 2025	K. Wene	NJ Skills Competition- Camden County Tech.	\$700.00
4 5 2025	K. Wene	NJ Skills Competition- Essex County Payne Tech	\$560.00
4 12 2025	K. Wene	NJ Skills Competition- Morris Knolls HS	\$350.00
4 11 2025	B. Wheatley	Hagedorn Hospital, Belvidere, Active Shooter Drill with WC Law Enforcement Officers	\$495.78
3 29 2025	K. Wene	NJ Skills Competition - Iron Workers Local 399, Hammonton, NJ	\$908.93
3 21 2025	R. Gara, R. Danner	Lehigh Valley Auto Show, Lehigh University Campus	\$578.41
2 7 2025	R. Gara, R. Danner	Northampton County Community College, Greater Lehigh Valley Automotive Association Troubleshooting Contest	\$0

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3 12 2025	R. Gara, R. Danner	Northampton County Community College, Greater Lehigh Valley Hands-On Final	\$0
3 24 2025	L. Shanahan	St. Luke's Warren Campus, Healthcare Occupation Tour	\$413.15

Resolution 15908-25: **Approve Professional Development as Listed Below**

On the motion of _____, seconded by _____, RESOLVED, that this Board approves professional development as listed below:

DATE	EMPLOYEE	DESTINATION	COST
2 24&25 2025	J. Thompson	NJ Assoc. for Health, PE, Rec. & Dance, Annual Convention, Westin, Princeton, NJ	\$438.36
2 26 2025	M. Beneducci	NGSS Workshop Series at Raritan Valley Community College	\$150

POLICY

Resolution 15909-25: **Approve the First Reading of the Policy Revisions as Listed Below**

On the motion of Mr. McDonough, seconded by Dr. Austin, RESOLVED, that this Board approves the first reading of the policy revisions as listed below:

P2453	POST-SECONDARY PROGRAMS ACCEPTANCE OF STUDENTS
P5512	HARASSMENT, INTIMIDATION, OR BULLYING (M)
P5460	HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION (M)
P5516	USE OF ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION DEVICES
P5533	STUDENT SMOKING (M)
P5701	ACADEMIC INTEGRITY
P5710	STUDENT GRIEVANCE
P&R7441	ELECTRONIC SURVEILLANCE IN SCHOOL BUILDINGS AND ON SCHOOL GROUNDS
P8500	FOOD SERVICES (M)
P9163	SPECTATOR CODE OF CONDUCT FOR INTERSCHOLASTIC EVENTS (M)

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P&R9320	COOPERATION WITH LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES (M)
P5111	ELIGIBILITY OF RESIDENT/NONRESIDENT STUDENTS (M)
P4160	PERSONNEL TERMS AND CONDITIONS (ABOLISH)

Exhibit: D,D1

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Motion Carried: Yes

Austin __X__ Lamonte __A__ Leahy __X__ McDonough __X__ Mlecz __X__

ADDENDUM ITEMS

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 has been heard;
4. All statements shall be directed to the presiding officer; no participant may address or question the 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.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjourn the Meeting

On the motion of Mr. McDonough, seconded by Dr. Austin, the Board adjourned the meeting at 5:38 p.m.

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VOICE VOTE: Yeas: 4 Nays: 0 Abstain: 0 Absent: 1

Motion Carried: Yes

Upcoming Dates of Interest:

March 14, 2025	Early Dismissal for Staff and Students
March 19, 2025	Board of Education Meeting