

<p style="text-align: center;">MINUTES WARREN COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION WORK SESSION/BUSINESS MEETING Tuesday, April 22, 2025 6:00 p.m.</p>
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Roll Call

Board Members Present:

Ms. Linda Byrd

Ms. Victoria Lehman

Mrs. Joyce Long

Ms. Jennifer Sims

Mrs. Ebony Talley-Brame (absent)

Also in Attendance

Attorney Maya Weinstein

Chief Human Resource Officer, Dr. Keedra Whitaker

Chief Communication and Engagement Officer, Heather Mallard

Chief Operations Officer, Dr. Dennis Carrington

Interim Chief Academic Officer, Mr. Marcus Jones

Assistant Finance Officer, Mr. Nathan Squire

1.0 Opening of Meeting

The Warren County Board of Education met for their Work Session/Business Meeting on Tuesday, April 22, 2025 at 6:02 p.m. at Warren County Auxiliary Building (formerly Warren New Tech High School) located at 219 US-158 BYP, Warrenton, NC 27589.

1.1 Meeting Call to Order

Ms. Lehman announced the establishment of a quorum and called the April 22, 2025 Work Session/Business Meeting to order.

1.2 Moment of Silence

Ms. Lehman asked for a moment of silence.

2.0 Board Chair Announcements

2.1 Board Chair's Comments

Ms. Lehman shared information she gained from attending the 2025 COSSBA conference that was held in Atlanta GA. She stated, "There were many good session and speakers. Some of the keynote speakers were Muhammad Ali's daughter, Dr. Martin Luther King's daughter, and another speaker that had a severe level of dwarfism. Each one of them spoke to the importance of a teacher and how teachers are the heart of education. One thing that was said was that we don't have a teacher shortage but a teacher paid shortage. Teachers are our greatest resource and we need to make sure they are supported. If you are going to see success in the school, you are going to see an influential teacher behind the success of the child."

2.2 Other Board Member's Comments

Ms. Sims gave the sports update. She stated, "Do you want to play football for the Eagles in the fall? Students interested in joining the high school football program, along with their parents, as well as returning players and their parents, are all encouraged to attend a meeting. On Wednesday, April 23rd at 6 pm in the WCHS Gym, Coach Hunt

will talk about student eligibility, the team's summer schedule, fundraising, and other things you need to know to be an Eagle football player.

Maria Parham Orthopedics in Henderson is offering free sports physicals Thursday, April 24th from 6-8 pm. Students have to complete the forms and have them signed ahead of time Middle Schoolers must have a parent with them. Baseball, softball, and track resume next week.

As for the 2025 COSSBA conference, we attended session for three and a half days, but the one the most was the session on team building. When Dr. MD came in the fall she talked about setting goals and having the community and the board and the superintendent work together as a team.

Ms. Byrd did not go to the conference, but from what I am hearing the teachers are the power point because you alter so much. The students look up to you because you are the one that gives them the encouragement that they need.

Ms. Long stated, one thing that is obvious is that all schools in the United States have the same challenges. We have to tell our Warren County stories. We need to realize that student voices and engagement are important. We need to ensure that students are in a safe environment, all while being fun, vigorous and creative. We have to have high expectations and focus on relationship to think critically and intelligently. We need to rediscover the meaning of public schools. All hands should be on deck by equipping all with the same information. We can't abandon a sinking ship and expect it to float. We will want this elephant one bite at a time.

3.0 Superintendent's Updates

3.1 Superintendent Updates to the Board

Dr. Montague-Davis stated, "Good evening everyone,

National Administrative Professionals Day

- Tomorrow is National Administrative Professionals Day
- We recognize and appreciate the hard work of administrative professionals like our receptionists, secretaries, data managers, office managers, executive assistants, and similar office staff

Honor Roll Students

- Congratulations to all the students who made Principal's List or Honor Roll for the 3rd quarter!
- I was able to attend the celebration at Warren County High School last week as 93 students were honored for their hard work.
- I want to tell all of our students, families, and staff what I told them... the game isn't over!
- Let's finish strong!

Battle of the Bands and Drumline Competition

- Saturday, April 26th at Warren County High School
- Doors open at 2:00
- The show starts at 3:00
- Come early. We'll have vendors and food trucks
- Special performances by our Dynamic Marching Machine and Platinum Ice Dance team
- Admission is just \$10 a person
- Get your tickets online now or pay at the door

Child Nutrition Services Audit

- I'm proud to share that the CN department has successfully completed our 5-

year Administrative Audit with just a few findings!

- This achievement is a direct result of the hard work, dedication, and collaboration of our entire team under the leadership of Director Diana Muema.
- Thank you to everyone who contributed to the audit preparations.
- Your efforts were instrumental in this success, and we appreciate everything you've done to help us shine.
- Excellent work, team!

Radio Show

- "Learn More with Warren County Schools"
- This Thursday from noon until 12:30
- Ways to catch it
 - Listen live on the WARR 1520 AM and 105.3 FM
 - Stream it online from the radio station's website, or
 - Watch it live on the Warren County Schools Facebook page

4.0 Approval of the Agenda

4.1 Motion to Approve the April 22, 2025 Work Session/Business Meeting Agenda

Ms. Lehman called for a motion to approve the April 22, 2025 Work Session/Business Meeting agenda.

Motion: A motion was made by Ms. Long and seconded by Ms. Byrd to approve the April 22, 2025 Work Session/Business Meeting agenda.

Result: Motion passed, 4-0

5.0 Approval of Consent Agenda

All items under the consent agenda are approved by one motion.

5.1 Motion to Approve the Consent Agenda

Ms. Lehman call for a motion to approve the April 22, 2025 Work Session/Business Meeting consent agenda

Motion: A motion was made by Ms. Long and seconded by Ms. Sims to approve the April 22, 2025 Work Session/Business Meeting consent agenda.

Result: Motion passed, 4-0

6.0 Student Spotlight

6.1 Warren County High School Chorus

Prior to the starting of the work session/business meeting, the chorus from Warren County High School provided a musical performance. The chorus member are as follows:

Jayson Pender - Chorus Teacher, Gavin Campbell, Jayla Talley, Nicole DeSantiago, Saniya Brandon, and Jakirah Alston.

6.2 Northside Elementary Student Government Association(SGA)

The Student Government Association (SGA) at Northside Elementary is a dynamic, student-led club that empowers young leaders to plan, organize, and create exciting events for their peers. Students' campaign for office, with winners selected through a student

election. As trusted representatives, SGA members have a voice in the decision-making process and play a key role in fostering school spirit. They're always ready to lend a helping hand and support school initiatives as needed. School Counselor Chasadie Searcy and Fifth-grade Teacher Jenilyn Tapit proudly advise the club.

SGA student representatives are: Jayden Henderson, Laila Talley, Jayla Hunt, Jayceion Worthy, and Ahmari Baker.

7.0 Special Recognitions

7.1 Warren County School Volunteers

In honor of School Volunteer Week, April 20–26, we proudly celebrate the many volunteers who give their time, talents, and hearts to support our schools. Their dedication strengthens our school communities and creates enriching experiences for all students. Tonight, we are honored to recognize a few outstanding volunteers who exemplify the spirit of service and make a lasting impact on our schools. We thank all of our volunteers for being true Champions for Children!

Mariam Boyd Elementary School:

Tia Green

Warren Early College High School:

Iris Whitaker

Roberta Freeman

Kellie Branche

Northside Elementary School:

Lelia Allen

Janet Lesser

Warren County Middle School:

Frasier Williams

Diana Moody

Takiah Green

Vaughan Elementary School:

Eric Davis

Kristen Holocker

Sallye Duncan

Athletic Boosters:

Diana Moody

Doris Ross

Janelle Ross

Teheisha Davis

Frasier Williams

Tracy Thorpe

Cecilia Foster

Jennifer Sims

Joyce Long

Maurice Alston

8.0 Public Comments

Board chair asked for public comments. There were two that signed up to speak. Their names were: Carolyn Ross Holmes and Ella Baker.

9.0 Discussion Items

9.1 Review of Policy 9300

Dr. Whitaker presented to the board for informational purposes only, a review of policy 9300. It was stated, "To ensure our facility naming guidelines are current as we move forward with the new elementary school construction project, we are requesting a review of Policy 9300. The next policy committee meeting will include the first reading of this policy, offering a chance for in-depth analysis, discussion, and the incorporation of any necessary changes or feedback.

Policy 9300

The board considers naming facilities to be a significant endeavor since the name of a facility can reflect upon the students, staff, school system and community.

The superintendent shall involve the staff and students assigned to the facility and the students' parents in the process of identifying possible names for a new school facility or facility being renamed. The superintendent shall consider the following criteria as well as other factors the superintendent determines to be relevant in identifying potential names for the facility.

1. The name should not be as similar to the names of existing facilities as to cause confusion.
2. The name should include a designation of the type of school, such as elementary, middle or high, or a brief description of a specialized kind of school.
3. The name may be in honor or memory of an individual who has helped students in this school system succeed through financial contributions or educational leadership.
4. The name may be that of an educational leader of prominence and reputation beyond the school system; however, priority will be given to the names of educational leaders who have directly or indirectly helped students in this school system to succeed.
5. The name may specify the geographic locality of the school.

The superintendent shall submit a recommended name or limited list of recommended names to the board for approval. Legal References: G.S. 115C-36, -47 Cross References: Adopted: March 1, 2010

9.2 Update on Summer School

Mr. Jones presented to the board for informational purposes only an update on summer school.

9.3 Update on the Alternative Learning Program

Dr. Carrington presented to the board for informational purposes only an update on the Alternative Learning Program.

9.4 2025-2026 Superintendent's Proposed Budget Resolution

Ms. Mallard presented to the board for informational purposes only the results/feedback from the survey that was sent out for the public to review and make comments.

Mr. Squire then presented to the board the 2025-2026 Superintendent's Proposed Budget Resolution. This item was presented as a discussion item first on the agenda, then for approval later on the agenda, once the discussion portion is completed.

10.0 Action Items

10.1 2025-2026 Superintendent's Proposed Budget Resolution

Ms. Lehman called for a motion to approve the 2025-2026 Superintendent's Proposed Budget Resolution as previously presented.

Motion: A motion was made by Ms. Sims and seconded by Ms. Byrd to approve the 2025-2026 Superintendent's Proposed Budget Resolution as previously presented.

Result: Motion passed, 4-0

11.0 Convene in Closed Session

11.1 Motion to Convene in Closed Session

At 7:16 p.m., Ms. Lehman called for a motion to convene in closed session.

Motion: A motion was made by Ms. Sims and seconded by Ms. Long to convene in closed session to prevent the disclosure of confidential information pursuant to G.S. 143-318.11(a)(1), (a)(5) and (a)(6), G.S. 115C-319, and to consult with the Board attorney and preserve the attorney-client privilege, pursuant to G.S. 143-318.11(a)(3).

Result: Motion passed, 4-0

12.0 Reconvene in Open Session

12.1 Announcement that Board is in Open Session

At 7:42 p.m., Ms. Lehman announced that the Board was back in open session.

13.0 Action on Closed Session Item

13.1 Approval Personnel Report

Ms. Lehman called for a motion to approve the personnel report as presented during closed session.

Motion: A motion was made by Ms. Sims and seconded by Ms. Byrd to approve the personnel report as presented during closed session.

Result: Motion passed, 4-0

14.0 Adjournment

14.1 Motion to Adjourn Meeting

As there was no further business, at 7:44p.m., Ms. Lehman called for a motion to adjourn the April 22, 2025 Work Session/Business Meeting.

Motion: A motion was made by Ms. Byrd and seconded by Ms. Long to adjourn the April 22, 2025 Work Session/Business Meeting.

Result: Motion passed, 4-0

Approved on:

SEAL

Board Chair

Secretary