

MINUTES
WARREN COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR BOARD MEETING
Tuesday, November 12, 2024 6:00 p.m.

Roll Call

Board Members Present:

Ms. Linda Byrd

Ms. Victoria Lehman

Mrs. Joyce Long

Ms. Jennifer Sims

Mrs. Ebony Talley-Brame

Also in Attendance

Attorney Maya Weinstein (in the absence of Board Attorney, Maura O’Keefe)

Chief Human Resource Officer, Dr. Keedra Whitaker (via zoom)

Chief Communication and Engagement Officer, Heather Mallard

Chief Operations Officer, Dr. Dennis Carrington

Interim Chief Academic Officer, Mr. Marcus Jones

1.0 Opening of Meeting

The Warren County Board of Education met for their Regular Board Meeting on Tuesday, November 12, 2024 at 6:02 p.m. at Warren County Middle School located at 118 Campus Drive, Warrenton, North Carolina.

1.1 Meeting Call to Order

Ms. Lehman announced the establishment of a quorum and called the November 12, 2024 Regular Board 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 stated, “Good evening everyone. The Board of Education met for a board retreat on Thursday (November 7, 2024) .The first half of the meeting was the Board of Education and Dr. Montague Davis, Interim Superintendent. The second half is when Dr. Montague Davis’s senior cabinet joined. It was a profitable afternoon.

I would also like to note that today’s meeting marks the third month anniversary of Interim Superintendent, Dr. Montague Davis has been working with us. The board of education is very pleased with what has been established thus far.”

2.2 Other Board Member’s Comments

Ms. Sims stated, “Good evening everyone.

Cross Country State Championship Meet

Big shout out to sophomores Kenley Sheats and Jeremiah Kearney for representing Warren County at the Cross Country State Championships. Both placed in the top 100. Again, this was the exclamation mark on the Eagle’s 3peat season, winning the regular season and conference championships for the third year in a row!

Football Playoffs

Our Eagles football team is in the first round of the state playoffs this Friday at home. Kickoff is at 7:00. They're squaring up against Southside High School out of Chocowinity, NC. Our Eagles finished the regular season in second place with an 8-2 record. It's the best regular season record in over 20 years. We also had six players named first team all-conference. So let's pack the nest Friday night and help 'em advance to the next round of the state playoffs. This year was our quest to repeat as the Wells Fargo Cup champion. Things are changing for the better in Warren County."

Mrs. Long gave kudos to Warren County School seniors. She stated, "There were several seniors that has received acceptance letters to different colleges. I also would like to say thank you to all counselors, principals, and staff for making this happen".

Ms. Lehman also added another announcement that the Board of Education meeting and Curriculum Committee meeting has been canceled for November 25, 2024.

3.0 Superintendent's Updates

3.1 Superintendent Updates to the Board

Dr. Montague-Davis stated, "Good evening everyone, Happy Veterans Day

- To all of our staff, families, and community members who are Veterans

Happy Native American Heritage Month

- For all our Indigenous students, staff, families, and community members
- Especially members of our local Haliwa-Saponi Tribe

Parent Teacher Conferences

- Mariam Boyd, Northside, and Vaughan Elementary schools and Warren County Middle School held parent-teacher conferences last week at the end of the quarter to distribute report cards.

Transportation State Inspection

Congratulations to the Warren County Schools Transportation Department for their outstanding achievement on the recent state inspection last Friday. For these inspections, a lower score indicates fewer defects or issues, reflecting the team's commitment to meeting and maintaining high standards.

This year, our transportation team scored an impressive 37.3, a significant improvement from last year's score of 53.0. With nearly 400 potential items that could put a bus out of service, this accomplishment showcases their dedication and hard work to keep our buses in top condition.

Special recognition goes to:

- RC Creech, Transportation Director
- Hope Hall, COST Clerk
- Kennedy Hargrove, Mechanic
- Rodney Steverson, Mechanic
- Preston Hunter, Mechanic

Thank you all for your tireless efforts to ensure our students' safety and well-being.

Battle of the Bands

We've got an Eagle Shout out to our Dynamic Marching Machine and the Division of Bands for hosting the Showdown in the County Battle of the Bands this past Saturday at Warren County High School. In addition to our Dynamic Marching Machine, the competition included the band programs from Granville Central, Southern Wayne, East Wake, and J.F. Webb.

They battled it out in field show performances, head-to-head battle rounds, and an open drumline battle to compete for this year's People's Choice Award.

We were also honored to feature exhibition performances from the North Carolina Central University "Sound Machine" Marching Band and a special performance of their Drumline known as "DOA."

Radio Show

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

4.0 Approval of the Agenda

4.1 Motion to Approve the November 12, 2024 Regular Board Meeting Agenda

Ms. Lehman called for a motion to amend the November 12, 2024 Regular Board Meeting agenda to add Action Item #8.4 Warren County Schools District Improvement Plan.

Motion: A motion was made by Ms. Long and seconded by Ms. Talley Brame to amend the November 12, 2024 Regular Board Meeting agenda to add Action Item #8.4 Warren County Schools District Improvement Plan.

Result: Motion passed, 5-0

Motion: A motion was then made by Ms. Sims and seconded by Ms. Byrd to approve the amended November 12, 2024 Regular Board Meeting agenda.

Result: Motion passed, 5-0

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 November 12, 2024 Regular Board Meeting consent agenda

Motion: A motion was made by Ms. Talley Brame and seconded by Ms. Long to approve the

November 12, 2024 Regular Board Meeting consent agenda.

Result: Motion passed, 5-0

5.2 Minutes for September 10, 2024 Regular Board Meeting and September 24, 2024 Work Session/Business Meeting.

Motion: A motion was made by Ms. Talley Brame and seconded by Ms. Long to approve the minutes from the September 10, 2024 Regular Board Meeting and September 24, 2024 Work Session/Business Meeting.

Result: Motion passed, 5-0

6.0 Public Comments

6.1 Call for Public Comments

Ms. Lehman called for public comments. There were two. They were Dwayne Hicks and Reinaldo Espinoza.

7.0 Discussion Items

7.1 Relay Coaching Program

Mr. Jones presented to the Board information on the Relay Coaching Program. It was stated, “The Relay Coaching Program is designed to empower school leaders with the skills and strategies necessary to drive student success and create a culture of high achievement. This program focuses on developing effective leadership practices, including instructional leadership, data-driven decision-making, and team-building techniques. By equipping leaders with the tools to improve teacher performance, manage school culture, and support student learning outcomes. The Coaching Program enables participants to navigate the complexities of school leadership. Ultimately, it helps leaders to build strong, sustainable schools that foster academic excellence.” This was for informational purposes only.

7.2 Vanco Tractor Contract

Dr. Carrington presented to the Board information on a contract to purchase a new front loader tractor for the Warren County Schools maintenance department. This item is being presented as a discussion item first on the agenda, then for approval later on the agenda, once the discussion portion is completed.

7.3 High School Gym Concession Renovation Contract

Dr. Carrington presented to the Board information on the high school gym concession stand renovation project. This item is being presented as a discussion item first on the agenda, then for approval later on the agenda, once the discussion portion is completed.

7.4 Global Partners and Educational Partners International (EPI)

Dr. Keedra Whitaker presented to the Board information on Global Partners and the EPI program. It was stated, “Global Partners and Educational Partners International provide international educational programs and services to schools to increase student knowledge of content, languages and cultures. This includes global schools, dual language immersion programs, and exchange visitor teacher programs. Due to the shortage of teachers across the state of North Carolina and United States, the district utilizes these vendors to help operate the district’s educational program and to help fill

critical needs positions (Science, Math, Exceptional Children, etc.) Global Partners would cost \$189,750.00 and EPI would cost \$97,500.00; with the total cost being \$287,250.00” This item is being presented as a discussion item first on the agenda, then for approval later on the agenda, once the discussion portion is completed.

8.0 Action Items

8.1 Vanco Tractor Contract

Ms. Lehman called for a motion to approve the Vanco Tractor Contract as previously presented and discussed

Motion: A motion was made by Ms. Talley Brame and seconded by Ms. Long to approve the Vanco Tractor Contract as previously presented and discussed.

Result: Motion passed, 5-0

8.2 High School Gym Concession Renovation Contract

Ms. Lehman called for a motion to approve the High School Gym Concession Renovation Contract as previously presented and discussed

Motion: A motion was made by Ms. Long and seconded by Ms. Sims to approve the High School Gym Concession Renovation Contract as previously presented and discussed.

Result: Motion passed, 5-0

8.3 Global Partners and Educational Partners International (EPI)

Ms. Lehman called for a motion to approve the purchasing of the Global Partners and Educational Partners International (EPI) programs as previously presented and discussed

Motion: A motion was made by Ms. Sims and seconded by Ms. Byrd to approve the purchasing of the Global Partners and Educational Partners International (EPI) programs as previously presented and discussed

Result: Motion passed, 5-0

8.4 Warren County Schools District Improvement Plan

Mr. Jones presented to the Board for approval the Warren County Schools District improvement Plan.

Motion: Following a discussion, a motion was made by Ms. Talley Brame and seconded by Ms. Sims to approve the Warren County Schools District Improvement Plan as presented and discussed.

Result: Motion passed, 5-0

9.0 Convene in Closed Session

9.1 Motion to Convene in Closed Session

At 7:08 p.m., Ms. Lehman called for a motion to convene in closed session.

Motion: A motion was made by Ms. Long and seconded by Ms. Talley Brame 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, 5-0

10.0 Reconvene in Open Session

10.1 Announcement that Board is in Open Session

At 8:17 p.m., Ms. Lehman announced that the Board was back in open session.

11.0 Action on Closed Session Item

11.1 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. Talley Brame and seconded by Ms. Byrd to approve the personnel report as presented during closed session.

Result: Motion passed, 5-0

12.0 Adjournment

12.1 Motion to Adjourn Meeting

As there was no further business, at 8:18p.m., Ms. Lehman called for a motion to adjourn the November 12, 2024 Regular Board Meeting.

Motion: A motion was made by Ms. Sims and seconded by Ms. Byrd to adjourn the November 12, 2024 Regular Board Meeting.

Result: Motion passed, 5-0

Approved on:

SEAL

Board Chair

Secretary