

MINUTES
WARREN COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR BOARD MEETING
Tuesday, June 25, 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

Superintendent, Mr. Keith Sutton

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

Chief Academic Officer, Dr. Yakisha Clemons (via zoom)

1.0 Opening of Meeting

The Warren County Board of Education met for their Regular Board Meeting on Tuesday, June 25, 2024 at 6:08 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 June 25, 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

There were none.

2.2 Other Board Member's Comments

There were none.

3.0 Superintendent's Updates

3.1 Superintendent Updates to the Board

Mr. Sutton stated, "Good evening everyone, we want everyone to be aware that during the summer months, Warren County Schools and offices will be closed on Fridays. We're working four days a week, Monday through Thursday. But it's still a 40-hour work week because our staff is working 10 hours a day. So, what does this mean for you?

It means that all of our schools and offices will be open Monday through Thursday from 7:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. All schools and offices are closed on

Fridays. And - our schools and offices are closed next week in recognition of the July 4th holiday and to allow all of our staff the opportunity to have a summer vacation.

Speaking of summer, our Child Nutrition team is working hard this summer, offering free breakfasts and lunches to all children under the age of 18 in Warren County. The child does not have to be enrolled in Warren County Schools. We currently have 13 summer feeding sites, including Mariam Boyd and Northside Elementary Schools, Warren County Middle, and Warren County High. At these schools, children and parents can come in and pick up and take out their breakfast and lunch. Please note that only Warren County High is open on Fridays.

We're also delivering meals to 5 other locations.

And a reminder - All of our summer feeding sites will be closed next week in recognition of the July 4th holiday and to allow our staff to have a summer vacation.

Our Summer Learning Programs are in full swing. Breakfast, lunch, and transportation are provided.

- 41 high schoolers are taking advantage of Credit Recovery Camp
- 17 high schoolers are participating in our CTE Career Acceleration Camp
- We also have 17 high school students attending the National Summer Transportation Institute at Vance-Granville Community College
- We have 150 students in Kindergarten - 3rd grade strengthening their reading skills by attending our Let's Get Loud for Reading Camp
- And 113 4th - 8th graders are attending our Camp ROAR, focusing on math and the arts

We appreciate all of the students and staff participating in these programs to ensure we keep the learning going even over the summer.

Last week we wrapped up our first year of our LIVE bi-weekly radio show, Learn More with Warren County Schools. We appreciate our partnership with WARR 1520 AM and 105.3 FM providing us the opportunity to share information widely with our community about all of the great things happening in our schools every day.

Our last show this past Thursday focused on some of the highlights across the district from the 2023-24 school year. You can watch a recording of that show and all of our shows on the Warren County Schools Facebook page.

Learn More with Warren County Schools is taking a break during July, but will be back in August. Thank you to everyone who has listened to or watched the show. I also want to thank everyone who has been a guest on the show and our host, Ms. Heather Mallard, our Chief Communication and Engagement Officer.

So, what were some of the highlights of this past school year? There was a lot to choose from! We hope you'll visit our district website to see the long list of highlights, accomplishments, and recognitions from the 2023-24 school year. Here are just a few that we haven't already talked about in a previous board meeting.

Transportation

- This school year, we transported about 890 students to and/or from school every day.
- We ran 33 buses a day, requiring a daily total of 155 bus driver hours to

travel more than 3-thousand miles each day.

- We sold 17 old school buses, allowing us to clean up our bus lot
- Information Technology
- This school year we significantly upgraded our district network and doubled our internet connection to 2 Gigabits.
 - This means our network can handle more demand than ever before and at faster speeds than we've ever been able to support.
 - We're also scheduled to upgrade all wireless access points in our high school and middle school in the fall.
 - Every classroom in the district now has a 75-inch interactive screen, allowing teachers to incorporate interactive lessons, multimedia presentations, and real-time collaboration with people inside and outside of our physical classrooms.
 - We distributed 800 touchscreen Chromebook laptops to all of our elementary schools to provide students access to modern, interactive tools that support their educational needs.

Academically and Intellectually Gifted (AIG) Student Scores

- All of our 6th and 7th grade Academically and Intellectually Gifted or AIG students - passed their End of Grade (EOG) tests. That's 100%!
- Nearly all of our 8th grade AIG students - 94% - passed their EOGs
- In elementary school...
- 6 third graders scored the highest possible grade on at least one of their EOGs. They scored a 5, which means they are proficient in the things they're supposed to learn in 3rd grade, they're ready for advanced instruction in 4th grade, and they're on track to be college and career-ready by the time they graduate high school.
- 5 fourth graders also scored a 5 on at least one of their EOGs
- 7 fifth graders scored a 5 on one or more of their EOGs

Alternative Learning Program (ALP)

- Our Alternative Learning Program for students who require additional support expanded to serve 25 students this year, in middle school as well as high school.
- We have a 100% promotion rate, with all of our students passing all of their courses and remaining on track to graduate on time.
- We also did not have any disciplinary infractions or reportable offenses
- We also have a 100% graduation rate for ALP students
- We even had one graduate early this past school year!

Again, these are just a few of the highlights. We have more posted on our website, w-w-w - dot - warren - k - 12 - n - c - dot - org (www.warrenk12nc.org).” This concludes my comments.

4.0 Approval of the Agenda

4.1 Motion to Approve the June 25, 2024 Regular Board Meeting Agenda

Ms. Lehman called for a motion to approve the June 25, 2024 Regular Board Meeting

Motion: A motion was made by Ms. Talley Brame and seconded by Ms. Sims to approve the June 25, 2024 Regular Board Meeting agenda.

Result: Motion passed, 5-0

5.0 Motion to Approve the Consent Agenda

5.1 Motion to Approve the Consent Agenda

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

Motion: A motion was made by Ms. Talley-Brame and seconded by Ms. Sims to approve the consent agenda as presented.

Result: Motion passed, 5-0

5.2 NCSBT Workers' Compensation Fund

Staff was seeking approval to participate in the North Carolina School Boards Trust Workers' Compensation Fund. This fund provides local boards of education the opportunity to budget funds for the purpose of paying all or part of a workers' compensation claim, pursuant to the North Carolina General Statutes governing workers' compensation, or all or part of a covered employers' liability claim, pursuant to the terms, conditions, and limits of the NCSBT Workers' Compensation Trust Fund Coverage Agreement.

Motion: A motion was made by Ms. Talley-Brame and seconded by Ms. Sims to approve the consent agenda as presented.

Result: Motion passed, 5-0

5.3 Minutes for May 28, 2024 Work Session/Business Meeting

It is recommended that the Board approve the minutes from the May 28, 2024 Work Session/Business Meeting.

Motion: A motion was made by Ms. Talley-Brame and seconded by Ms. Sims to approve the consent agenda as presented.

Result: Motion passed, 5-0

5.4 Approval of Contract for Physical Therapy Services

Staff was seeking approval of a contract with Soliant Health, LLC for physical therapy services.

Motion: A motion was made by Ms. Talley-Brame and seconded by Ms. Sims to approve the consent agenda as presented.

Result: Motion passed, 5-0

5.5 Approval of Contract for Psychological Services

Staff was seeking approval of a contract with David Caron for psychological services

Motion: A motion was made by Ms. Talley-Brame and seconded by Ms. Sims to approve the consent agenda as presented.

Result: Motion passed, 5-0

5.6 Approval of Contract for Speech Therapy Services

Staff was seeking approval of a contract with Christine Saunders for speech therapy services.

Motion: A motion was made by Ms. Talley-Brame and seconded by Ms. Sims to approve the consent agenda as presented.

Result: Motion passed, 5-0

5.7 Approval of Contract for Occupational Therapy Services

Staff was seeking approval of a contract with James Gaynor and OT Plus Inc. for occupational therapy services.

Motion: A motion was made by Ms. Talley-Brame and seconded by Ms. Sims to approve the consent agenda as presented.

Result: Motion passed, 5-0

5.8 Approval of Contract for Audiological Services

Staff was seeking approval of a contract with John E. Sexton and Associates, Inc. for audiological services.

Motion: A motion was made by Ms. Talley-Brame and seconded by Ms. Sims to approve the consent agenda as presented.

Result: Motion passed, 5-0

6.0 Public Comments

6.1 Call for Public Comments

Ms. Lehman called for public comments. There were none.

7.0 Action Items

7.1 Fall Policy 2023 Updates (second reading)

Dr. Whitaker presented to the board for approval of the second reading of the Fall 2023 Policy Custom Updates from the North Carolina School Board Association were reviewed by the Warren County Schools Board of Education Policy Committee and Executive Cabinet and are being recommended to the Board for full approval on second reading.”

Motion: A motion was made by Ms. Talley Brame and seconded by Ms. Byrd to approve the second reading of the Fall Policy 2023 Updates as presented.

Result: Motion passed, 5-0

7.2 Approval of Contract for Facility Assessment, Strategic Planning and Project Management Services

Mr. Sutton presented to the board for approval information on the Facility Assessment, Strategic Planning and Project Management Services contract. It was stated, “Staff is

seeking approval of a contract with NEMA Management for facility assessment, strategic planning and project management services.”

After further discussion, there was no action taken on this agenda item.

7.3 Consulting Services

Dr. Whitaker presented information to the board for approval on Eyrie Success consulting services contract. It was stated, “Eyrie Success is a Leadership Development Organization that will provide extended support and capacity to manage the TSL Grant and ensure implementation of the professional development plan. Work will be completed in a timely manner acceptable to the School System in full compliance with the terms and conditions of this Contract, including any documents incorporated by reference. Specifically, Eyrie Success will provide the following: consulting in the areas of strategic planning, innovation, recruitment, retention, human capital leveraging and capacity, support for Cabinet, Senior Level Leadership, and Central Services Leaders, with a particular focus on TSL grant management, execution, and support.”

Motion: After further discussion, a motion was made by Ms. Long and seconded by Ms. Talley Brame to approve the Eyrie Success Consulting Service contract as presented.

Result: Motion passed, 5-0

7.4 2024-2025 SY New Lot 6 (Beverage Bid) & Chemical Bid, & Rollovers

Dr. Carrington presented to the board for approval information on the 2024-2025 school year New Lot 6 Beverage Bid and Chemical Bid and rollover. It was stated, “Bid Opening, For Warren County School Nutrition department for the 2024-2025 Beverage Bids & Chemical Bids have been completed. The Beverage Bid was awarded to Pepsi and the Chemical Bid was awarded to Correctional Enterprises, pending Board approval. Sysco Foods rolled over with same price for Lot 1-3, Maola Milk rolled over at the same price.”

Motion: After further discussion, a motion was made by Ms. Long and seconded by Ms. Talley Brame to approve the 2024-2025 SY New Lot 6 (Beverage Bid) & Chemical Bid, & Rollovers as presented.

Result: Motion passed, 5-0

7.5 Approval of Update to the Child Nutrition Procurement Plan

Dr. Carrington presented to the board for approval information on the child nutrition procurement plan. It was stated, “Staff is seeking approval of an update to the Child Nutrition Procurement Plan to include Diana Muema as the Child Nutrition Director for Warren County Schools.”

Motion: After further discussion, a motion was made by Ms. Talley Brame and seconded by Ms. Long to approve the child nutrition procurement plan as presented.

Result: Motion passed, 5-0

7.6 North Carolina enVision High School Math Program

Dr. Clemons presented to the board for approval information on the North Carolina envision High School Math Program. It was stated, “The Academic department requests board approval to purchase the North Carolina enVision High School Math Curriculum for the 2024-2025 school year. All curriculum and instructional resources are aligned to the standard course of study for Math 1-4 courses. The enVision products and services include the following: -enVision Mathematics * Teacher Edition Package * Student Companion * Digital Courseware -My Math Lab -Professional Development”

After further discussion, there was no action taken on this agenda item. It was asked to get a presentation video the Board and represent during the July 16, 2024 Regular Board Meeting.

7.7 Approval of Budget Amendment

Mr. Jeremy Teetor, presented to the board for approval the 23-24 Fiscal Year Budget. It was stated, “Staff is seeking approval to make the necessary amendments to the FY '23 - '24 budget in preparation for year-end closeout.”

Motion: A motion was made by Ms. Talley Brame and seconded by Ms. Long to approve the Fiscal Year 23-24 budget as presented.

Result: Motion passed, 5-0

7.8 FY '24 - '25 Interim Budget Resolution

Mr. Jeremy Teetor presented to the board for approval the FY '24 - '25 Budget Resolution. This will provide for the continuation of payments for salaries and ordinary expenses during the interval period of July 1, 2024 and the adoption of the complete detailed Budget Resolution.

Motion: A motion was made by Ms. Long and seconded by Ms. Sims to approve the Fiscal Year 24-25 Interim Budget Resolution as presented.

Result: Motion passed, 5-0

7.9 Approval of Contract for Team Services Consulting, LLC

Staff is seeking approval of a contract with Team Services Consulting, LLC to provide comprehensive financial/budget management and oversight services. This contract continues the services provided by Jeremy Teetor and his team as the district continues its search for a permanent full-time chief financial officer.

Motion: After further discussion, a motion was made by Ms. Talley Brame and seconded by Ms. Byrd to approve the Team Services Consulting contract as amended.

Result: Motion passed, 5-0

7.10 Calendar Revisions

Mrs. Debra Clayton, Director of Testing and Accountability presented to the board for approval calendars revisions the 24-25 school year calendars. It was stated, “The initial calendars that were approved had thirty-one days in September. To correct this error, the following revisions were made to the calendars: -WCS Secondary Calendar: * May 30 was added as an optional workday * Student days are 175 rather than 176 * Teacher days

are 215 * WCMS EOG testing was added for May 12-May 23 -WCS Elementary Calendar * The last day of school for students was changed to June 10 * The last day of school for teachers was changed to June 13 * The EOG testing window will be May 28-May 30, June 2-6, June 9,10 * Student days are 176 * Teacher days are 215.”

Motion: A motion was made by Ms. Long and seconded by Ms. Byrd to approve the calendar revisions as presented.

Result: Motion passed, 5-0

8.0 Convene in Closed Session

8.1 Motion to Convene in Closed Session

At 8:27 p.m., Ms. Lehman called for a motion to convene in closed session.

Motion: A motion was made by Ms. Talley Brame and seconded by Ms. Long to convene in closed session pursuant to N.C. General Statutes 14-318.11(a)(1), (a)(5), and (a)(6), to prevent the disclosure of confidential personnel information pursuant to G.S. 115C-321, and to consult with the Board attorney and preserve the attorney-client privilege, pursuant to 143-318.11(a)(3).

Result: Motion passed, 5-0

9.0 Reconvene in Open Session

9.1 Announcement that Board is in Open Session

At 10:15 p.m., Ms. Lehman announced that the Board was back in open session.

10.0 Action on Closed Session Item

10.1 Approval Personnel Report

To approve the personnel report as presented during closed session.

Motion: A motion was made by Ms. Sims and seconded by Ms. Talley Brame to approve the personnel report as amended and contingent upon completion of all background checks.

Result: Motion passed, 5-0

11.0 Adjournment

11.1 Motion to Adjourn Meeting

As there was no further business, at 10:17p.m., Ms. Lehman called for a motion to adjourn the June 25, 2024 Regular Board Meeting.

Motion: A motion was made by Ms. Sims and seconded by Ms. Long to adjourn the June 25, 2024 Regular Board Meeting.

Result: Motion passed, 5-0

Approved on:

SEAL

Board Chair

Secretary