

WARREN CONSOLIDATED SCHOOLS
WARREN, MICHIGAN
MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL WORKSHOP MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 19, 2020

The Special Workshop Meeting of the Board of Education was held via virtual and telephonic participation in accordance with Executive Order 2020-154.

I. CALL TO ORDER BY PRESIDENT TROMBLEY

President Trombley called the meeting to order at 5:12 p.m.

Members present: Berdy, Jozwik, Kattula, Papasian-Broadwell, Trombley, Weckerle, White

Members absent: None

Others present: Livernois, Bernia, Elenbaas, Lewis, Papak, Pitrone, Scholz, and District Legal Counsels Gary Collins and Donald DeNault from O'Reilly Rancilio P.C.

II. ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Ms. Papasian-Broadwell, supported by Ms. Berdy for the Board of Education to accept the amended agenda of the Special Workshop Meeting of the Board of Education of August 19, 2020 with the removal of Discussion Item, I.V. C. – Return to School Plan Update.

Yes: All

No: None

Motion Carried: 7-0

III. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

There was no audience participation.

IV. DISCUSSION

A. DIVISION UPDATE

Dr. Livernois opened the Division Update by asking each of his Cabinet members to provide a brief update on what the division implications are in light of the Michigan Legislature passing of the bills this past week which are on their way for the Governor to sign.

Business and Finance: Ms. Kari Elenbaas, Chief Financial Officer, discussed the bond work that has been going on this summer. This included the improvements to all of the baseball and softball fields at each of our three high schools. The work is on schedule and going well. Ms. Elenbaas discussed each of the operational division areas under her direction and the work that is being performed for the start of the school year.

- Transportation:
 - Buses are being prepared with hand sanitizer stations.
 - Masks will be provided for the students if they do not have one.
 - Students will be loaded back to front, and unloaded front to back to minimize contact between students.
 - Students will be spread out on the bus.
- Nutrition Services:
 - Students will be spaced out.
 - Prepacked food items, condiments, and utensils will be utilized.
 - Preparing feeding sites for students not receiving in-school instruction.

IV. DISCUSSION (Cont'd.)A. DIVISION UPDATE (Cont'd.)**Business and Finance (Cont'd.)**

- Operations:
 - Deep cleaning at all of our schools.
 - Every school will have a supply of signs, masks, shields, and hand sanitizer.
 - All custodians took part in Covid-19 training and they are up to speed on Covid-19 protocols.
- Information Technology:
 - Bond projects that will be finished by this fall:
 - District-wide upgrade of P.A. Systems.
 - Upgrade at Cousino Radio Station.
 - Purchase of 3000 laptops that have been imaged and are ready for student deployment.
 - Implementation of a new Firewall.
- Finance and Accounting:
 - Annual audit is starting next week.
 - School districts in Michigan were subject to a \$175.00 per pupil cut which will continue into the 2020/2021 school year.
 - Additional funding sources:
 - Coronavirus Relief Funds which must be used by the end of December 2020. With these funds we will seek approval from the Board to purchase an additional 9000 laptops for student in-home learning use.
 - Cares Act Esser Funds which we can use beyond December 30, 2020.
 - From the recent legislation, there has been a change to the formula used that determines our funding. We receive funding based on a blended student count. That formula has been updated and will benefit districts like Warren Consolidated Schools that anticipate a reduction in student enrollment.

Human Resources Department: Dr. Christine Lewis, Chief Human Resources Officer, addressed the Board with an overview on the legislative updating as it pertains to staffing and HR as well as its impact on school reporting and accountability. The legislation increased our requirements to add to our Extended Learning Plan. We will be required to set midyear goals and end of the year goals as related to this Extended Learning Plan. There will be a lot of reporting requirements attached to this legislation:

- We will have to address a benchmark assessment and increasing student achievement.
- We must reconfirm our commitment to the plan every month with public input.
- We will be required to show how students are provided equitable access.
- We are going to be required to develop guidelines for instructional delivery.
- Reporting will have to be done on the District's transparency reporting link on our website.
- We will have to report our weekly interaction rate data each month.
- We will have to post our COVID learning plan by October 1st.
- We will have to post how we are making progress towards our midyear goals by February 1st and the progress toward meeting our end of the year goals by the time we finish the school year.
- Report our Benchmark assessment data. The data will not be used for accountability purposes.

IV. DISCUSSION (Cont'd.)A. DIVISION UPDATE (Cont'd.)**Human Resources Department (Cont'd.)**

Teacher evaluations were not included in the legislation at this time. We await a lot more guidance on the specific requirements from the State. The most outstanding issue for HR will be staffing. We have a balance between fiscal responsibility and staff and community expectations. We also expect a very dynamic staffing year. We will respond and be as flexible as we can.

Office of Curriculum and Instruction: Mr. Bernia discussed that the legislation is pretty vague at this time. The Board approved our ongoing partnership with NWEA in June. We met with NWEA in July and had some positive conversations about developing a remote learning assessment that might serve as a Benchmark assessment. The legislation stated that four assessment groups will be identified. We are hoping NWEA will be included in this group and we are waiting on the final word regarding this.

B. TO DISCUSS STRATEGIES AND NEGOTIATIONS CONCERNING A COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT

A motion was made by Ms. Kattula, supported by Mr. Weckerle, that the Board of Education accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and move into Closed Session at 5:52 p.m. to discuss strategies and negotiations concerning a collective bargaining agreement.

Roll Call: Berdy, Jozwik, Kattula, Papasian-Broadwell, Trombley, Weckerle, White

Yes: All

No: None

Motion Carried: 7-0

The Board returned to Open Session at 7:40 p.m.

V. QUESTIONS and/or COMMENTS

A Board member asked about the monthly updates and how that will be presented. Dr. Lewis stated that this will be a requirement but at this time we do not know how this will be presented. There will be more information to come on this process.

A Board member asked Dr. Lewis if there has been any guidance from the Governor's office. Dr. Christine Lewis responded no there has not.

A Board member asked when we are required to establish our goals. Dr. Christine Lewis responded that we do not have that information yet.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

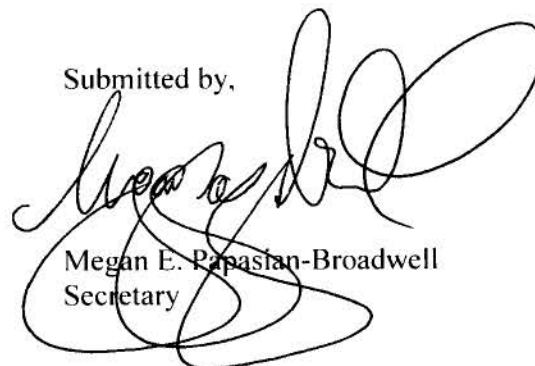
A motion was made by Ms. Kattula, supported by Ms. Berdy, to adjourn the meeting at 7:48 p.m.

Yes: All

No: None

Motion Carried: 7-0

Submitted by,



Megan E. Papasian-Broadwell
Secretary