

Warren Township HSD 121 School Board Meeting

September 10, 2013

Main Governing Board

Warren Township High School District 121, 34090 Almond Road, Gurnee, Illinois, 7:00 p.m. Executive Session, Board Conference Room, District Office, 7:30 p.m. Open Session, Library, Almond Campus

Opening of Meeting

1.A Roll Call *[Procedural]*

Notes: The meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m. Roll Call was taken. Mrs. Biondi emphasized that the Board needs to state why they are going into closed session and do not need to use all of the language, but just say "personnel". Mr. Anderson stated that the motion does state why the Board is going into closed session properly and called for the motion.

Executive Session

2.A Enter Executive Session *[Action]*

Regular School Board Meeting – September 10, 2013

Confidential Memo (Pink Sheet)

If you have questions about the September 10, 2013 board meeting or about this board packet, please send your inquiries to Dr. Mary Perry Bates by Monday at 3:00 p.m. This will allow us time to respond to your questions and provide a response at the Board meeting on Tuesday.

Food will be ready at 5:30 p.m. in the work room of the District office.

The Executive Session will begin at 7:00 p.m. in the Board Conference Room.

Regular Board Meeting – 7:30 p.m.

The regular board meeting will begin at 7:30 p.m.

Recognitions

There are no Recognitions at this time. Following the Reception of Visitors, will be the **President's Report, Committee Reports and Superintendent's Report.**

The **Consent agenda** has approval of minutes, personnel items and payment of bills.

New Business

A. Discussion and Approval of the Athletic Field Renovating Contract

Over the past several years we have not been able to use our baseball field to play our scheduled home baseball games. This occurs because of drainage and infield mix issues. Our infield mix has a high proportion of clay which causes the underground drainage system to malfunction. After a heavier rain, we generally cannot use the field for at least two days. It is very disappointing to the students and parents when it is nice on game day but our fields are still unplayable.

The Warren Blue Devil Dugout Club has generously agreed to donate \$20,000 over three years to assist the District with fixing the field drainage issue. We have worked with a company called Van's, which is an

expert in high school field maintenance to replace the infield mix with a product that dries within one to two hours and to make some other changes in the field to enhance playability and reduce maintenance time and cost. With this product, we will not have to spend annual dollars on additional infield mix.

The total cost of the proposal is \$49,950. The Warren Blue Devils Dugout Club will donate \$20,000. We will save money by not purchasing infield mix each year and we will be selling our infield tarp which will no longer be needed.

Most importantly, our students will have more time to practice and play scheduled games. The administration recommends approval of this proposal. A copy of the proposal and email from the Warren Blue Devils Dugout Club is attached for your information. Please contact me with any questions before 3:00 p.m. on Monday. The funds for this project are included in the capital budget of the Operations and Maintenance Fund.

B. Discussion and Approval of the 2014 Spain Trip Proposal for March 22-30, 2014

Attached is the 2014 Spain trip proposal from Mary Losavio and Ligia Ponce. They will both be at the board meeting to present this proposal.

***Motion:** I move to enter into an executive session regarding the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body or legal counsel for the public body, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against one employees of the public body or against legal counsel for the public body to determine its validity, 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1). No action will be taken in executive session. All action will be taken in open session. Roll Call Vote*

2.B Close Executive Session [Action]

***Motion:** I move to close the executive session. Roll Call Vote*

Open Session

3.A Pledge of Allegiance [Procedural]

Notes: The Board recessed for eight minutes. The meeting recommenced at 7:37 p.m. in the Almond library. All present stood for the Pledge of Allegiance. Mr. Anderson welcomed the guests in attendance.

3.B Approval of the Agenda *[Procedural]*

Motion: *I move to approve the agenda. Roll Call Vote*

Notes: Personnel items 75 through 80 were added to the Exhibit A. Mrs. Biondi asked that the bills be removed from the consent agenda and voted on separately and that an update on the Jazz Ensemble parents be scheduled for a future Board meeting. A date was not determined. Ms. Campbell asked that the minutes be removed from the consent agenda and voted on separately, and at future meetings, that the Board discuss the law firm billing on minutes and agendas, receive an update on the Lancaster case appeal, and get information about the construction change orders. The Lancaster update and the construction change orders report will be placed on the agenda at the second meeting in October. There were

Recognitions

4.A Recognitions *[Procedural:Recognition]*

Notes: There were no recognitions.

Reception of Visitors

5.A Reception of Visitors *[Procedural]*

Notes: Mr. Anderson stated that at the August 20th Board meeting,

President's Report

6.A President's Report *[Report]*

Notes: Board retreat October 3 at 6 p.m. in the Board Conference Room. IASB Fall Dinner Meeting October 23 at Rondout School. reservations by September 24. Catherine asked about the agenda for October 3, what is the agenda. Hometown parade is September 29. need to have this back tonight. County Clerk's office updated information on school board members. complete this tonight.

Committee Reports

7.A Committee Reports *[Report]*

7.B Finance Committee *[Report]*

Please find attached the Finance Committee Minutes from August 20, 2013.

Notes: Ms. Rogers reported on the Finance Committee meeting on August 20. The budget is on display for 30 days. Public has the opportunity to come to the District office. Offered to meet with Carol to review that budget in details. I have not any board members set a date. Miller Cooper finished prelim work in June and field work in August. reviewed that during the Finance Committee. Budget adopted at the last September board meeting. Catherine Campbell asked who is on the finance committee. Who are the members. It is open to all board members and the public. Catherine would prefer to call this a budget meeting. Catherine would like a detailed report in public on the budget on September 24. Catherine asked if the finance committee and the regular meeting could be combined. Carol offered to have a detiled budget meeting before the Public Hearing.

Attachments:

- [Minutes of the Finance budget committee 8-20-13 9-10-13.pdf](#) [Executive]

Superintendent's Report

8.A Superintendent's Report *[Report]*

Notes: MPB announced a FOIA announcement. Catherine Campbell made comments that she did not . . . she talked about the segregation of duties. nothing to do with the merits of her work. Did not make an attack on the staff. Don't think it's fair to include her. take offense. Mrs. Biondi never said anything about a staff member. complimented an adminisitrator. highly offended that she has been characterized as not . . . violate the open meetings act.

8.B Treasurer Reports for June 2013 *[Report]*

Please see the attached Treasurer's reports from Carol Rogers.

Notes: Carol Rogers reported under the treasurer's report, board questions from the August 20 board meeting, these are questions from Mrs. Biondi, many hours reviewing the bills. 22 pages document, June 13th treasurer's report, narrative, visual color charts and many pages of financial detailed information The packet includes cash investments, fund balance, revenues and expenditures for the year, comparative against budget, prior year budget, summaries operating funds, based on the information from auditor at this time, it looks like we will have 6th conse cutive operating fund surplus. preliminary numbers surplus \$36,000. we hope those are the final numbers for the audit. we have made all of the adjustments on the district end to comply with the GASB regulations. PUt together a snapshot of financial information. available for the public.

Attachments:

- [June Treasurer's Report 9-10-13.pdf](#) [Executive]
- [June Activity Account Treasurers Report 9-10-13.pdf](#) [Executive]

Consent Agenda

9.A Consent Agenda *[Action (Consent)]*

Motion: I move to approve consent agenda items A, B, C, and D. Roll Call Vote

9.B Approval of the August 20, 2013 Meeting Minutes and Executive Session Minutes *[Action:Minutes]*

Motion: I move to approve the regular meeting minutes and executive session minutes of August 20, 2013. Roll Call Vote

Notes: Mrs. Biondi stated that the closed session minutes did not include her conversation about making the correct motion to go into a closed session. She also stated that there were other errors in the minutes, but did not say what those errors were. This agenda items was tabled.

9.C Approval of Hiring Recommendations per Exhibit A *[Action]*

Please find attached the Exhibit A Personnel Recommendations for the September 10, 2013 Board meeting. If you have any questions concerning the attached document, please contact Dr. Mary Perry Bates.

Motion: I move to approve Exhibit A Hiring Recommendations 58 through 80 as amended. Roll Call Vote

Notes: During the roll call, Mrs. Biondi was called first and chose to "pass". She was then called last and voted to abstain, choosing not to state her reason for abstaining.

Attachments:

- 09-10-2013 Personnel Recommendations Exhibit A -xlsx.pdf [Executive]
 - Backup documentation 9-10-13.pdf [Executive]
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9.D Approval of the list of bills for 09/10/2013 in the amount of \$7,214,652.46 *[Action]*

Motion: I move to approve the payment of the bills for 09/10/2013 in the amount of \$7,214,652.46. Roll Call Vote

Attachments:

- AP List of Bills 09 10 2013.pdf
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10.A Discussion and Approval of Varsity Baseball Athletic Field Renovating Contract [Action]

Over the past several years we have not been able to use our baseball field to play our scheduled home baseball games. This occurs because of drainage and infield mix issues. Our infield mix has a high proportion of clay which causes the underground drainage system to malfunction. After a heavier rain, we generally cannot use the field for at least two days. It is very disappointing to the students and parents when it is nice on game day but our fields are still unplayable.

The Warren Blue Devil Dugout Club has generously agreed to donate \$20,000 over three years to assist the District with fixing the field drainage issue. We have worked with a company called Van's, which is an expert in high school field maintenance to replace the infield mix with a product that dries within one to two hours and to make some other changes in the field to enhance playability and reduce maintenance time and cost. With this product, we will not have to spend annual dollars on additional infield mix.

The total cost of the proposal is \$49,950. The Warren Blue Devils Dugout Club will donate \$20,000. We will save money by not purchasing infield mix each year and we will be selling our infield tarp which will no longer be needed.

Most importantly, our students will have more time to practice and play scheduled games. The administration recommends approval of this proposal. A copy of the proposal and email from the Warren Blue Devils Dugout Club is attached for your information. Please contact me with any questions before 3:00 p.m. on Monday. The funds for this project are included in the capital budget of the Operations and Maintenance Fund.

Motion: *I move to approve the varsity baseball athletic field renovating contract with Van's in the amount of \$49,950. Roll Call Vote.*

Notes: Mrs. Biondi stated that she could not vote for the renovation of the baseball field because she did not know why we were "over budget" on the construction project at O'Plaine. Mr. Anderson provided an explanation about the financing of the O'Plaine project.

Attachments:

- [Van's Proposal 9-10-13.pdf](#) [Executive]
- [Warren Dugout Email 9-10-13.pdf](#) [Executive]

10.B Discussion and Approval of 2014 Spain Trip Proposal for March 22-30, 2014 [Action]

Attached is the Spain trip proposal from Mary Losvio and Ligia Ponce. They will both be at the board meeting to present this proposal.

Motion: *I move to approve the 2014 Spain Trip proposal for March 22-30, 2014. Roll Call Vote*

Attachments:

- [Spain Trip proposal 2014.pdf](#) [Admin]
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Adjournment

12.A Adjournment *[Action:Procedural]*

Motion: I move to adjourn the meeting. Roll Call Vote
