



Warwick School District

Committee of the Whole

October 5, 2021

Board Room

7:00 p.m.

MINUTES

Members Present: Michael Landis, Leslie Penkunas, Lisa Miller, Millard Eppig, Matt Knouse, Debra Wenger, Nelson Peters, Todd Rucci, C. Edward Browne, April Hershey, Nate Wertsch, Melanie Calender

Guests: Noelle Brossman, Jackie Yanchocik, Ryan Axe, John Schofield

Virtual guests (Names are listed as they appeared on Zoom):

Ali, aliddings, Angie Lingo, Arielle Miller, Bethany, Brian Hample, Caroline Ingalls, Cathleen Clausen, Ciana, Diana, Dr. Sara Bowen, Eric Y., G. Rhinier, Greta, Heather, hoffman5, Rachel Weaver, Rachel Wilson-Snyder, Reggie Weaver, Ron Hallett, Sam Dickinson, Sharon, Stacy Rucci, Stefanie Martin, Steph, Teresa Goodhart, The Riggs, Tina Kline, Veronica, Wendi, Zoom Account, Jackie Weaver, Jeff Weber, Jen, Jenn, Jenn Trusty, Jennifer Lugar, kara Grube, Kayla Cook, Kelly cahill Kim, Kim Woyurka, Kim Zimmerman, Kimberly Regennas, kmartzall

1. Comments submitted by the public were reviewed. No comments submitted were related to agenda items and therefore not shared at the beginning of the meeting.

2. Building Project Updates
~ Craig Kimmel & Erin Hoffman, RLPS Architects

Mr. Kimmel and Ms. Hoffman presented an update on the Fieldhouse Project. Ms. Hoffman shared that DEP approval has been given. Ms. Hoffman reviewed proposed drawings of the rooms in the Field House and bleachers. An updated cost estimate to include the Field House, site construction, construction costs, and possible alternates (e.g. Turf Multi-Purpose Field, Middle School Parking Expansion, Athletic Field Parking) was also shared. Mr. Kimmel explained the reasons for increases in construction industry costs. A projected schedule was presented for 2021-2022, possibly pushing into the following school year. A discussion regarding inflation also pursued. The pros and cons of seeking bids was shared by Ms. Hoffman. Board members asked

questions and participated in a discussion to gather information, which would assist them in making a decision about whether to proceed, or not proceed, with this project. The discussion included renovations needed to address the HVAC system, window, roofing, safety issues, and phasing in of other planned renovation projects. Financial implications were also discussed. Moving forward with bidding the project, does not mean that the Board is making a commitment to the project completion.

3. Board Policy Updates

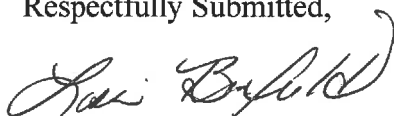
- # 006 - Meetings
- # 146.1 – Trauma-Informed Approach
- # 218.1 – Weapons
- # 218.2 – Terroristic Threats
- # 236.1 – Threat Assessment
- # 246 – School Wellness
- # 247 – Hazing (with Attachment A)
- # 249 – Bullying/Cyberbullying (with Attachment A)
- # 252 – Dating Violence (with Attachment A)
- # 805 – Emergency Preparedness and Response (with Attachment A)
- # 805.2 – School Security Personnel
- # 903 – Public Participation in Board Meetings

The above policies were shared and reviewed by Dr. Hershey. Board members discussed these policy updates and recommendations were made.

4. Other Relevant Items

- Dr.Hershey recognized three Board members who have served 12 years on the Warwick School Board. Recognized with a certificate from PSBA and words of appreciation were :Todd Rucci, Deb Wenger, and Millard Eppig.
- Comments submitted by the public were read aloud.

The committee adjourned at 8:23 p.m.
Respectfully Submitted,



Lisa Bonfield



Warwick School District
Building and Property Committee

October 11, 2021

Conference Room A

6:00 p.m.

MINUTES

Cancelled

The Building and Property Committee did not meet in October
due to a lack of agenda items.

Next Meeting: **November 8, 2021**

Warwick School District

Education Committee



October 11, 2021

Board Room

6:00 p.m.

MINUTES

Committee and Presenters Present: Tina Kline, Liam Zee, Kevin Kruase, Debra Wenger, Leslie Penkunas, Melanie Calender, Ron Hallett, Olha Drobot, Kathy Steinour, Ross Kramer, Kellye McMillion, Stacy Geesaman

Community Present:

1. Welcome - *Mrs. Deb Wenger & Mrs. Leslie Penkunas*
 - *Deb welcomed everyone in attendance as the committee members and the community members. Leslie shared the meeting preamble, describing the respect and decorum expected for meetings for all school districts in PA.*
 - *Questions were welcomed at the beginning if they pertained to the agenda. Questions not related to the agenda were asked to be shared at the end. Each person is asked to speak only one time. A time limit of 3 minutes to speak was shared.*
 - *The floor was opened for questions related to the agenda. One individual asked to share.*
 - *Rachel Haverstick asked to address the committee. She shared her thoughts on the challenged books in the district, commending the district for sharing All American Boys as a curricular resource to provide valuable conversations. She wants the committee to know that there are voices who also approve of the freedom to choose texts that are not popular.*
 - *Jennifer Lugar then asked to share from a moderate perspective. She shared she has concerns over resources being approved in the district. She called upon leaders to rectify the situation. She shares there should be a difference between the school library and a public bookstore. She shares concerns that she has been*

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blindly trusting the selections for her children and is concerned there are topics she is not ready to talk to her children about yet. She is looking for a solution to work together on.

2. Student Representative Report - *Mr. Liam Zee, Student Representative*

- *High School-Homecoming, Teen Hope Mental Health Screenings, Diary of Anne Frank is the Fall Show*
- *Bonfield-Spirit Day, Picture Day, Back to School Night, PTO First Meeting, Custodian Appreciation Day, Reading and Math Interventions have begun*
- *MS-Back to School Night, Fall Pictures, First Dance Event, District Wide Spelling Bee (2nd Week of November)*
- *John Beck-Spelling Bee, Officer Wolfe read to 1st Graders, Red Ribbon Week (Drug Abuse Prevention Event)*

3. Curriculum Cycle - *Dr. Ron Hallett, Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment*

- *Dr. Hallett reviewed the 4 phases of Curriculum Review (each curricular area is in one of the 4)*
 - *Phase 1: Research and Study*
 - *Phase 2: Write Curriculum (Curriculum is brought to the Education Committee at the end of this phase--It must be approved in April the prior year before it is used)*
 - *Phase 3: Implement Curriculum*
 - *Phase 4: Evaluate and Refine Curriculum*
- *The matrix to show the rotation across subject areas through the curriculum cycle was shared.*
- *Dr. Calender noted that last year 99 percent of the curriculum work was paused due to Covid which is a very rare exception to take curriculum work off cycle. We are still working on writing ELA from last year at the Elementary level due to this.*

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The plan to titrate implementation of ELA and Math curricula was shared so as to not overwhelm teachers with two new curricula at the same time.

- *Ms. McMillion asked if this the review cycle is accessible to the public. Dr. Hallett shared that if it is not public, we can work to make it public as it has purpose for the community to know.*

2. Challenging of Resources Process - Dr. Ron Hallett, Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment

- *Dr. Hallett shared how to view the procedure for handling challenged materials via the district website.*
- *Dr. Hallett discussed each step in the process via the WSD Challenged Materials Procedure. The process details that once a resource has gone through the procedure to be challenged, it cannot be challenged again for six years.*
- *The Form for WSD Citizens to Request a resource to be reconsidered was reviewed as well.*
- *Mrs. Penkunas asked if the process is the same for curricular resources as well as library resources. It was confirmed it is the same.*
- *Mrs. Kline asked if it is published what materials are challenged. Dr. Hallett shared that it would make sense for the results of challenged materials to be brought to the education committee as a final step, as a note of public record.*
- *It was asked if there are any books in this process currently. It was shared that there is one elementary library book currently in the process that started with the meeting with the Principal.*

3. Comprehensive Planning 2021/2022- Dr. Melanie Calender, Assistant Superintendent

- *Dr. Calender shared the history on completing a Strategic Plan/Comprehensive Plan (Now named Future Ready Comprehensive Planning FRCP) to show a district is in compliance with state requirements as well as vision work. Compliance is the heavy focus of the requirement of this document.*

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- *The last time this work was done was about three and a half years ago, with family surveys and building feedback. That same plan for collection of information will be in place this time.*
- *The state no longer requires building level plans, rather just one master district comprehensive plan.*
- *The format for this year is Ready (prepare for planning); Set (complete a needs assessment); and Go (develop the plan). We are almost finished with step ready and are almost at step two to gather data, so that we can gather more voice in what our priorities for the district should be. The challenging part is that the areas of focus we may choose are to be selected from a list that we must pick from (given by the developed state). Feedback will be collected from the public, the board, students, parents, and staff.*
- *When the action plan is developed, three or four priorities will be selected so that we are purposeful. Action plan selections will require professional development for the areas of focus.*
- *Once developed, the plan will be in the board room and the public library for four weeks for the community to review and provide feedback prior to submitting for approval. This must be completed by March 30th for implementation by July 1, 2022 to run through June 2025.*
- *Our Special Education Plan is also due for the state this year, but this will allow both plans to be connected. The Special Education Plan is a subset of the full Future Ready Comprehensive Plan.*
- *It is important that the plan focuses on innovative, exemplary and research-based programming.*
- *Academic Standards and Assessment Requirements, Induction Plan, Professional Development Plan, Student Services Assurances, and Gifted Education Plan Assurances also will be completed at this time.*

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- *The mission and vision statement for the district was shared and noted to have a history of at least 10 to 15 years. This will continue to be reviewed as part of this process. The district shared values that were updated with the last Strategic Plan process were shared for the group to read.*

4. Public Comment

- *Jennifer Lugar asked if there was a lens or standard to determine what gets selected for the library before a book is selected and added. Dr. Calender noted that a needs assessment is done to see what area the library needs to grow in and they look to resources that are approved by the library association for the areas of need. Multiple sources are relied upon for recommendations as well as age bands. Dr. Calender noted that there are varied viewpoints for appropriateness and we are looking for a process to find a way to respect the varying perspectives that families bring. How can we make sure parents know if we have books that are sensitive and put a process into place for that? Ms. Lugar asked if there were separate associations for public libraries versus school libraries (parent with vs. parent without). Dr. Calender said she believes some of both are consulted but she cannot speak to it without speaking to the librarians officially.*
- *Ingrid Martin shared her concern with the procedure that it appears to be contradictory to board policy and school code (Section 803 of 1939). She feels it does not allow the board to override the Superintendent's decision. She asked why six years was selected as the time period for challenging books. Dr. Hallett shared the intent of the six year period comes from devoting time and attention for the resource and the process due in relation to the immense number of resources available. Ingrid Martin shared she read All American Boys. She shared she personally feels that ninth and tenth grade students are a little young to read the text. She noted she is concerned about the lesson plans, noting there were good issues to discuss within the text that were not brought up in the lesson plans. She shared that being a person of hispanic descent, she does not like identity politics.*

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She felt like there were a lot of complex topics that were not included in the lesson plans for the text. She brought up a concern that the text shares that whiteness is bad from her perspective.

- *Kristin Buchanon shared her history of experiences since moving to Warwick. She shared the efforts the district made to counteract the racial challenges that had occurred and noted the district efforts to include tolerance in the curriculum. Kristin shared about her daughter's experiences in the classroom with students discussing race in negative ways. The class discussed the All American Boys text, with conversations with Chief Schofield. Mrs. Buchanan shared powerful lessons she feels the text shares with students, making a connection to the students making comments in her daughter's class. She shares her hope that the curriculum impacts students in ways to change behaviors and thoughts. She also thanked the administration for having processes for reviewing books.*
- *Michelle Helderman asked how long the six year rule had been in place for challenging a text. Dr. Hallett shared that began in 2012. She asked how to find Administrative Regulations for Board Policy 108 and 109. Dr. Hallett shared that that can certainly be shared. Mrs. Helderman asked if the criteria for the review committee will be the same as the administrative regulations. Dr. Hallett shared the book will be looked at, it will be evaluated for its usefulness in the curriculum as compared to the claim that it is not appropriate from those involved from all angles of the process. Dr. Hallett shared the criteria will be changed based upon the resource and purpose. Mrs. Helderman noted the September 22nd parent letter noted two texts being reviewed, but tonight they discussed there is only one. Dr. Hallett noted the elementary book is still moving through the process. He shared that the high school principal has not had a meeting with anyone. Dr. Hallett has shared the process with anyone who has come in contact with him about the step. She shared that she believes people may not know they need to take the first step. Dr. Calendar shared that we are not looking for people to*

challenge our resources via advertisement, but we will most certainly go forward if there is concern. At this point in time, no one has taken it forward, after the process was shared with individuals.

- *Jennifer Wise asked what the name of the book at the elementary level that is under question. A community member shared It Feels Good to Be Yourself. She asked if there is any chance the six year review time in the challenge review cycle could be revised or changed. Dr. Hallett shared in ten years nothing has gone through this process. To change the process without cause does not seem like something we would do without purpose. Mrs. Penkunas explained that a text would have already been challenged and gone through a thorough process, with many meetings. She shared the next group benefits from the text having gone through the process, and to do the same title over annually is a gross misuse of resources. Dr. Hallett noted that if a book is challenged, it typically highlights all concerns about the book, not just one factor or component for the text. The committee reviewing is required to read the entire book to do the review to determine whether or not it is appropriate. Dr. Hallett noted curricular resource guides and major resources that are listed.*
- *Bethany Tomasetti shared some questions regarding the six year cap. She questioned whether a text would be reintroduced in six years. Dr. Hallett shared it just means the same challenge wouldn't be brought to the same text within the same six years, not that it would automatically be returned after six years. If a resource would be reintroduced, it would come through the Education Committee. She asked how parents would know if the six years is over, and Dr. Hallett shared that it would be brought to the open forum via the board agenda. Mrs. Penkunas shared she views the six years if a text is not removed is so the process is not reviewed over and over within the six years. She notes that if it goes through the review process and it is pulled, she would be very surprised that it would be reintroduced six years later. Mrs. Tomasetti asked who keeps the librarians*

accountable for what is selected. Dr. Calender noted that texts are pulled from teacher recommendations, principal recommendations, librarian recommendations, current topics, etc. As far as who else is reading those books, it depends. Dr. Calender notes she is unsure if the elementary principals have done reading with the librarians in the past but she believes as we move forward we will be doing more mutual reading in the future. Dr. Calender notes that all requests for purchase go through the building principal. Mrs. Tomasetti shared a text called Gender Queer at the secondary which is concerning to her with graphics included. She noted she will go through the process to challenge the books.

- *Mr. Kramer asked who sets the rules for the challenge process. Dr. Calender shared that the process is impacted by board policy.*
- *Dr. Calender thanked the community for coming and sharing their perspective.*
- *Ms. McMillion asked about how to bring voice and invite voice. The committee was asked to share perspective and voice and invite people to come to the meetings.*
- *It was noted that Dr. Steinour will be stepping down as the elementary teacher representative and the position has been advertised for an individual who is interested in serving.*
- *The meeting was adjourned at 7:22.*

Next Meeting: **November 8, 2021**



Warwick School District

Finance and Legal Committee

October 5, 2021

Virtual

6:00 p.m.

Warwick School District must adhere to the state face covering mandate for all students, staff, and visitors attending inside activities on campus. Warwick School District has asked that members of the public comply with the face covering order at all meetings and events held in our buildings.

Because we have been unable to achieve face covering compliance during meetings of the school board and its committees, for the health and safety of all involved, to avoid having to adjourn the meeting due to non-compliance, and to comply with the mandate, the school board's Finance & Legal Committee meeting on Tuesday, October 5th, 2021 will be virtual for members of the public. Instructions for attendance at meetings can be [found on our website here](#).

Committee meetings are not voting sessions. These meetings are held for the committee members to hear presentations, review policies, evaluate data, hold discussions, and to make recommendations to the board. Individuals interested in providing public comments on agenda items prior to the committee meeting must provide information and their comments on this [link](#). These comments or questions will be read by a member of the team. The committee may or may not elect to respond. Comments may be accepted at the end of the meeting if time permits.

The format for all future school board and school board committee meetings, whether face-to-face or virtual, will be communicated at the top of the agendas when the agendas are published in the days prior to each meeting. The zoom and comment form links will also be found on each agenda.

It is our sincere hope to be able to hold these meetings face-to-face in the near future.

MINUTES

This meeting was held virtually. To access the meeting, the link below was used:
<https://zoom.us/j/94740776263>

**Comments could be shared using this link:*
<https://forms.gle/Ni45CPWJAn7jR3nW6>

1. Welcome and Public Comment

Mr. Wertsch welcomed the committee and public to the October meeting.

2. Audit / Fund Balances Update

Mr. Martzall shared with the committee the audit process and status to date. Mr. Wertsch shared the projected ending general fund and capital reserve balances. The committee discussed and ultimately recommends a transfer from the general fund to the capital reserve fund in the amount of \$4,010,738 for 2020-21.

Next Meeting: **November 2, 2021**

3. Obsolete Equipment

The committee reviewed and ultimately recommends the disposal of the extensive list of obsolete equipment.

4. Other Relevant Items

None

5. Board Recommendations Recap

- To approve the transfer of \$4,010,738 from general fund to capital reserve for 2020-21
- To approve the disposal of obsolete equipment

Warwick School District

Student Activities Committee



October 14, 2021

Board Room

6:00PM

MINUTES

CANCELLED

No meeting - October, 2021

The following Sunday Use Facilities Request and Out of State/Overnight Trip Request were communicated to the Committee digitally for their approval and recommendation to the Board:

1. Sunday Usage Requests - Dr. Ryan Axe
 - a. Warwick High School to use the HS Auditorium Lobby for the WHS Fall Play (set up, during show, & clean up) on November 7, 2021 from 1:00 to 6:00 p.m.
 - i. Committee recommends approval
2. Out of State/Overnight Trip Requests - Dr. Ryan Axe
 - a. HS students and staff to Kalahari Resorts & Conventions, Pocono Mountain, PA from October 31-November 1, 2021. Students will participate in the PA FBLA State Leadership Workshop.
 - i. Committee recommends approval

Next Meeting: November 11, 2021