

WARREN COUNTY TECHNICAL SCHOOL BOARD OF EDUCATION
1500 ROUTE 57 ~ WASHINGTON, NJ 07882
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
January 26, 2026

CALL TO ORDER

President Austin called the meeting to order at 5:01 p.m. on Monday, January 26, 2026, Via ZOOM.

Flag Salute – Dr. Lori Austin

Opening Statement – President Austin

Pursuant to the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et seq, the Board Secretary caused notice of this meeting to be given to the public on November 7, 2025.

Roll Call – Board Secretary Williams

X Dr. Austin
X Dr. Lamonte
Absent Mrs. Leahy
X Mr. McDonough
X Dr. Mlecz

Adopt the Meeting Agenda

Resolution 16246-26: Adopt the Meeting Agenda

On the motion of Mr. McDonough, seconded by Dr. Mlecz, RESOLVED, that this Board adopts the Meeting Agenda for the January 26, 2026, meeting as published with any addenda.

VOICE VOTE: Yeas: 4 Nays: 0 Abstain: 0 Absent: 1

Motion Carried: Yes

Resolution E765-26: Personnel, Negotiations, and Legal Matters

On the motion of Mr. McDonough, seconded by Dr. Mlecz, the Board moved into executive session at 5:03 p.m. by adopting the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Education of the Warren County Technical School as follows:

- A. The public is excluded from attendance at a portion of this meeting for the reason that the following subject matter is discussed:
 - Facility
- B. The Board may exclude the public from the meeting pursuant to N.J.S.A. 10:4-12, B3 & B8 of the Open Public Meetings Act.
- C. The matters discussed will be revealed to the public when the Board determines that such would not invade any right to privacy.
- D. Action may be taken.

VOICE VOTE: Yeas: 4 Nays: 0 Abstain: 0 Absent: 1

Motion Carried: Yes

Resolution E766-26: Resume Regular Session

On the motion of Mr. McDonough, seconded by Dr. Mlecz, the Board reconvened into regular session at 5:31 p.m.

VOICE VOTE: Yeas: 4 Nays: 0 Abstain: 0 Absent: 1

Motion Carried: Yes

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Discussion

● **PUBLIC COMMENTS** - Related to Agenda Items Only

● **COMMUNICATIONS**

● **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

- We will have a delayed opening on Tuesday, January 27, 2026
- Just a reminder that class is in session on Friday, February 13, 2026

● **HIB REPORT/SUSPENSIONS**

- Zero (0) HIBs since the previous Board Meeting
- Zero (0) Out-of-School Suspensions since the previous Board Meeting
- Zero (0) In-School Suspensions since the previous Board Meeting

● **BOARD PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

● **STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE**

- MAC Club is selling metal hearts at lunch
- Key Club has met a few times,
 - They have decorated their club shirts and broke off into their committees for future plans and fundraisers
 - Separated coats for the Project Homeless Coat Drive
- Theater has been making great progress in its rehearsals. They will be starting their second round of teacher interviews for the spring play
- Theater just hosted a successful open mic night

● **DISCUSS EDUCATIONAL TOPICS**

- We finished admissions testing. We had 230 students take the admissions test this year. The Admissions team will begin the review process for all of the applicants.

● **NEW BUSINESS**

MINUTES

Resolution 16247-26: Approve Board Meeting Minutes Listed Below

On the motion of Mr. McDonough, seconded by Dr. Mlecz, RESOLVED, that this Board approves the following resolutions as listed below:

Resolution 16248-26: Approve December 17, 2025, Regular Meeting Minutes

Resolution 16249-26: Approve December 17, 2025, Regular Meeting Executive Session Minutes

VOICE VOTE: Yeas: 4 Nays: 0 Abstain: 0 Absent: 1

Motion Carried: Yes

Resolution 16248-26: Approve December 17, 2025, Regular Meeting Minutes

On the motion of _____, seconded by _____, RESOLVED, that this Board approves the Regular Meeting Minutes of December 17, 2025.

Resolution 16249-26: Approve December 17, 2025, Regular Meeting Executive Session Minutes

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On the motion of _____, seconded by _____, RESOLVED, that this Board approves the Regular Meeting Executive Session Minutes of December 17, 2025.

FINANCE & FACILITIES

Resolution 16250-26: Approve Finance & Facilities Resolutions as Listed Below

On the motion of Mr. McDonough, seconded by Dr. Mleczyk, RESOLVED, that this Board approves the following finance and facilities resolutions as listed below:

<u>Resolution 16251-26:</u>	Receive, Accept, and Approve December 2025 Financial Reports
<u>Resolution 16252-26:</u>	Board of Education's Monthly Certification of Major Account/Fund Status
<u>Resolution 16253-26:</u>	Approve Payment of Bills for December 2025
<u>Resolution 16254-26:</u>	Approve Transfers for December 2025
<u>Resolution 16255-26:</u>	Approve Amendment for Perkins - Secondary Federal Grant
<u>Resolution 16256-26:</u>	Approve Amendment of the Long-Range Facilities Plan
<u>Resolution 16257-26:</u>	Approve Revised Adult Education Rate

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Motion Carried: Yes

Austin X Lamonte Abstain 16255 and 16256 Leahy Absent McDonough X Mleczyk X

Resolution 16251-26: Receive, Accept, and Approve December 2025 Financial Reports

On the motion of _____, seconded by _____, RESOLVED, that the December 2025 financial reports of the Secretary and Treasurer be received, accepted, and approved.

Exhibit: F1

Resolution 16252-26: Board of Education's Monthly Certification of Major Account/Fund Status

On the motion of _____, seconded by _____, RESOLVED, that the following Board of Education's Monthly Certification of Budgetary Major Account/Fund Status be approved: (1) Board of Education's Monthly Certification and (2) Budgetary Major Account/Fund Status Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10(c) 3&4, we certify that December 2025, after review of the secretary's monthly financial report (appropriations section) and upon consultation with the appropriate district officials that to the best of our knowledge, no major account or fund has been over-expend. The District Board of Education has implemented adequate controls to prevent the over-expenditure of any funds or yearly deficit in major accounts in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10(c) 3&4.

Resolution 16253-26: Approve Payment of Bills for January 2026

On the motion of _____, seconded by _____, RESOLVED, that this Board approves the payment of bills as shown on the attached Bills List for January, 2026, in the amount of \$837,908.99.

Exhibit: F2

Resolution 16254-26: Approve Transfers for December 2025

On the motion of _____, seconded by _____, RESOLVED, that this Board approves transfers for December 2025.

Exhibit: F3

Resolution 16255-26: Approve Amendment for Perkins - Secondary Federal Grant

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On the motion of _____, seconded by _____, RESOLVED, that this Board approves an amendment for an additional \$5,759 from the Perkins-Secondary Federal Grant.

Resolution 16256-26: Approve Amendment of the Long-Range Facilities Plan

On the motion of _____, seconded by _____, RESOLVED, that this Board approves
AUTHORIZING THE AMENDMENT OF THE LONG-RANGE FACILITIES PLAN

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE) requires each school district to maintain a Long-Range Facilities Plan (LRFP) in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:26-2.1 et seq.; and

WHEREAS, N.J.A.C. 6A:26-2.3 requires school districts to review and amend the Long-Range Facilities Plan at least once every five (5) years to update, among other items, student enrollment projections, building capacities, and health and safety conditions of district facilities; and

WHEREAS, the Warren County Vocational Technical School Board of Education desires to amend its Long-Range Facilities Plan to ensure continued compliance with applicable NJDOE requirements and to accurately reflect current and projected district conditions; and

WHEREAS, DIGroup Architecture, LLC serves as the District's Architect and is qualified and experienced in the preparation and amendment of Long-Range Facilities Plans in accordance with NJDOE regulations; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education finds it to be in the best interest of the District to authorize DIGroup Architecture, LLC to prepare and submit the required amendments to the District's Long-Range Facilities Plan;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Warren County Vocational Technical School Board of Education, County of Warren, State of New Jersey, hereby authorizes DIGroup Architecture, LLC, as the District's Architect, to amend the District's Long-Range Facilities Plan to fulfill NJDOE LRFP reporting requirements and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that DIGroup Architecture, LLC is authorized to coordinate with District administration, review available data and documentation, and prepare the amended Long-Range Facilities Plan in a format acceptable to the New Jersey Department of Education; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Superintendent of Schools or designee is authorized to execute any documents and take any actions necessary to effectuate this resolution.

Resolution 16257-26: Approve Revised Adult Education Rate

On the motion of _____, seconded by _____, RESOLVED, that this Board approves the revised Adult Ed Instructional rate of \$50 per hour, effective January 1, 2026.

PERSONNEL

Resolution 16258-26: Approve Personnel Resolutions as Listed Below

On the motion of Mr. McDonough, seconded by Dr. Mleczyz, RESOLVED, that this Board approves personnel resolutions as listed below, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent:

Resolution 16259-26: Approve Extra Curricular Positions as Listed

Resolution 16260-26: Approve Student #291929 for a Medical LOA 1-28-2026 to 3-16-2026

Resolution 16261-26: Approve Krisa Winters as a Substitute Teacher for the 2025-2026 School Year

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ROLL CALL VOTE:

Motion Carried: Yes

Austin X Lamonte X Leahy Absent McDonough X Mlecz X

Resolution 16259-26: Approve Extra Curricular Positions as Listed

On the motion of _____, seconded by _____, RESOLVED that this Board approves the following extra curricular positions for the 2025-2026 school year:

At Home Instruction	J. White
Skills Chaperones	P. Lilly, L. Arnold, T. Lynch, S. Lance, B. Wheatley, R. Danner, R. Gara, C. Feilbach, P. Seugling, A. Lazorchak, S. McGeough, M. Vulcano
JV Baseball	K. Wene
Varsity Baseball	Jason Drury
Varsity Softball	Ray Gara
JV Softball	Pat Lilly

Resolution 16260-26: Approve Student # 291929 for a Medical LOA 1-28-2026 to 3-16-2026

On the motion of _____, seconded by _____, RESOLVED that this Board approves Student #291929 for a Medical Leave of Absence from 1-28-2026 to 3-16-2026 with scheduled homeschooling.

Resolution 16261-26: Approve Krisa Winters as a Substitute Teacher for the 2025-2026 School Year

On the motion of _____, seconded by _____, RESOLVED that this Board approves Krista Winters as a substitute teacher for the 2025-2026 school year.

TRAVEL

Resolution 16262-26: Approve the Travel Resolutions as Listed Below

On the motion of Mr. McDonough, seconded by Dr. Mlecz, RESOLVED, that this Board approves the travel requests as listed below:

Resolution 16263-26: Approve the Following Professional Development Days as Listed Below

Resolution 16264-26: Approve the Following Field Trips as Listed Below

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Motion Carried: Yes

Austin X Lamonte Abstain Leahy Absent McDonough X Mlecz X

Resolution 16263-26: Approve the Following Professional Development Days as Listed Below

On the motion of _____, seconded by _____, RESOLVED, that this Board approves the professional development days as listed below:

DATE	STAFF MEMBER	TRIP DETAILS	COST
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1/21/2026	K. Wene	NJ Skills Fall Leadership Conference	\$55.47
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Resolution 16264-26: Approve Field Trips as Listed Below

On the motion of _____, seconded by _____, RESOLVED, that this Board approves the field trips as listed below:

DATE	INSTRUCTOR	TRIP DETAILS	COST
06 06 2026	B. Wheatley	NJ Special Olympics, College of NJ	\$991.56
TBD	B. Wheatley	Hagerdorn Hospital, Active Shooter Drills w/ State Police	\$495.78
TBD	B. Wheatley	Morris County Correctional Facility, Tour of Facility	\$537.95
04 10 2026	P. Lilly & A. Lazorchak	Liberty Acres Farm, Bangor, PA, Culinary tour	\$513.48
03 19 2026	J. White, E. Bowers, P. Seugling	Teen Summit, Centenary University, Hackettstown, NJ	\$513.48
05 04 2026	T. Lynch, J. Thompson, R. Gara, A. Sellers	Hair Education Beauty Summit, Meadowlands Expo Center	\$1,575.00

POLICY

Resolution 16265-26: Approve Policy Revisions as Listed Below

On the motion of Mr. McDonough, seconded by Dr. Mlecz, RESOLVED, that this Board approves policy revisions as listed below:

Resolution 16266-26: Approve the First Reading of the Policy Revisions as Listed Below

Resolution 16267-26: Approve the Second Reading of the Policy Revisions as Listed Below

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Motion Carried: Yes

Austin X Lamonte X Leahy Absent McDonough X Mlecz X

Resolution 16266-26: Approve the First Reading of the Policy Revisions as Listed Below

On the motion of _____, seconded by _____, RESOLVED, that this Board approves the First reading of the policy revisions as listed below:

P5610	SUSPENSION
P0142.1	NEPOTISM (M)
P1220	EMPLOYMENT OF CHIEF SCHOOL ADMINISTRATOR (M)
P&R 1552	SEXUAL HARASSMENT - STAFF

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P&R2535	LIBRARY MATERIAL (M)
P&R9130	PUBLIC COMPLAINTS
P&R2530	RESOURCE MATERIALS

Exhibit: A&B

Resolution 16267-26: **Approve the Second Reading of the Policy Revisions as Listed Below**

On the motion of _____, seconded by _____, RESOLVED, that this Board approves the second reading of the policy revisions as listed below:

P4340	GRIEVANCE ®
P1510	AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT (M)
P4352	SEXUAL HARASSMENT (M)

Exhibit: C

ADDENDUM ITEMS

PUBLIC COMMENTS – Any topic not discussed earlier.

Policy #0167- PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN BOARD MEETINGS

Section: Bylaws

Date Created: March 2000

Date Edited: October 2012

The Board of Education recognizes the value of public comment on educational issues and the importance of allowing members of the public to express themselves on school matters of community interest.

In order to permit the fair and orderly expression of such comment, the Board shall set aside a portion of every Board meeting, the length of the portion to be determined by the Board, for public comment on any school or school district issue that a member of the public feels may be of concern to the residents of the school district.

Public participation shall be governed by the following rules:

1. A participant must be recognized by the presiding officer and must preface comments by an announcement of his/her name, place of residence, and group affiliation, if appropriate;
2. Each statement made by a participant shall be limited to three (3) minutes in duration;
3. No participant may speak more than once on the same topic until all others who wish to speak on that topic has been heard;
4. All statements shall be directed to the presiding officer; no participant may address or question the Board members individually;
5. The presiding officer may:
 - a. Interrupt, warn, or terminate a participant's statement when the statement is too lengthy, abusive, obscene, or irrelevant;
 - b. Request any individual to leave the meeting when that person does not observe reasonable decorum;
 - c. Request the assistance of law enforcement officers in the removal of a disorderly person when that person's conduct interferes with the orderly progress of the meeting;

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- d. Call for a recess or an adjournment to another time when the lack of public decorum so interferes with the orderly conduct of the meeting as to warrant such action; and
- e. Waive these rules when necessary for the protection of privacy or the efficient administration of the Board's business.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjourn the Meeting

On the motion of Mr. McDonough, seconded by Dr. Mlecz, the Board adjourned the meeting at 5:39 p.m.

VOICE VOTE: Yeas: 4 Nays: 0 Abstain: 0 Absent: 1

Motion Carried: Yes

Upcoming Dates of Interest:

February 16, 2026

Closed for President's Day

February 18, 2026

BOE Meeting