

**WARREN COUNTY TECHNICAL SCHOOL BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**1500 ROUTE 57 ~ WASHINGTON, NJ 07882**  
**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**  
**March 18, 2026**

**CALL TO ORDER**

President Austin called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, March 18, 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 16291-26: Adopt the Meeting Agenda**

On the motion of Mr. McDonough, seconded by Dr. Mlecz, RESOLVED, that this Board adopts the Meeting Agenda for the March 18, 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 5:01 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:
  - Budget
  - Personnel
- 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 5:29 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**

- Mr. Forsythe joined the Culinary and TV Media students on their trip to Kalahari Convention Center. He said they all had a great time, and it was a great experience. He would love to go again next year
- April is just around the corner. Our Spring break is April 2nd (half day) through April 7th; classes will resume on April 8th
- We have 2 snow days remaining. We are talking about returning them at the end of the school year to push our last day up earlier

● **HIB REPORT/SUSPENSIONS**

- One (1) HIB since the previous Board Meeting
- Five (5) Out-of-School Suspensions since the previous Board Meeting
- Three (3) In-School Suspensions since the previous Board Meeting

● **BOARD PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

● **STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE**

- Key Club
  - Hygiene Product Drive, donations will be brought to DECON for teens in need
  - Pi Day Fundraiser ends on Friday, March 20th
  - The first-ever skills pep rally will be held on Friday, March 20th
  - The Breast Cancer Walk is on May 16th, there will be food, music, and vendors. All proceeds will be donated to Evolve Pink
  - DECON is March 26-28 in Asbury Park
- Peer2Peer and Student Government
  - Will be at Great Meadows School for a Q&A on March 23
- MAC
  - Held their Shamrock Shake fundraiser
  - Upcoming Fundraiser is Burrito Night on April 14th
  - Proceeds from the Shamrock Shake Fundraiser and the Burrito Night fundraiser will go to a Veteran Charity
- Theater
  - Alumni Night is Saturday, March 28th, at 7 pm
  - This year's play, "Working," is only a month away from opening night. Showings will be:
    - April 18th at 7:30 pm
    - April 19th at 2 pm
    - April 24th at 7:30 pm
    - April 26th at 2 pm
  - Our Construction students are working on the set for this year's play

● **DISCUSS EDUCATIONAL TOPICS**

- Mr. Tierney thanked the PTSA for all that they do for the school. Saturday, March 21st, is our Tricky Tray, doors open at 1:30 pm

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• **NEW BUSINESS**

**MINUTES**

**Resolution 16292-26: 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 16293-26: Approve February 18, 2026, Regular Meeting Minutes**

**Resolution 16294-26: Approve February 18, 2026, Regular Meeting Executive Session Minutes**

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

*Motion Carried: Yes*

**Resolution 16293-26: Approve February 18, 2026, Regular Meeting Minutes**

On the motion of \_\_\_\_\_, seconded by \_\_\_\_\_, RESOLVED, that this Board approves the Regular Meeting Minutes of February 18, 2026.

**Resolution 16294-26: Approve February 18, 2026, Regular Meeting Executive Session Minutes**

On the motion of \_\_\_\_\_, seconded by \_\_\_\_\_, RESOLVED, that this Board approves the Regular Meeting Executive Session Minutes of February 18, 2026.

**FINANCE & FACILITIES**

**Resolution 16295-26: Approve Finance & Facilities Resolutions as Listed Below**

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

**Resolution 16296-26: Adopt a Tentative Budget for the 2026-2027 School Year**

**Resolution 16297-26: Approve Maximum Travel Expenditure for the 2026-2027 School Year**

**Resolution 16298-26: Receive, Accept, and Approve February 2026 Financial Reports**

**Resolution 16299-26: Board of Education's Monthly Certification of Major Account/Fund Status**

**Resolution 16300-26: Approve Payment of Bills for February 2026**

**Resolution 16301-26: Approve Transfers for February 2026**

**Resolution 16302-26: Approve Amended Contract with Hunterdon County Educational Services Commission for Providing Case Management/ LDTC Services in the 2025-2026 School Year**

**Resolution 16303-26: Approve Agreement with Hunterdon Educational Services Commission for Public School Services**

**Resolution 16304-26: Approve Agreement with Hunterdon Educational Services Commission for Paraprofessionals**

ROLL CALL VOTE:

*Motion Carried: Yes*

Austin X Lamonte Abstain 16296 & 16297 Leahy Absent McDonough X Mlecz X

**Resolution 16296-26: Adopt a Tentative Budget for the 2026-2027 School Year**

On the motion of \_\_\_\_\_, seconded by \_\_\_\_\_, RESOLVED, that this board adopts the following tentative budget for the 2026-2027 school year using the 2026-2027 state aid figures and the Secretary to the Board of Education be authorized to submit to the Executive County Superintendent for approval in accordance with the N.J.S.A. 18A-7-5 and 18A:7F-6:

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|                                   |              |
|-----------------------------------|--------------|
| County Tax Levy                   | \$ 4,820,127 |
| Other Local Sources               | \$ 1,660,574 |
| Revenues From State Sources       | \$ 3,290,895 |
| Withdraw from Capital Reserve     | \$ 1,000,000 |
| Withdraw From Maintenance Reserve | \$ 0         |
| Budgeted Fund Balance             | \$ 400,000   |
| Local Grants                      | \$ 2,700     |
| Federal Grants                    | \$ 284,971   |

**Total Revenue** **\$11,459,267**

AND, a public hearing on the budget for the 2026-2027 school year will be held at the Wayne Dumont Jr. Administrative Building on Route 519 in White Twp. on March 25, 2026, at 5:00 PM.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education include in the budget a capital reserve withdrawal in the amount of \$1,000,000 for Partial Roof Top Replacement, Generator Replacement, and Exhaust Fan Installation.

Exhibit: Budget

**Resolution 16297-26: Approve Maximum Travel Expenditure for the 2026-2027 School Year**

On the motion of \_\_\_\_\_, seconded by \_\_\_\_\_, Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-7.3 a Board of Education must establish a maximum dollar amount limit for travel expenditure, as defined in N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-7.1 et seq.,

BE IT RESOLVED, Warren County Technical School Board of Education includes in the tentative budget a maximum travel expenditure amount of \$8,500 for the 2026-2027 school year. The maximum travel expenditure amount for the 2025-2026 school year is \$9,150, of which \$6633.14 has been spent to date.

**Resolution 16298-26: Receive, Accept, and Approve February 2026 Financial Reports**

On the motion of \_\_\_\_\_, seconded by \_\_\_\_\_, RESOLVED, that the February 2026 financial reports of the Secretary and Treasurer be received, accepted, and approved.

Exhibit: F1

**Resolution 16299-26: 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 March 2026, 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 16300-26: Approve Payment of Bills for February 2026**

On the motion of \_\_\_\_\_, seconded by \_\_\_\_\_, RESOLVED, that this Board approves the payment of bills as shown on the attached Bills List for February, 2026, in the amount of \$999,382.06.

Exhibit: F2

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**Resolution 16301-26:**                    **Approve Transfers for February 2026**

On the motion of \_\_\_\_\_, seconded by \_\_\_\_\_, RESOLVED, that this Board approves transfers for February 2026.

Exhibit: F3

**Resolution 16302-26:**                    **Approve Amended Contract with Hunterdon County Educational Services Commission for Providing Case Management/ LDTC Services in the 2025-2026 School Year**

On the motion of \_\_\_\_\_, seconded by \_\_\_\_\_, RESOLVED, that this Board approves the amended contract with Hunterdon County Educational Services Commission for Providing Case Management/LDTC Services in the 2025-2026 School Year.

Exhibit: F4

**Resolution 16303-26:**                    **Approve Agreement with Hunterdon Educational Services Commission for Public School Services**

On the motion of \_\_\_\_\_, seconded by \_\_\_\_\_, RESOLVED, that this Board approves the amended contract with Hunterdon County Educational Services Commission for Public School Services for the 2026-2027 School Year

Exhibit: F5

**Resolution 16304-26:**                    **Approve Agreement with Hunterdon Educational Services Commission for Paraprofessionals**

On the motion of \_\_\_\_\_, seconded by \_\_\_\_\_, RESOLVED, that this Board approves the amended contract with Hunterdon County Educational Services Commission for Paraprofessionals for the 2026-2027 School Year

Exhibit: F6

**PERSONNEL**

**Resolution 16305-26:**                    **Approve Personnel Resolutions as Listed Below**

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

**Resolution 16306-26:**                    **Approve Amanda Gruss as a Substitute Teacher for the 2025-2026 School Year**

**Resolution 16307-26:**                    **Approve Retirement for Raymond Danner, Automotive Instructor**

**Resolution 16308-26:**                    **Approve Ray Danner's Retirement Sick Day Pay Out.**

**Resolution 16309-26:**                    **Approve Prom Chaperones as Listed Below**

**Resolution 16310-26:**                    **Approve Unpaid Sick Days for Employee #1192**

**Resolution 16311-26:**                    **Approve Job Description - Part-Time Stipend Position, Learning Disabilities Teacher-Consultant**

**Resolution 16312-26:**                    **Approve Extra Curricular Appointments as Listed Below**

**Resolution 16313-26:**                    **Approve Theater Volunteers**

ROLL CALL VOTE:

*Motion Carried: Yes*

Austin   X   Lamonte   Abstain 16308   Leahy   Absent   McDonough   X   Mlecz   X  

**Resolution 16306-26:**                    **Approve Amanda Gruss as a Substitute Teacher for the 2025-2026 School Year**

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On the motion of \_\_\_\_\_, seconded by \_\_\_\_\_, RESOLVED that this Board approves Amanda Gruss as a substitute teacher for the 2025-2026 school year.

**Resolution 16307-26:                      Approve Retirement for Raymond Danner, Automotive Instructor**

On the motion of \_\_\_\_\_, seconded by \_\_\_\_\_, RESOLVED that this Board approves the retirement of Raymond Danner, Automotive Instructor effective June 30, 2026.

**Resolution 16308-26:                      Approve Ray Danner's Retirement Sick Day Pay Out.**

On the motion of \_\_\_\_\_, seconded by \_\_\_\_\_, RESOLVED that this Board approves Ray Danner upon retirement, to be paid out according to the WTEA Agreement for any unused sick days.

**Resolution 16309-26:                      Approve Prom Chaperones as Listed Below**

On the motion of \_\_\_\_\_, seconded by \_\_\_\_\_, RESOLVED that this Board approves Prom chaperones as listed below:

|                 |                                                                     |
|-----------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Prom Chaperones | T. Giraldi, L. Shannahan, Rob Stasulitis, K. McCormick, B. Wheatley |
|-----------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|

**Resolution 16310-26:                      Approve Unpaid Sick Day for Employee #1192**

On the motion of \_\_\_\_\_, seconded by \_\_\_\_\_, RESOLVED that this Board approves an unpaid sick day on March 9, and March 10, 2026 for Employee #1192.

**Resolution 16311-26:                      Approve Job Description - Part-Time Stipend Position, Learning Disabilities Teacher-Consultant**

On the motion of \_\_\_\_\_, seconded by \_\_\_\_\_, RESOLVED that this Board approves the job description for a Part-Time Learning Disabilities Teacher-Consultant, stipend position through the WTEA.

Exhibit: A

**Resolution 16312-26:                      Approve Extra Curricular Appointments as Listed Below**

On the motion of \_\_\_\_\_, seconded by \_\_\_\_\_, RESOLVED that this Board approves the following Extra Curricular appointments as listed below for the remainder of the 2025-2026 school year:

|                                            |           |
|--------------------------------------------|-----------|
| Junior Class Advisor (Prorated for LOA)    | K. Sartre |
| Sophomore Class Advisor (Prorated for LOA) | K. Sarte  |

**Resolution 16313-26:                      Approve Theater Volunteers**

On the motion of \_\_\_\_\_, seconded by \_\_\_\_\_, RESOLVED that this Board approves Ava Battle and Xavier Vassallo to volunteer with the theater production pending approval of an NJ Office of Student Protection criminal background check.

**TRAVEL**

**Resolution 16314-26:                      Approve the Travel Resolutions as Listed Below**

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

**Resolution 16315-26:                      Approve the Following Professional Development Days as Listed Below**

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**Resolution 16316-26:**                      **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 16314-26:**                      **Approve the Following Field Trips as Listed Below**

On the motion of \_\_\_\_\_, seconded by \_\_\_\_\_, RESOLVED, that this Board approves the field trip days as listed below:

|            |                                                                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |            |
|------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| 03 17 2026 | P. Lilly                                                                                 | 2nd Annual Veteran's Day Expo, Belvidere, NJ                                                                                                                                                                     | \$330.32   |
| 3 17 2026  | P. Lilly, P. Seugling                                                                    | Driscoll Food Culinary Expo, Kalahari Resort, PA                                                                                                                                                                 | \$0        |
| 04 29 2026 | R. Gara, R. Danner,<br>S. Lance,<br>Ken Wene, Chad<br>Feilbach, T. Lynch,<br>L. Shanahan | Mt. Olive High School, auto, construction, welding,<br>electrical, health science, engineering, and cosmetology,<br>Apprenticeship Day, hosted by The Workforce<br>Development Board at Mount Olive High School. | \$1,198.12 |
| 3 23 2026  | E. Bowers, J. White,<br>K. Johnson                                                       | Great Meadows Middle School, Recruitment                                                                                                                                                                         | \$213.95   |
| 3 27 2026  | L. Shanahan                                                                              | SLUHN Co-Op gathering                                                                                                                                                                                            | \$26.32    |
| 5 8 2026   | P. Lilly,<br>A. Lazorchak,<br>L. Arnold                                                  | 2026 NJAC VoTech Cook-Off Challenge, Atlantic City,<br>NJ                                                                                                                                                        | \$0        |
| TBD        | T. Lynch                                                                                 | Passaic County Tech or Burlington County Tech<br>NJ State Cosmetology Licensing Exam                                                                                                                             | \$753.48   |

**Resolution 16315-26:**                      **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     |
|-------------------|--------------|-------------------------------------------------------|----------|
| 4-20 to 4-24 2026 | M. Beneducci | SIRCHIE - 5 Day CSI & Forensic Investigation Training | \$695.00 |
| 3 27 2026         | L. Shanahan  | SLUHN Co-op Gathering                                 | \$26.32  |

**POLICY**

**Resolution 16317-26:**                      **Approve the Second Reading of the Policy Revisions as Listed Below**

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

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|          |                                              |
|----------|----------------------------------------------|
| P5610    | SUSPENSION                                   |
| P0142.1  | NEPOTISM (M)                                 |
| P1220    | EMPLOYMENT OF CHIEF SCHOOL ADMINISTRATOR (M) |
| P&R 1552 | SEXUAL HARASSMENT - STAFF                    |
| P&R2535  | LIBRARY MATERIAL (M)                         |
| P&R9130  | PUBLIC COMPLAINTS                            |
| P&R2530  | RESOURCE MATERIALS                           |

Exhibit: B, B1

ROLL CALL VOTE:

***Motion Carried: Yes***

Austin   X   Lamonte   X   Leahy  Absent  McDonough   X   Mlecz   X  

**EDUCATIONAL**

**Resolution 16318-26: Approve The 2026-2027 School Calendar**

On the motion of Mr. McDonough, seconded by Dr. Mlecz, RESOLVED, that this Board approves the 2026-2027 school calendar.

Exhibit: C

ROLL CALL VOTE:

***Motion Carried: Yes***

Austin   X   Lamonte   X   Leahy  Absent  McDonough   X   Mlecz   X  

**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



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- 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;
    - 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.

**Mr. Forsythe** spoke to Mr. Tierney, as of the board meeting, we have received 70 students accepting their placement for the 26-27 school year. The due date for accepting their placement is next week. 158 acceptance letters went out for the class of 2030. We are trying to take as many students as possible.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Adjourn the Meeting**

On the motion of Mr. McDonough, seconded by Dr. MlecZ, the Board adjourned the meeting at 5:44 p.m.

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

***Motion Carried: Yes***

**Upcoming Dates of Interest:**

|                 |                                        |
|-----------------|----------------------------------------|
| March 20, 2026  | Early Dismissal for Students and Staff |
| April 2, 2026   | Early Dismissal for Students and Staff |
| April 3-7, 2026 | Closed for Spring Break                |
| April 15, 2026  | BOE Meeting                            |