

**UNITED TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 30
BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**OPEN SESSION MINUTES
February 10, 2025**

1. Call to Order / Roll Call (BP 2:10)

President Susan Koska called the regular meeting of the United Township High School District 30 Board of Education to order at 6:00 p.m.

Board members present: Chris DeCock, Jami Gonzalez, Sue Ickes, Susan Koska, Luis Puentes, and Debra Stevenson

Board members absent: Dr. Giovanna Davila

Administrators present: Dr. Jay Morrow, Janice Roome, Shannon Miller, Matt Wright, Will Bradford, and Erika Torres

Board Recording Secretary: Jennifer Rossi

2. Consent Calendar (BP 2:200; BP 2:220)

a. Approval of Minutes

- 1) Open Session Minutes – January 13, 2025
- 2) Executive Session Minutes – January 13, 2025

b. Approval of Bills

c. Approval of Treasurer's Report

- 1) District Financial Report
- 2) HS Activity Account Report
- 3) HS Activity Account – Money Market
- 4) ACC Activity Account Report
- 5) Booster Club Financials
- 6) Health Insurance Report
- 7) Cafeteria Report

d. Approve request to purchase one new wheelchair lift gasoline bus from Central States Bus Sales, Inc., Oswego, Illinois, for school year 2025-2026, under the state purchasing contract, including the trade-in of one regular bus, for \$137,700 (BP 2:20; BP 4:60; BP 4:110)

e. Freedom of Information Act Report (BP 2:250)

MOTION by Debra Stevenson and second by Chris DeCock to approve the Consent Calendar as presented. A roll call vote was called with all members present voting aye. No nay votes were cast and the motion was carried.

3. Hearing of Visitors (BP 2:230)

None.

4. Student / Staff / Community Program Recognition (BP 5:100; BP 6:190)

Mr. Matt Wright introduced Jill Sanders-Colgan, coach for Unified Sports. Mrs. Sanders-Colgan shared about the activities students are participating in through Unified Sports. The following students shared about their experience with the athletes in Unified Sports:

Mayas Hasabo Ava Seynaeve Alexis Schaefer Addison Fox

Other students that are involved but not in attendance at the meeting were also acknowledged:

Emily Stevens

Octavius Hickman

Mea Johnson

Max Severtsgaard

Isabella Hughes

Aiyana Alonzo

Mr. Wright introduced the family of Lyric Gordon. Lyric will be competing in the USA Tumbling World Cup in Baku Azerbaijan. Ms. Kyla Milton, Lyric's mother, shared about Lyric's life-long participating in tumbling. Lyric shared about being selected to compete at the USA Tumbling World Cup in Baku, Azerbaijan. Mr. Ganaway, Ms. Milton's husband, shared about Lyric's pursuit of academic excellence and dedication to her sport. Lyric reported she has received offers from University of Iowa, Carthage College, Eureka College, Loyola University, and Drake University. The board congratulated Lyric on her accomplishment and wished her well in the competition.

5. Communications (BP 2:140; BP 3:10)

None.

6. Unfinished Business

None.

7. Student BOE Liaison Report (Bashara Sherif / Mayas Hasabo)

Mayas Hasabo presented more details on students completing course evaluations. She proposed evaluations be done for math, science, and English classes. The course evaluations would seek input from students regarding teacher strengths and weaknesses, and ask for recommendations for improvement. The evaluations would be distributed as a Google form at the end of each semester, prior to the school breaks.

Bashara Sherif updated the board on how he and Ms. Hasabo would connect with students about their concerns. A Google form would be used asking for the name and email address for the student, and a detail of the concern they would like brought to the board. Students would be informed about the opportunity to provide input during morning announcements and with teachers talking about the purpose of the survey. Mr. Sherif hopes this process will help students understand they have an opportunity to be heard.

The Board thanked Ms. Hasabo and Mr. Sherif for their input at the meeting, and encouraged them to continue to be creative and thoughtful on how they can represent the student body to the Board of Education.

8. Administrative Report (Mathew Wright / Shannon Miller) (BP 3:10; BP 3:60)

a. Mr. Matt Hutchins – Assistant Principal

Mr. Hutchins presented on the Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS) process, a whole team effort focused on helping students at whatever level they need to succeed in school. He also presented an overview of the clubs and activities that are part of the 21st Century Grant this school year. There are up to 203 students involved in niche opportunities who otherwise do not participate in other extracurricular events at the school. Participation in these offerings continues to grow each year.

- b. Class of 2029 Course Selection Night: Course selection was held January 30 for parents and students of the incoming freshman class. Families can access important transition information on the district website.
- c. Class of 2029 Core Course Placement and 8th Grade Acceleration: The district is working with partner districts to identify recommendations for student accelerations for the incoming freshman class.

9. Comptroller's Report (Janice Roome) (BP 3:10)

- a. Investment Report: Ms. Roome reviewed the interest rates and earnings on the variety of investment funds held by the district.
- b. Request approval of audit services for FY26, FY27, and FY28: Ms. Roome recommended the Board approve the audit proposal from Bohnsack and Frommelt for FY 26, FY27, and FY28. Bohnsack and Frommelt do a fantastic job each year for the district audit. She noted it is important to retain a local auditor certified to perform this work.

10. Superintendent's Report (Dr. Jay Morrow) (BP 3:10; BP 3:40; BP 3:60)

- a. Legislative Update: Dr. Morrow reviewed the state budget process. ISBE will request an increase of \$350 million in EBF. The governor's budget speech will be presented later this month. Tier 2 funding legislation likely will not happen any time soon. Impacts of potential federal cuts will not be known before approving the district's FY26 budget. The CEP eligibility rate may change, impacting federal food dollars received by the district. The Board will need to be cognizant of the potential impacts of funding changes. The Board discussed how the district handles any immigration enforcement that may occur at the building. Dr. Morrow noted no changes are recommended to policy or administrative procedures at this time. Dr. Morrow shared the ruling regarding Title IX conflicts with Illinois law in reference to transgender individuals.

11. Committee Reports (BP 2:150)

East Moline Municipal Pool Board: Mr. DeCock reported the Pool Board is considering options to convert a storage room to a family changing room.

BHASED: Ms. Ickes reported she will not be able to attend the board meeting on February 18. Ms. Gonzalez will attend in her absence.

Curriculum Committee: Ms. Gonzalez reported the curriculum committee is considering how to update Board Policy 6:135 regarding advanced placement of students.

12. BLANKET MOTION

- a. Approve the all-inclusive fee proposal from Bohnsack and Frommelt, LLP, Moline, Illinois, for audit services for FY26, FY27, and FY28, as presented (BP 2:20; BP 4:80)

MOTION by Sue Ickes and second by Luis Puentes to approve the Blanket Motion, as presented. A roll call vote was called with all members present voting aye. No nay votes were cast and the motion was carried.

13. ACTION ITEMS

- a. Executive Session

- 1) 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1) Personnel to consider the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employee(s) of the district
- 2) 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2) Collective negotiating matters between the public body and its employees or their representative
- 3) 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(9) Student Discipline

MOTION by Debra Stevenson and second by Chris DeCock to convene Executive Session for the topics presented. A roll call vote was called with all members present voting aye. No nay votes were cast and the motion was carried.

Time: 7:40 p.m.

Note: The Board took a break from 7:40 p.m. to 7:50 p.m.

b. Return to Open Session (BP 2:200)

MOTION by Sue Ickes and second by Jami Gonzalez to return to open session. A roll call vote was called with all members present voting aye. No nay votes were cast and the motion was carried.

Time: 9:10 p.m.

The board expressed its appreciation for the format and process for the Superintendent's evaluation.

c. Personnel Recommendations (BP 2:20; BP 5:30)

CLASSIFIED

1. Approve reassignment of Bob Neal as part-time student supervisor from 5.5 hours per day, to 2.75 hours per day, effective January 16, 2025.
2. Reassign Mark White from part-time bus monitor to substitute bus driver, effective February 11, 2025.
3. Approve Londy Hudson as seasonal painter assistant at \$15 per hour, effective June 9, 2025.
4. Employ Kristin Rowland as substitute nurse, at \$29.21 per hour, effective February 11, 2025.

CERTIFIED

1. Employ Anthony Roome as Special Education teacher (replace Maggie McCormick – Lane BA, Step 1, Salary Schedule B, TRS Tier 2), effective August 4, 2025.
2. Accept resignation from Maria Sakellaris as PE Teacher and Varsity Volleyball Head coach, effective May 30, 2025.

3. Approve Corneille Logo as Girls Track Assistant Coach (replace Lincoln Thomas), at \$5,122, effective the 2024-2025 season.
4. Approve a 6th Assignment for the second semester of the 2024-2025 school year for Matthew McCarthy (Special Education), at \$3,375.
5. Approve a 6th Assignment for the second semester of the 2024-2025 school year for Damon Gray (Special Education), at \$3,375.
6. Employ Elizabeth Orwig as Special Education teacher (replace Sean Hanley – Lane BA, Step 1, Salary Schedule B, TRS Tier 2), effective August 4, 2025.
7. Approve Luke Willis as a substitute teacher effective the 2024-2025 school year.

MOTION by Debra Stevenson and second by Jami Gonzalez to approve Revised Personnel Recommendations, Classified numbers 1 through 4, and Certified numbers 1 through 7, as presented. A roll call vote was called with all members present voting aye. No nay votes were cast and the motion was carried.

d. Student Discipline Action (BP 7:190; BP 7:210)

MOTION by Sue Ickes and second by Debra Stevenson to expel Student #109675 for the remainder of the 2024-2025 school year. A roll call vote was called with all members present voting aye. No nay votes were cast and the motion was carried.

14. Board Hot Topics

- a. Blackhawk Spring Division Meeting, March 27, 2025, Rock Island-Milan School District. Dr. Morrow noted this event is during the school spring break. Board members were requested to RSVP to the business office by March 10.

15. Other Matters

Dr. Morrow reported Black Hawk College and the district are considering the possibility of having students complete an Associate's degree while enrolled in high school. The district already has many dual credit options for students, allowing them to earn as many as 36 college credits. The Board noted that if having an Associate's degree is more helpful to students than credit hours alone, this program could add more value for students.

Dr. Morrow noted he is keeping an eye on the weather for Wednesday this week for potential effect on a delayed start/early dismissal, or postponing school altogether.

16. Adjourn (BP 2:220)

There being no further business brought before the Board, the meeting adjourned by acclamation. (Time: 9:19 p.m.)

Susan Koska, President

Sue Ickes, Secretary