UNITED TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 30
BOARD OF EDUCATION
OPEN SESSION MINUTES
September 14, 2026

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

President Dr. Giovanna Davila 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: Dr. Giovanna Davila, Chris DeCock, Jami Gonzalez, Sue Ickes, Susan Koska, Luis Puentes, and Debra Stevenson

Board members absent: None

Administrators present: Dr. Jay Morrow, Janice Roome, Shannon Miller, Matt Wright, James Hood, and Matt Hutchins

2. Conduct Public Hearing on the United Township High School District 30 FY27 Final Budget (BP 4:10)

President Davila opened the public hearing on the final FY27 budget for United Township High School District 30. Hearing no comments or questions, the public hearing closed at 6:01 p.m.

3. Consent Calendar

a. Approval of Minutes
   1) Open Session Minutes – August 10, 2026
   2) Executive Session Minutes – August 10, 2026
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 the September 2026 Curriculum Writing Projects (BP 2:20; BP 6:40)
e. Approve request to purchase auditorium lighting upgrades (BP 2:20; BP 4:60; BP 4:150)
f. Approve request to work with Shive Hattery, Inc. Architecture & Engineering on replacement of roofs #2 and #8 (BP 2:20; BP 4:60; BP 4:150)
g. Compensation Compliance Reporting – Public Act 096-034; Public Act 97-0609; 105 ILCS 5/10-20.47 (BP 2:250)
h. Board Policy Changes (BP 2:20' BP 2:240)
   1) Draft Updates
      a) BP 2:230 – Public Participation at Board of Education Meetings, Petitions to the Board and Request to Place Item on Agenda
      b) BP 5:70 – Religious Holidays
      c) BP 5:240 – Suspension
      d) BP 6:70 – Teaching About Religions
      e) BP 6:80 – Teaching About Controversial Issues
      f) BP 6:190 – Extracurricular and Co-Curricular Activities
      g) BP 7:130 – Student Rights and Responsibilities

h) BP 8:70 – Accommodating Individuals with Disabilities

2) Draft Updates – Rewritten
   a) BP 2:70-E (Exhibit) – Checklist for Filing Board Vacancies by Appointment
   b) BP 7:330 – Student Use of Buildings – Equal Access

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

MOTION by Susan Koska and second by Debra Stevenson to approve the Consent Calendar, as presented. A roll call vote was called with all members present voting aye. There was no opposition to the motion – motion passed.

4. Hearing of Visitors (BP 2:230)
None.

5. Student / Staff / Community Program Recognition (BP 5:100; BP 6:190)
Dr. Morrow introduced Dr. John Feehan, of Illini Dental Associates. Dr. Feehan is a great volunteer in the community, serving UT students and their families on the Dental Bus through Bethany for Children & Families. In 2024, Dr. Feehan reached out to the district regarding a grant funding program that assists in tennis court rehabilitation. He was instrumental in the grant writing process, securing $63,500 in grant dollars toward the renovations completed in the summer. On behalf of UT, Dr. Morrow thanked Dr. Feehan for his help with the renovation project. Dr. Feehan shared he continues to be involved in the tennis world and was sad to see courts fall into disrepair. When he was made aware of the opportunity, he thought the UT Courts were a natural candidate for repair of the cracks and update to the color scheme. He thanked the Board and Administration for their support. Dr. Morrow presented Dr. Feehan with a gift of appreciation.

6. Communications (BP 2:140; BP 3:10)
None.

7. Unfinished Business
None.

8. Student BOE Liaison Report (Husna Kadri / Abrar Sherif)
Ms. Kadri shared homecoming events are happening this week. She invited Board members to attend as many events as they are available.

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

a. Special Services Presentation – Mrs. Amy Loy, Director of Special Services, presented to the Board on the scope of services available to students in the special services program. Mrs. Loy reported extra efforts have been targeted to returning students from therapeutic day programs to integrated classroom settings. New this year for the Life Skills program is Pete's Pour and More, a student-run coffee and drink cart.

Dr. Jay Morrow left the meeting at 6:45 p.m.

Dr. Morrow returned to the meeting at 6:46 p.m.

b. Club Proposals: Mr. Wright requested approval for two new activities. The first is the UTHS People Actively Changing Tomorrow (UP.A.C.T.). The purpose of this group is to get students involved in community outreach. Ms. CJ Burhans will advise the group. The second activity is the Library Teen Advisory Board, lead by Ms. Jill Sullivan-Bennin. This group will work to increase student involvement in the library through different activities and events throughout the school year.

c. School Year Focus: Mrs. Miller reported the ACT will be a primary focus for staff and administrators. She shared the new format of the school report card and the revised metrics. Mr. Wright shared with proficiency and growth being part of the report card, the effort truly becomes school-wide. An ACT committee will be meeting regularly to help develop school-wide opportunities to hit the quality-level marks and continue to improve student performance as reflected in the school report card.

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

a. Request permission to seek bids for building trades house foundation if required: Ms. Roome requested permission to seek bids to pour the foundation on the new building trades house. Bids will likely be more than the $35,000 threshold required to go out for bids. The district is also considering what the overall cost will be for the house. Streamline Architects has worked with ACC students to develop the house plans. The house was designed around the lot's constraints. The District has a TIF agreement with the city of Silvis for a $10,000 allowance.
b. Request approval of Resolution No. 721, adopting the United Township High School District 30 FY27 budget: Ms. Roome requested the Board adopt the FY27 final budget for United Township High School. She noted a positive increase in revenues to the education fund of $1,925,800. Expenditures are projected to be $1,200,000.
c. Request approval of Resolution No. 722 – Notice of Intent to Issue Working Cash Fund Bonds: Ms. Roome reviewed the process to issuing working cash fund bonds. Approving the resolution allows the Board to move forward with the hearing in October and determining the actual bond issuance amount.

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

a. September 2026 Superintendent Report

Tyson Closure: Dr. Morrow reported the administration is aware of four families that have decided to move out of the district due to the closure of the Tyson facility in Joslin. The district will have a better understanding on the impact of the closure at the beginning of the second semester.

Linq Wi-Fi Consortium: Dr. Morrow shared the educational need for the community wi-fi system has not been as significant as expected when the consortium was first established. A little less than 3% of the UTHS student body is using the system. Consideration on the future of the program will be revisited in January. The consortium is working to involve more community partners to help share the cost.

School Health Link: Dr. Morrow met with officials to revisit participation in the student health link consortium. UT currently partners with Community Health Care to provide services on campus. The School Health Link has requested outside access for community members seeking health care services with the program.

10. Committee Reports (BP 2:150)

Curriculum Committee: Ms. Gonzalez reported curricula are being reviewed for changes in the 2027-2028 school year. The Course Planning Guide changes are also being reviewed.

BHASED: Ms. Ickes reported she participated in the United Way Day of Caring, along with fellow Board member Susan Koska. Activities involved sprucing up the grounds and building.

United Education Foundation: Ms. Koska reported mini-grant applications are out for submission. This year's funding amount was increased to $350. Grants will be awarded in late October.

11. BLANKET MOTION

a. Approve request to seek bids for Building Trades house foundation if required (BP 2:20; BP 4:60)
b. Adopt Resolution No. 721 Approving the UTHS District 30 FY27 Final Budget, as presented (BP 2:20; BP 4:10)
c. Approve adding UTHS People Actively Changing Tomorrow (UP.A.C.T) and Library Teen Advisory Board as district sponsored extracurriculars (BP 6:190)

MOTION by Jami Gonzalez and second by Susan Koska to approve the Blanket Motion, as presented. A roll call vote was called with all members present voting aye. There was no opposition to the motion – motion passed.

12. 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 districtg
   2) 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2) Collective negotiating matters between the public body and its employees or their representatives or deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more classes of employees
   3) 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(9) Student Discipline

MOTION by Debra Stevenson and second by Jami Gonzalez to convene Executive Session for the topic presented. A roll call vote was called with all members present voting aye. There was no opposition to the motion – motion passed.

Time: 7:21 p.m.

Note: The Board took a break from 7:21 p.m. to 7:29 p.m.

b. Return to Open Session

MOTION by Sue Ickes and second by Chris DeCock to return to open session. A roll call vote was called with all members present voting aye. There was no opposition to the motion – motion passed.

Time: 7:40 p.m.

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

CLASSIFIED

1. Reassign Alicia Gonzalez (Administrative Assistant – UTEC, 9 ½ month position) to Administrative Assistant – General Office (12-month position), effective August 27, 2026.

2. Reassign Kearie Royse (part-time Cafeteria – 3 hours), to part-time cafeteria (4 hours per day), effective August 20, 2026.

3. Reassign Vickie Tiemeier (part-time Cafeteria – 3 hours), to part-time cafeteria (4 hours per day), effective August 18, 2026.

4. Employ Robert Burhans, Jr. as part-time Cafeteria worker (3 hours per day) at $16.78 per hour, effective August 21, 2026.

5. Employ Brandon Rodriguez as part-time ACC Fire Science Program paraprofessional (replace Chad Jacobs – Paraprofessional Classified Schedule – Lane FY27, Contract Year 2, Step FY27), pending completion of license requirements.

6. Accept retirement notice and approve retirement incentive for John Alonzo, Student Supervisor, effective the end of the 2026-2027 school year.

7. Employ Molly Hodge as Administrative Assistant – UTEC (replace Alicia Gonzalez – 9.5 months, 8 hours per day – FY27 Administrative Assistant Classified Salary Schedule – Lane FY27 Contract Year 2, Step FY27), at $20.57 per hour, effective September 8, 2026.

8. Employ Jamie Frey as full time Bus Driver (Lane Contract Year 5, Start Date FY27) at $20.00 per hour, pending results of the fingerprinting background check and physical.

CERTIFIED

1. Accept resignation from Remy Halen as boys' tennis assistant coach, effective August 17, 2026.

2. Employ Brandon Rodriguez as part-time ACC Fire Science Instructor (replace Chad Jacobs), at $52.94 per period, pending completion of license requirements.

3. Accept resignation from Sean Ferrell, Behind the Wheel Instructor, effective August 14, 2026.

4. Accept resignation from John Alonzo, Varsity Softball Head Coach, effective the end of the 2026-2027 season.

5. Employ Eirik Gustafson as junior varsity wrestling head coach (replace David Duyvejonck), at $6,212, effective the 2026-2027 season.

6. Approve the following volunteer advisors and coaches effective the 2026-2027 school year:

NAME	Activity
Anderson, Austin	Fellowship of Christian Athletes
Greer, Anthony	Fellowship of Christian Athletes
Dalton, Cory	Boys Soccer
Webber, Olivia	Girls Basketball

7. Approve the following substitute teachers effective the 2026-2027 school year:
Paul Mizzi John Andrios Olivia Jones

MOTION by Chris DeCock and second by Susan Koska to approve Revised Personnel Recommendations, Classified numbers 1 through 8, and Certified numbers 1 through 7, as presented. A roll call vote was called with all members present voting aye. There was no opposition to the motion – motion passed.

d. Adopt Resolution No 722 – Notice of Intent to Issue Working Cash Fund Bonds

MOTION by Debra Stevenson and second by Sue Ickes to adopt Resolution No. 722 – Notice of Intent to Issue Working Cash Fund Bonds. A roll call vote was called with all members present voting aye. There was no opposition to the motion – motion passed.

13. Board Hot Topics

a. IASB Blackhawk Division Fall 2026 Meeting – Wednesday, September 23, Kewanee High School. Registration opens at 5:30 p.m.

Ms. Stevenson asked if the Board received the email on the resolutions. Dr. Morrow reminded the Board the resolutions are reviewed at the October Board meeting, with recommendations for action shared with the Delegate at the November Board meeting. Ms. Stevenson will serve as the alternate delegate for the assembly since Mr. Puentes will not be attending the Conference.

b. IASB/IASA/IASBO Joint Annual Conference
   1) Hotel Assignments are confirmed at Hyatt Regency
   2) New this year: Attendees will pick up conference Badges onsite, at the Hyatt Regency, Sheraton Grand, or Swissotel.

14. Other Matters

Mr. Puentes thanked Dr. Morrow for the wonderful tour for the UTHS Class of 1976. Attendees were amazed at the changes to the school. Dr. Morrow noted a total three class reunion tours this fall.

Ms. Koska shared praise for the UTHS students who helped packed 3,200 rice meal packs to feed 19,000 people.

Dr. Morrow reminded the Board that homecoming is this week, and invited board members to attend as many activities as they would like. Homecoming parade will be on Archer Drive on Friday, September 18. Mr. Wright shared students were told the community generally tolerates innocent pranks, and to stay away from acts of vandalism.

The Board asked how sales of old yearbooks went. Ms. Koska suggested the local public libraries be made aware of the yearbooks for purchase.

Dr. Davila reported she received many text messages and emails expressing appreciation for the Board's support of the UT Mariachi band.

Ms. Roome reminded members to sign the budget sheets before leaving the building.

15. Adjourn (BP 2:220)

There being no further business brought before the Board, the meeting adjourned by acclamation. (Time: 7:50 p.m.)

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Dr. Giovanna Davila, President Jami Gonzalez, Secretary