UNITED TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 30
BOARD OF EDUCATION
OPEN SESSION MINUTES
October 19, 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, Matt Wright, and James Hood

2. Conduct Public Hearing concerning the intent of the Board of Education to sell not to exceed $4,000,000 Working Cash Fund Bonds for the purpose of increasing the District's Working Cash Fund

President Davila asked for comments from the Board regarding the District's intent to issue Working Cash Fund Bonds. No additional comments were made by the Board. She next asked Secretary Gonzalez if any writing testimony was submitted. Ms. Gonzalez reported no written testimony had been submitted. President Davila asked if anyone from the public wished to submit oral testimony. No member of the public presented oral testimony.

3. <u>ACTION ITEM</u>: Close Public Hearing concerning the intent of the Board of Education to sell not to exceed $4,000,000 Working Cash Fund Bonds for the purpose of increasing the District's Working Cash Fund

After providing an opportunity to all members of the public to present oral and written testimony with regard to the proposed issuance of the Working Cash Fund Bonds, President Davila asked for a motion to close the public hearing.

MOTION by Debra Stevenson and second by Susan Koska to close the public hearing concerning the intent of the Board of Education to sell not to exceed $4,000,000 Working Cash Fund Bonds for the purpose of increasing the District's Working Cash Fund. The vote on the motion was called and recorded as follows:

Ayes: Davila, DeCock, Gonzalez, Ickes, Koska, Puentes, Stevenson
Nays: None

MOTION CARRIED

4. Consent Calendar

a. Approval of Minutes
   1) Open Session Minutes – September 14, 2026
   2) Executive Session Minutes – September 14, 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. Gratefully accept an in-kind donation from the St. Ambrose University School of Nursing, consisting of one patient simulation manikin and related equipment (BP 8:80)
e. Approve 2026-2027 Curriculum Writing Projects (BP 6:40)
f. Approve request to seek bids for a new dump/plow truck (BP 2:20; BP 4:60)
g. Approve request to purchase HVAC equipment and school maintenance project grant application (BP 2:20; BP 4:60; BP 4:150)
h. Investment Report through June 30, 2026 (BP 4:30)
i. Board Policy Changes (BP 2:20; BP 2:240)
   1) Review and Monitoring
      a) BP 2:30 – School District Elections
      b) BP 3:40 – Superintendent
      c) BP 3:50 – Administrative Personnel Other Than the Superintendent
      d) BP 4:120 – Food Services
      e) BP 4:175 – Convicted Child Sex Offender; Screening; Notifications
      f) BP 5:40 – Communicable and Chronic Infectious Disease
      g) BP 5:185 – Family and Medical Leave Act
      h) BP 7:30 – Student Assignment
      i) BP 7:80 – Release Time for Religious Instruction/Observance
      j) BP 7:345 – Use of Educational Technologies; Student Data Privacy and Security
j. Freedom of Information Act Report (BP 2:250)

MOTION by Sue Ickes and second by Chris DeCock 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.

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

6. Student / Staff / Community Program Recognition (BP 5:100; BP 6:190)
Emily Anderson, Cora Taylor, and Kiiryn Shull were recognized as Illinois Science Assessment Evaluators. These freshman students were nominated by their science teachers at UT to participate in science assessment test evaluation. They were tasked to provide feedback on the questions used on the assessment. Their input will help improve future standardized tests. Each student introduced their families and shared about their experience participating in the process. The Board complimented the students on their willingness to participate in the survey.

7. Communications (BP 2:140; BP 3:10)
Mr. Matt Wright was recognized for his role as Principal for Principal Appreciation Week. The Board expressed their gratitude to Mr. Wright.

8. Unfinished Business
None.

9. Student BOE Liaison Report (Husna Kadri)
Ms. Kadri shared the Student Hunger Drive will occur at school the last week of October. Student Council has been busy collecting donations of food and dollars. River Bend Food Bank shared how resources from the food drive are handled. Student Council is collecting donations through October 30.

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

a. ACT Committee: Mr. Wright provided an update from the ACT Committee. Results from surveys were compiled to help set goals and target for improvements. The greatest concern is student buy-in for those who are not interested in going to college. Teachers are collaborating in their respective departments to develop creative ways to develop skills that are assessed.
b. College Fair: Mr. Wright shared the College Fair will take place on Thursday, October 22, from 9:45 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. There will be 40 colleges and universities available to talk with students. There will be a handful of smaller schools attending during the first hour of the fair, followed by UT students during fourth, fifth, and sixth periods.
c. Veterans Day: Mr. Wright reported the district will once again host a salute to veterans on Wednesday, November 11. Mr. Mark VanKlaveren will be the keynote speaker. A number of veterans groups in the Quad Cities are invited to attend. The assembly will begin at 9:15 a.m. Mr. Wright invited Board members to attend the assembly.

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

a. Request Approval of Health, Vision, Dental, and Life Insurance Rates for 2027: Ms. Roome reported an increase of 6% is being recommended for the health insurance premiums for 2027. Rates for vision, dental, and life insurance premiums will remain the same. Open enrollment will begin November 1, and end on November 30.
b. Request approval of the tentative the tentative 2026 tax levy: Ms. Roome presented the tentative tax levy of $13,640,656 for 2026. This amount represents a 6.2% increase over the actual tax levy from 2025. A Truth in Taxation Resolution will be presented for approval at the December meeting, when the final 2026 levy is presented for adoption.
c. Request approval to re-bid for the Building Trades House Foundation: Ms. Roome requested permission to re-bid the Building Trades House Foundation after receiving no bids by October 14, 2026. Area contractors have indicated an interest in bidding with a new submission date. A clarification will be made regarding the foundation specifications for the re-bid.
d. Information on Bond Issuance: Ms. Roome reviewed the Bond Issuance process with upcoming dates for action. She shared the first draft of the preliminary term sheet. Comments on the first draft are due to bond counsel by October 23, with the second preliminary draft scheduled to be issued October 26.

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

a. Legislative Update: Dr. Morrow reviewed the upcoming decision due date for action on whether the state of Illinois will opt into the Federal Scholarship Tax Credit program. The program would enable students to use scholarship funds to access dollars for education services at schools, both private and public. He noted donors could donate to the UEF as part of this, and in turn the district could offer scholarships or other services who qualify, though that definition is still nebulous. The due date for the program to begin is January 1.
b. 2027-2028 Tentative School Calendar: Dr. Morrow presented the tentative calendar for the 2026-2027 school year. The calendar is similar to the 2026-2027 calendar, with the exception of added school improvement days (SIP) for curriculum review and assessment. All SIP days will be a two-hour late start. The tentative calendar has been shared with partner school districts.
c. IASB Resolutions Committee Report: Dr. Morrow invited Board members to review their copy of the proposed resolutions, and be ready to discuss and share recommended action on November 9. He noted there are fewer resolutions to review than in past years.

13. Committee Reports (BP 2:150)

United Education Foundation: Ms. Koska reported the mini-grant award ceremony will be held on Monday, October 26, at Northeast Junior High. She invited everyone to attend the ceremony.

IASB Blackhawk District: Mr. Puentes reported Ms. Stevenson and he attended the event on September 23. The attorney presented information on the difficulties of expulsion and suspension of students. Both found the presentation educational despite the topic being primarily for students in K-8 schools.

14. BLANKET MOTION

a. Approve Health, Vision, Dental, and Life Insurance Rates for 2027, as presented (BP 4:60)
b. Adopt the 2026 Tentative Tax Levy payable in 2027, as presented (BP 2:20; BP 4:10)
c. Approve request to re-bid the foundation for Building Trades House #27, as presented (BP 2:20; BP 4:60)

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.

15. 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 representatives or deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more classes of employees
   3) 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(9) Student Discipline

MOTION by Luis Puentes and second by Debra Stevenson 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: 7:05 p.m.

Note: The Board did not take a break.

b. Return to Open Session

MOTION by Luis Puentes 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: 7:18 p.m.

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

CLASSIFIED

1. Accept resignation from Collin Gunneman, maintenance, effective October 9, 2026.

2. Employ Aaron Brown as maintenance employee (replace Collin Gunneman – Custodians Classified Schedule – Lane FY27, Contract Year 2, Step FY27), at $21.07, and 2026-2027 Classified Wage Schedule Differential of $1.75 per hour, pending results of the fingerprinting background results.

3. Employ Kim Bush as a substitute bus driver, at $20.00 per hour, effective October 13, 2026.

4. Accept resignation from Eduardo Alaniz, part-time student supervisor (3 hours), effective October 30, 2026.

5. Anai Lara Olea has requested a leave of absence, beginning January 27, 2027, through March 9, 2027, using accumulated paid leave prior to use of unpaid leave.

6. Employ Diana Reyes Rodriguez as a substitute paraprofessional effective the 2026-2027 school year.

7. Employ Cory Dalton as full-time student supervisor (replace Eduardo Alaniz – Student Supervisors Classified Schedule – Lane FY27, Contract Year 2, Step FY27), at $22.00 per hour, pending results of the fingerprinting background results.

8. Employ Stephanie Williams as substitute bus monitor, at $17.00 per hour, pending results of the fingerprinting background results.

CERTIFIED

1. Approve Stephanie Skrabacz as Concert/Pep Band Assistant, at $596, effective the 2026-2027 season.

2. Employ the following substitute teachers effective the 2026-2027 school year:
   Victor Moreno Tyler Belan

3. Approve Sunshine Ramsey as a volunteer coach for Panther Players effective the 2026-2027 school year.

4. Accept resignation from Collin Gunneman as golf coach, effective the end of the 2026-2027 season.

5. Approve stipend for Alexia Garza for Booster Club Social Media/Website coordinator at $1,200, effective the 2026-2027 school year.

MOTION by Debra Stevenson and second by Susan Koska to approve Revised Personnel Recommendations, Classified numbers 1 through 8, and Certified numbers 1 through 5, as presented. A roll call vote was called with all members present voting aye. There was no opposition to the motion – motion passed.

16. Board Hot Topics

a. IASB/IASBO/IASA Chicago Conference, November 20 – 22, 2026. Packet distribution will be at the Board meeting on November 9. Dr. Morrow invited the Board to sit in the front row as he introduces Saturday morning's speaker. The Board discussed the process of printing conference badges. Dr. Morrow alerted the Board of changes in

accessing the different spaces at the Conference. The Board discussed the location of the parking garage for the conference.

17. Other Matters

Dr. Morrow asked the Board's support of the annual staff Thanksgiving Dinner on Tuesday, November 17. He invited Board members to help serve and enjoy the meal with staff.

Ms. Stevenson asked for the registration response time for Friday Focus Workshop to be improved upon for the conference in 2027.

Ms. Gonzalez reported the football team made the playoffs and is hosting a home playoff game on October 23. She invited everyone to attend the game to support the team. Scott Harding did a great job getting everything arranged and scheduled for the game.

18. Adjourn (BP 2:220)

There being no further business brought before the Board, the meeting adjourned by acclamation. (Time: 7:28 p.m.)

_____ _____

Dr. Giovanna Davila, President Jami Gonzalez, Secretary