

**UNITED TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 30  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
OPEN SESSION MINUTES  
May 11, 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, Jami Gonzalez, Sue Ickes, Susan Koska, Luis Puentes, and Debra Stevenson

Board members absent: Chris DeCock

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

**2. Consent Calendar**

a. Approval of Minutes

- 1) Open Session Minutes – April 13, 2026
- 2) Executive Session Minutes – April 13, 2026

**MOTION by Jami Gonzalez and second by Sue Ickes to approve the minutes 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. Adjourn Current Board Sine Die (indefinitely) (ACTION) (BP 2:20)**

**MOTION by Sue Ickes and second by Susan Koska to adjourn the current board sine die. A roll call vote was called with all members present voting aye. No nay votes were cast and the motion was carried.**

**4. Reconvene and Reorganize (ACTION) (BP 2:20)**

a. Appoint Dr. Morrow Temporary Chair

**MOTION by Susan Koska and second by Luis Puentes to appoint Dr. Jay Morrow as temporary chair. A roll call vote was called with all members present voting aye. No nay votes were cast and the motion was carried.**

b. Board Action – Officers

**MOTION by Jami Gonzalez and second by Sue Ickes to maintain Board Officers as follows:**

**President – Dr. Giovanna Davila  
Vice President – Susan Koska  
Secretary – Jami Gonzalez**

**A roll call vote was called with all members present voting aye. No nay votes were cast and the motion was carried.**

c. Board Action – District Treasurer and Board Recording Secretary

**MOTION by Debra Stevenson and second by Luis Puentes to maintain District Treasurer and Board Recording Secretary as follows:**

**District Treasurer – Janice Roome**  
**Board Recording Secretary – Jennifer Rossi**

**A roll call vote was called with all members present voting aye. No nay votes were cast and the motion was carried.**

Susan Koska nominated Dr. Giovanna Davila for the position of Board President. Motion by Jami Gonzalez, second by Sue Ickes. A voice vote was called with all members present voting aye. No nay votes were cast and the motion was carried.

**5. APPOINTMENTS – No Formal Action Required**

- a. Appoint Board's Delegate and Alternate to the Blackhawk Area Special Education District Board of Directors  
Delegate – Sue Ickes  
Alternate Delegate – Jami Gonzalez
- b. Appoint Board's Representative to the Blackhawk Division of the Illinois Association of School Boards  
Luis Puentes
- c. Appoint Board's Representative to the East Moline Municipal Pool Board  
Chris DeCock
- d. Appoint District's Representative to the East Moline Municipal Pool Board  
Janice Roome
- e. Appoint Delegate and Alternate to the IASB/IASA/IASBO Annual Delegates Convention  
Delegate – Dr. Giovanna Davila  
Alternate – Luis Puentes
- f. Appoint Board's Representative to the Curriculum Committee  
Jami Gonzalez
- g. Appoint Board's Representative to the United Education Foundation Board of Directors  
Dr. Giovanna Davila
- h. Appoint Board's Representative to the Wellness Committee  
Chris DeCock

**6. BLANKET MOTION**

- a. Designate Blackhawk Bank and Trust, IH Mississippi Valley Credit Union, and Liquid Asset Fund as official depositors for District 30 funds (BP 2:20; BP 4:30)
- b. Reappoint Franczek, Ted Hamer, and Jerry Pepping as legal counsel for District 30 (BP 2:160)
- c. Establish the July 2026 through June 2027 regular meeting dates for the Board of Education as presented (dates/times/locations subject to change as necessary) (BP 2:200)
- d. Approval of Bills
- e. 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
- f. Investment Report through March 31, 2026 (BP 4:30)
- g. Approve the 2026 Summer Health and Wellness Sessions
- h. Approve the June 2026 Credit Recovery Summer School Session and Personnel Assignments
- i. Approve renewal of a three-year contract with Edmentum, Minneapolis, Minnesota, for online curriculum licenses, for \$115,526.80 (\$38,508.93 per year), from July 10, 2026, to July 9, 2029
- j. Curriculum Writing Approval (BP 2:20; BP 6:40)
- k. Approve Memorandum of Understanding with iJAG for the 2026-2027 school year, for \$50,000 total
- l. Board Policy Changes
  - 1) Review and Monitoring
    - a) BP 7:220 – Bus Conduct
    - b) BP 7:230 – Misconduct by Students with Disabilities
    - c) BP 7:280 – Communicable and Chronic Infectious Diseases
  - 2) Draft update
    - a) BP 2:200 – Types of Board Of Education Meetings
    - b) BP 2:220 – Board Of Education Meeting Procedure
    - c) BP 2:260 – Uniform Grievance Procedure
    - d) BP 4:165 – Awareness and Prevention of Child Sexual Abuse and Grooming Behaviors
    - e) BP 5:30 – Hiring Process and Criteria
    - f) BP 6:65 – Student Social and Emotional Development
    - g) BP 6:100 – Using Animals in the Educational Program
    - h) BP 6:145 – Migrant Students
    - i) BP 7:20 – Harassment of Students Prohibited
- m. Freedom of Information Act Report (BP 2:250)

**MOTION by Susan Koska and second by Jami Gonzalez 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.**

- 7. **Hearing of Visitors** (BP 2:230)  
None.
- 8. **Student / Staff / Community Program Recognition** (BP 5:100; BP 6:190)  
Tyler Horvath was recognized as being the first student in UTHS history to earn both his high school diploma and associates degree simultaneously. He was lauded for establishing a high standard for future Panthers. Mr. Horvath introduced his mother, Amy Sharpe. He will attend Augustana College in the fall, where he will also play basketball. He would like to pursue a degree in the medical field. The Board congratulated Tyler for his accomplishments. He thanked the Board for the decision to cover costs for dual credit courses.
- 9. **Communications** (BP 2:140; BP 3:10)  
Dr. Morrow announced that Chris DeCock's mother-in-law passed away over the weekend. Dr. Morrow announced Sue Ickes was awarded the Rock Island County Regional Office of Education Volunteer Educator in Excellence Award.

**10. Unfinished Business**

None.

**11. Student BOE Liaison Report (Bashara Sherif)**

Mr. Bashara Sherif expressed gratefulness for being allowed the opportunity to be involved as a student liaison. He announced he will be attending University of Illinois, having received the Illinois Promise financial aid award. He plans to major in mechanical engineering and minor in computer science. Dr. Morrow presented a certificate of appreciation for his commitment and involvement on behalf of the student body and the Board of Education.

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

- a. End of Year Updates: Mr. Wright shared the Academic Achievement Awards ceremonies went well last week. He shared the schedule of activities for end-of-year events and invited Board members to attend events as they are able.
- b. Graduation: The ceremony will be held at the Vibrant Arena at The Mark on Saturday, May 30. Students will arrive at 1:45 p.m. The ceremony will begin at 2:30 p.m. and last approximately 90 minutes.

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

- a. Request permission to seek bids for musical instruments: Ms. Roome reported additional instruments are needed due to increase enrollment in band classes.
- b. Request approval of bid for classroom refresh: Ms. Roome recommends the bid for the second floor refresh project be awarded to Bush Construction. The bid includes furniture assembly, flooring, and painting. The work will be completed during the summer of 2026.

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

- a. Legislative Update: Dr. Morrow shared legislative updates regarding unemployment for non-12 month employees and notice to remedy. He reminded the Board the impact of providing unemployment benefits for non-12 month employees would cost the district approximately \$400,000 in FY26. Notice to remedy legislation is being considered to expand due process rights for tenured teachers facing misconduct warnings. Of key importance is that remedial warnings would expire after four years and will be removed from personnel files, potentially taking employment decisions out of the school board's hands and placing the decision with an arbitrator. On the federal side, there will be no change in funding for FY27 in Title 1 and IDEA. The administration is keeping an eye on other grant sources for decreases in funding. Dr. Morrow also reviewed the DOJ investigation of 36 Illinois school districts. The DOJ is evaluating whether the districts notified parents of opt-out rights. Dr. Morrow noted the administration is reviewing grant applications for the check box related to opt-out notifications.

**15. Committee Reports (BP 2:150)**

None.

**16. Upcoming Events**

Dr. Morrow will communicate any changes regarding changes to graduation details. He invited all Board members to attend as many of the year-end events as they are able.

The Board asked questions regarding items approved in the Consent Calendar for the summer credit recovery program and the process involved in the Edmentum

contract approval recommendation. The Board also asked for clarification on the iJAG program. The Board inquired about how the community is made aware of the summer food program.

**17. BLANKET MOTION**

- a. Approve request to seek bids for musical instruments, as presented (BP 2:20; BP 4:60)
- b. Approve the bid for the second floor west flooring and classroom refresh project with Bush Construction of Davenport, Iowa, for \$127,000, as presented (BP 2:20; BP 4:60; BP 4:150)

**MOTION by Luis Puentes and second by Debra Stevenson 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.**

**18. 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)(9) Student Discipline

**MOTION by Susan Koska 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. No nay votes were cast and the motion was carried.**

Time: 6:50 p.m.

Note: The Board took a break from 6:50 p.m. to 6:58 p.m.

b. Return to Open Session

**MOTION by Luis Puentes 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: 7:53 p.m.

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

**CLASSIFIED**

1. Accept retirement notice from Kim Bush, Bus Driver, effective May 29, 2026.
2. Accept resignation from Chad Jacobs, ACC paraprofessional (part-time), effective May 29, 2026.
3. Approve Patricia Joy Alvarado as painter assistant, at \$16.00 per hour, effective June 1, 2026.
4. Approve 2026-2027 salary for the following administrator:  

|              |             |
|--------------|-------------|
| Janice Roome | Comptroller |
|--------------|-------------|

5. Approve 2026-2027 salaries for the following classified supervisors:
 

|                  |                           |
|------------------|---------------------------|
| Dave Bisby       | Director of Facilities    |
| Scott Ringberg   | Food Services Director    |
| Michael VanBelle | Transportation Supervisor |
  
6. Approve 2026-2027 salaries for the following employees:
 

|                  |  |
|------------------|--|
| Tim Arnett       | Information Technology Specialist              |
| Jenni Davis      | Administrative Assistant to the Comptroller    |
| Carissa Gonzalez | Accounts Payable Clerk                         |
| Jennifer Rossi   | Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent |
| Laura Smith      | Payroll/Benefits Specialist                    |
| Steve Smithers   | Special Populations Coordinator                |
| Rosa Torres      | Business Office Assistant                      |
  
7. Accept resignation from Johana Gonzalez, Administrative Assistant – General Office, effective June 5, 2026.
  
8. Employ Mary (Julie) Grymonprez as substitute administrative assistant, at \$20.17 per hour, effective May 18, 2026, pending receipt of the background check results.

#### CERTIFIED

1. Reassign Kai Killam from Assistant Principal to Principal (replace Mathew Wright), effective July 1, 2027, on a one-year contract (July 1, 2027 to June 30, 2028).
  
2. Employ Guadalupe Garcia Ruiz as English Language Learners teacher (Lane BA, Step 3 - \$55,097, TRS Tier 2), effective August 3, 2026.
  
3. Employ Jennifer Houtekier as varsity boys' swim head coach (\$8,224) and varsity girls' swim head coach (\$8,224), effective the 2026-2027 season.
  
4. Accept resignation from Chad Jacobs, Fire Science instructor (part-time), effective May 29, 2026.
  
5. Accept resignation from Matthew McCarthy, Social Studies teacher and assistant football coach, effective the end of the 2025-2026 school year.
  
6. Approve Caden Killam as sophomore boys' basketball assistant coach, at \$6,592, effective the 2026-2027 season.
  
7. Approve Arthur Williams as freshman girls' basketball assistant coach, at \$5,455, effective the 2026-2027 season.
  
8. Approve Nora Ansborg as freshman girls' basketball head coach, at \$5,455, effective the 2026-2027 season.
  
9. Approve 2026-2027 salaries for the following administrators:
 

|                  |  |
|------------------|--|
| William Bradford | Assistant Principal – Student Services |
| Jennifer Drobney | UTEC Director                          |
| Scott Harding    | Director of Athletics and Activities   |
| James Hood       | Area Career Center Director            |
| Matthew Hutchins | Assistant Principal – Counseling       |
| Kai Killam       | Assistant Principal                    |
| Amy Loy          | Director of Special Services           |

Kevin Marnier  
Shannon Miller  
Erika Torres  
Matt Wright  
Abel Zertuche

Dean of Students  
Director of Curriculum and Instruction  
Dean of Students  
Principal  
Director of English Language Learners

10. Approve Lauren Tague as frosh basketball cheer coach, at \$1,182, effective the 2026-2027 season.
11. Approve Catilyn Sanders as frosh football cheer coach, at \$1,059, effective the 2026-2027 season.

**MOTION by Debra Stevenson and second by Susan Koska to approve Personnel Recommendations, Classified numbers 1 through 8, and Certified numbers 1 through 11, as presented. A roll call vote was called with all members present voting aye. No nay votes were cast and the motion was carried.**

**19. Board Hot Topics**

- a. Please submit the Statement of Economic Interest filing receipts (yellow slips) to the Administrative Center.
- b. IASB/IASA/IASBO Joint Annual Conference registration opens June 1. Please confirm attendance and guest registration details.
- c. IASB Blackhawk Division Governing Meeting, Wednesday, June 10, 2026, The Cellar, Geneseo, Illinois. Please RSVP by May 20, 2026.

**20. Other Matters**

Dr. Morrow congratulated Kai Killam as the next Principal for UTHS, effective July 1, 2027.

Ms. Gonzalez announced the Booster Bash event in April went very well. Post Prom was also a successful event enjoyed by students.

The Board asked if there would be carpooling to the Division meeting on June 10. Communication will be sent out later.

**21. Adjourn (BP 2:220)**

There being no further business brought before the Board, the meeting adjourned by acclamation. (Time: 7:58 p.m.)

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Dr. Giovanna Davila, President

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Jami Gonzalez, Secretary