



UNITED TOWNSHIP

HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 30

TO: Board of Education
FROM: Dr. Jay Morrow
DATE: September 3, 2025
RE: Wi-Fi Consortium Network Electricity charges/concerns

As you know, we are in a Wi-Fi consortium with East Moline and Colona School Districts, with EMSD acting as administrative agent.

Member school districts were recently informed of a significant cost increase due to electricity costs. The energy provider is charging the maximum amount per device, even though the devices are unmetered.

Per the joint agreement, member districts are charged on a per student basis. Last year (FY25), costs to UTHS were \$24,167 (\$13 per student). This year, the projected costs are \$89,773 (\$48 per student).

Here is what the consortium is doing to try to reduce costs:

- Meet with energy provider to reduce costs.
- Investigate possible grants to help offset local costs.
- Bring additional partners (municipalities, school districts) to help reduce costs.

In the meantime, UT will:

- Monitor student usage
- Encourage/make aware of student usage

The latter part of this year, we need to prepare, if costs remain high and usage is not where we need it to be, to have a conversation on the continued participation in the program. This will certainly be an ongoing discussion and evaluation.