

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

**OPEN SESSION MINUTES
October 21, 2024**

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

Board members absent: Jami Gonzalez

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

Board Recording Secretary: Jennifer Rossi

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

- a. Approval of Minutes
 - 1) Open Session Minutes – September 9, 2024
 - 2) Executive Session Minutes – September 9, 2024
- 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. Curriculum Writing Approvals
- e. Freedom of Information Act Report (BP 2:250)

MOTION by Luis Puentes and second by Dr. Giovanna Davila 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)

None.

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

Dr. Morrow shared a thank you note from the family of Mary Ringberg, mother of Food Services Director Scott Ringberg, for the memorial gift. Dr. Morrow also recognized the principal and assistant principals of the district for Principal Appreciation Week, for their hard work and dedication to the students and families of the district.

6. Unfinished Business

None.

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

- a. Intersession Tutoring: Mr. Wright reported the fall intersession tutoring had 35 unique student sign-ins. The Board asked if students who participated were positively impacted. The Board also asked if it is necessary to emphasize intersession tutoring to support more student attendance. Ms. Miller reported students receive support in Zero Hour Tutoring, After-School Tutoring, tutor rooms during the school day, and teachers working one on one with students to provide the support they need, in addition to Intersession Tutoring. The Board asked if the lower number of student participation reflects an improvement in student performance after COVID. Ms. Miller noted this year's freshman class represents the highest non-failing group. Improvement in student performance year-over-year seems to indicate learning loss is diminishing. Stronger skill sets in studying indicate those losses continue to recover.
- b. UTHS SIP Day: Mr. Wright shared staff were divided into three work groups, beginning the day with Mandated Health Trainings. Breakout sessions involved GCN training, technology professional development, and big ticket work by department.
- c. Veterans Day: Mr. Wright reviewed the Veterans Day Assembly schedule. Announcements will communicate expectations of students for that day. The Board asked how long the Veterans Day assemblies have been held. The administration reported the assemblies began in 2015. All Board members were invited to attend the assembly.

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

- a. Investment Report: Ms. Roome reported on earnings for various district investment tools through June 30, 2024. Rates have remained consistent for 2024.
- b. Request approval of Health, Vision, Dental, and Life Insurance Rates for 2025: Ms. Roome provided historical information on the self-funded health insurance plan through Blue Cross Blue Shield of Illinois. The following changes are proposed in an effort to move toward maintaining the minimum fund reserves based on actuarial calculations:
 - Increase the per individual claim level on the specific coverage from \$85,000 to \$90,000
 - Offer only one plan with a \$500 deductible for single coverage, \$1,000 for family coverage, and 20% coinsurance
 - Adopt Blue Cross Blue Shield's Balanced Drug List plan with related prescription management options
 - Increase monthly premiums for single or family coverage by an average of approximately 15%, with an option to review in six months

Vision Service Plan (VSP) will remain the carrier for vision insurance, with no increase in premiums. Delta Dental premiums will increase by 6.3%. Life insurance with Equitable will remain the same. Open enrollment will begin November 1, and conclude November 30.

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

- a. Legislative Update: Dr. Morrow noted the Digest of Bills is provided for review of legislation passed by May 2024. The first veto session will be in November, but has no vetoes for consideration. A lame duck session could occur in early January before swearing in of the 104th General Assembly on January 8.
- b. 2025-2026 Tentative School Calendar: Dr. Morrow shared the tentative calendar has no significant changes from the current school year, and is nearly identical. The partner districts and the UTEA have been informed of the proposed calendar. The final calendar will be brought for approval at the November meeting.

- c. IASB 2024 Resolutions Committee Report: Dr. Morrow shared the report is in the board packet. Board members were reminded to review the resolutions and be prepared to talk at length in November. Dr. Giovanna Davila is the Delegate for the Resolutions Committee at the Triple-I conference.
- d. Student Board Member Liaison: Dr. Morrow reviewed the job description and application for the Student Board Member Liaison. The Board will select two students to represent the student body. The students will be seated at a separate table from the Board for the school year. Interviews for candidates will be conducted by the Superintendent and two Board of Education members. The Board suggested the meeting calendar be shared with candidates so they are aware of the commitment being asked of them. The Student Board Member Liaisons will be seated at the January 2025 meeting. The Board will evaluate the program at the end of the school year. Announcements about this opportunity will be made each morning and be sent via email. Applications will be available in the counseling office, with a November 7 due date.

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

United Education Foundation (UEF): Susan Koska reported the Foundation will award mini-grants on October 28, and will hold its annual meeting after that. The Foundation received the highest number of applicants ever for mini-grants for many good projects.

BHASED: Sue Ickes reported the last meeting was October 15. Phoenix has 47 students, The Center has 163 that include UT students. The enrollment does not include students who are deaf and hard of hearing. She noted the new Director is doing a great job. New experience programs for students were implemented with Figge and the Quad City Botanical Center were well-received.

Pool Board: Chris DeCock noted the budget is being prepared for calendar year 2025.

The Board acknowledged the opportunity different organizations had to acquire Smart Boards from the District following the recent online auction of unused district assets. Several organizations have benefited from that technology.

11. **BLANKET MOTION**

- a. Approve Health, Vision, Dental, and Life Insurance Rates for 2025, as presented (BP 4:60)

MOTION by Debra Stevenson and second by Chris DeCock 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.

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 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(c)(8) Emergency security procedures and the use of personnel and equipment to respond to actual danger to the safety of employees, students, staff, the public or public property

- 4) 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(10) The placement of individual students in special education programs and other matters relating to individual students

MOTION by Sue Ickes and second by Luis Puentes 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: 7:15 p.m.

Note: The Board took a break from 7:15 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

- b. Return to Open Session

Time: 8:56 p.m.

MOTION by Sue Ickes and second by Debra Stevenson 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.

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

CLASSIFIED

1. Employ Mark White as part-time bus monitor, at \$15.00 per hour, effective October 22, 2024.
2. Employ LyWanna Cooper Holloway as full-time school bus driver, at \$19.70 per hour, effective November 1, 2024.
3. Employ Anthony Roome as full-time special education paraprofessional, Classified Hourly Wage Rate – Entry Level Wage – at \$23.29 per hour, effective November 11, 2024.
4. Employ Jasmine Ashcroft as full-time Administrative Assistant – Special Services (replace Shari Johnson), Classified Hourly Wage Rate – Step 0 (\$19.68 per hour), effective October 15, 2024.
5. Employ Lauren Larson as full-time special education paraprofessional, Classified Hourly Wage Rate – Entry Level Wage – at \$23.29 per hour, effective October 15, 2024.
6. Accept resignation from Laura Meyers, QCC TEC paraprofessional, effective October 31, 2024.

CERTIFIED

1. Approve Mike Firth as girls swim assistant coach, at \$3,739, effective the 2024-25 season.
2. Approve Kathryn Weber as assistant speech coach, at \$1,730, effective the 2024-2025 season.
3. Accept resignation from Keith Smith, Behind the Wheel Instructor, effective October 16, 2024.

4. Award 10 days from the sick leave bank for Employee ID 769454, effective October 22, 2024.

MOTION by Debra Stevenson and second by Chris DeCock to approve Personnel Recommendations, Classified numbers 1 through 6, and Certified numbers 1 through 4, 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. Board Hot Topics

- a. IASB Blackhawk Division Fall 2024 Dinner Meeting – Tuesday, October 22, UTHS Commons.
Registration begins at 5:30 p.m. Illinois legislators Senator Mike Halpin, Representative Dan Swanson, and Representative Gregg Johnson will attend. Students will lead tours of Gym B, The Center, and The Commons. Music by Crystal, Daniel, and Nathaniel Hayford will play music during the meal. Supper at will be 6:00 to 6:30, followed by the business meeting and legislative update. The meeting will adjourn around 8 p.m. President Koska and Dr. Morrow will both share remarks. The Board noted a focus group invitation directed Board members to meet at 5:15 p.m.
- b. IASB/IASBO/IASA Chicago Conference, November 21 – 24, 2024. Hotel reservations are confirmed at Embassy Suites. Packet distribution will be at the November 11 Board meeting.

President Koska reminded Board members to review the Resolutions Committee packet to be ready to discuss in November.

14. Other Matters

Dr. Morrow asked if the Board was supportive of hosting the staff Thanksgiving dinner this year. He will share the dates and times with the Board. Ms. Roome shared a request by the city of Rock Island about donating two fire trucks to the Fire Science program.

15. Adjourn (BP 2:220)

There being no further business brought before the Board, the meeting adjourned by acclamation. (Time: 9:06 p.m.)

Susan Koska, President

Sue Ickes, Secretary