

**Union Area School District**  
New Castle, Pennsylvania  
Public Board Meeting Minutes  
Union Area Board of School Directors  
January 15, 2020

The Union Area Board of School Directors met in public session on January 15, 2020 in the MS/HS Board Room for the Regular Meeting at 7:00 PM. The following persons were in attendance:

**Board Members:**

Dr. Michael Hink  
Mr. Donald Friend  
Ms. Debra Allebach  
Mr. John Bertolino  
Mr. Arin Biondi  
Robert Mrozek  
Mr. John Pacella  
Ms. Elizabeth Sylvester

**Administrators:**

Dr. Michael Ross, Superintendent  
Ms. Linda O'Neill, Elementary Principal  
Mr. Rob Nogay, MS/HS Principal  
Mr. Scott O'Donnell, Director of Curriculum & Instruction  
Ms. Samantha Laverty, Business Manager/Board Sec.      Mr.  
**Media:** None

**Solicitor:** Mr. Louis M. Perrotta, Esquire

**Board Members Not Present:** Ms. R. Exposito    **Others:** N/A

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**Call to Order**

Dr. Hink called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM. Dr. Hink announced the Board met in executive session at 6:30 PM to discuss personnel for the purpose of hiring, contract negotiations, and legal matter.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

Dr. Hink requested those in attendance to join in the salute to the flag at 7:05 P.M.

**Pride & Promise Award (7:06) PM)**

Dr. Ross presented the Union Area Robotics Team with the Pride and Promise Award for January 2020. The Union Area School Board presented each member of the team with a sweatshirt to congratulate them on their success with regional competitions.

**Public Comment on Agenda Items (7:15 PM)**

Dr. Hink called for public comment on the agenda items. There was no public in attendance for comment.

**Student Council Report (7:16 PM)**

Elementary Student Council presented the current fundraisers and events for the 2019-20 school year in the Memorial Elementary Building.

**Education Report (7:27 PM)**

Mr. Scott O'Donnell presented the 2018-2019 PSSA data and review of test scores.

Dr. Hink discusses early childhood and to see if that was monitored through test scores in the State.

**School Director Recognition Month (7:36 PM)**

Dr. Ross and Mrs. Linda O'Neill thanked the Board for School Director Recognition Month with food and refreshments.

**Informational Items (7:37 PM)**

Dr. Ross discussed the following information items:

- A. Nutrition, Inc. Update
- B. Puerto Rico Field Trip
- C. Agenda format

### **Action Items (7:42 PM)**

Allebach moved to approve the following consent operational agenda items:

- A. Approve the minutes of the regular meeting held on December 5, 2019.
- B. Approve the financial report and treasurer's report dated December 31, 2019.
- C. Approve the purchase order list from December 4, 2019 through January 13, 2020 in the amount of \$27,138.23
- D. Approve the checklist from December 5, 2020 through January 15, 2020 in the amount of \$341,345.13.
- E. Approve the December 31, 2019 High School Financial Reports for Athletics, Letterman's Fund, and Student Activities.
- F. Approve the cafeteria invoice dated January 7, 2020 in the amount of \$28,821.73.

Mrozek seconded (8 yes). The motion carried.

Biondi moved to approve the 2020 Winter Athletic Prices as attached (No Increase). Sylvester seconded (8 yes). The motion carried.

Allebach moved to approve the 2020 Board Committees as attached. Friend seconded (8 yes). The motion carried.

Pacella moved to approve the Act 1 Resolution 2020-001 whereas Union Area School District will not exceed the tax increase above the set index of 3.8% for the 2020-21 school year. Mrozek seconded (8 yes). The motion carried.

Allebach moved to approve the following facility requests:

- A. Middle School Student Council use of the MS/HS Gymnasium and hallways on February 21, 2020 from 7:00 PM to 12:00 AM for the purpose of the Mini Thon Fundraiser.
- B. Boy Scouts of America Moraine Trails to use the Auxiliary Gymnasium on March 20, 2020 from 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM and on March 21, 2020 from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM, pending receipt of all proper paperwork.
- C. Cub Scouts Pack 757 for the use of the Auxiliary Gymnasium on March 6, 2020 from 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM and on March 7, 2020 from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM, pending the receipt of all proper paperwork.

Sylvester seconded (8 yes). The motion carried.

Allebach moved to approve the Tyler Technologies Contract as presented to host Infinite Visions at a cost of \$10,244 for 2020, effective February 1, 2020. Bertolino seconded (8 yes). The motion carried.

Friend moved to hire Brandi Lutz as an additional employee for Title 1 paraprofessional and in accordance with the UAESP Support Staff Agreement effective January 15, 2020, pending receipt of all proper paperwork. Biondi seconded (8 yes). The motion carried.

Biondi moved to hire Patrick Minenok as a Weight Room Coordinator at an hourly rate of \$25.00, effective January 15, 2020 pending the negation of an employment contract to be written by Superintendent. Allebach seconded (8 yes) the motion carried.

Allebach moved to accept the resignation of Mrs. Janelle Cassano from Junior High Cheerleading Advisor and Assistant Varsity Advisor effective upon the completion of the 2020 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade Boys' Basketball Season. Sylvester seconded (8 yes). The motion carried.

Pacella moved to accept the resignation of Mr. Robert Palmer from Boys' Varsity Golf Coach, effective January 15, 2020. Bertolino seconded (8 yes). The motion carried.

Allebach moved to approve the request for an uncompensated leave of absence for 8 weeks for Mrs. Jenna Harrold beginning approximately January 30, 2020. Mrozek seconded (8 yes). The motion carried.

Pacella moved to approve the Memorandum of Understanding with the Local Laborer Union #964 for custodians, pending local laborer 964 approves. Friend seconded (8 yes). The motion carried.

Allebach moved to add to the agenda a ratification of Student Expulsion hearing on December 11, 2019. Mrozek seconded (8 yes). The motion carried.

Dr. Hink called for public comment. There was none.

Allebach moved to ratify permanent expulsion of Student #5268914561 which was determined at the December 11, 2019 Expulsion hearing. Mrozek seconded (8 yes). The motion carried.

**New Business (7:52PM)**

Dr. Hink calls for new Business. There was none.

**Executive Session (7:52 PM)**

Dr. Hink called for executive session at 7:52 PM to discuss Superintendent Evaluation. No further action will be taken after the conclusion of executive session.

**Adjourn**

Biondi moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:25 PM of the Union Area School Board. Mrozek seconded (8 yes), the motion carried.

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Samantha C. Lavery, Board Secretary