

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

The Union Area Board of School Directors met in public session on January 18, 2023 in the Middle/High School Library for a Regular Meeting. The following persons were in attendance:

**Board Members:**

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

**Administrators:**

Dr. Michael Ross, Superintendent  
Mr. John Paella  
Dr. O'Donnell, Director of Curriculum & Instruction  
Ms. O'Neill, Elementary Principal

Ms. Samantha Lavery, Bus. Mgr. /Board Secretary

**Media:** N/A

**Solicitor:** Lois M. Perrotta, Esq.

**Board Not Present:** Mrs. Peoples

**Public:** 0

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**Call to Order**

Hink called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

Hink requested those in attendance to join in the salute to the flag at 7:00P.M.

**Executive Session Announcement**

Hink announced that the Union Area School Board met in executive session at 6:30 PM to discuss contract negotiations, personnel for the purpose of hiring and resignation, and confidential student matter.

**Public Comment on Agenda Items (7:02 PM)**

There was no public in attendance.

No Media Comments.

**Elementary Student Council Report (7:00-7:16 PM)**

Elementary Student Council updated the Board on various fundraiser and project they have done throughout the school year as well we a Board Recognition Gift.

**Informational Items (7:16 PM)**

1. School Board Recognition Month – Dr. Ross & Mrs. O'Neill
2. Education Report – Dr. O'Donnell reviewed the 2021-22 school year test scores.
3. Roofing Project Update
4. Entrepreneurship Projects & Investments
5. Football Field Scoreboard Update
6. W.P.I.A.L. Rings & Policy
7. School Van – Access Money
8. Basketball Alumni Recognition – February 3, 2023
9. Board Pictures
10. 2023 Board Goals

**Operations 7:56 PM**

Mrozek moved to approve the following consent agenda items:

- A. Approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting and Re-Organization Meeting on December 7, 2022 as presented.
- B. Approve the December 2022 Financial & Treasurer's Report as presented.

- C. Approve the Purchase Order List from December 7, 2022 through January 17, 2023 in the amount of \$84,104.49.
  - D. Approve the checklist from December 8, 2022 through January 18, 2023 in the amount of \$590,947.00.
  - E. Approve the December 31, 2022 High School Financials Reports for the Athletic Fund, Letterman's Fund, and Student Activities as presented.
  - F. Approve the Cafeteria Invoice dated January 6, 2023 in the amount of \$33,060.07.
- Sylvester seconded (8 yes). The motion carried.

Biondi moved to approve the attached exonerations from the Lawrence County Assessment Office. Exposito seconded (8 yes). The motion carried.

Mrozek moved to refund Mr. Larry Alden of 127 English Avenue, New Castle, PA 16101 in the amount of \$212.04 for an overpayment in taxes due to a reassessment and homestead amounts from 2017 through 2022. Pacella seconded (8 yes). The motion carried.

Allebach moved to approve a refund of the 2022 School Tax to Mr. Michael and Erika Jevcak of 1110 Miller Road, New Castle, PA 16101 in the amount of \$331.90 for payment made before the tax resolution was issued for abatement. Mrozek seconded (7 yes, 1 Abstain – Hink). The motion carried.

Sylvester moved to approve a refund of a donation in the amount of \$1,000 to Mr. Jack Marshall. Allebach seconded (8 yes). The motion carried.

Allebach moved to approve the addendum to the Middle/High School Handbook in regards to Smoking & Tobacco as presented. Exposito seconded (8 yes). The motion carried.

Sylvester moved to approve Board Policy 202- Eligibility of Nonresident Students as presented. Mrozek seconded (8 yes). The motion carried.

Exposito moved to approve Board Policy 202.1- Eligibility of Nonresident Students into Special Education Programs as presented. Mrozek seconded (8 yes). The motion carried.

Sylvester moved to approve the Act 1 Resolution 2023-001 whereas the Union Area School District will not exceed the tax increase above the set index of 5.9% for the 2023-2024 school year. Pacella seconded (8 yes). The motion carried.

#### **Personnel 8:03 PM**

Allebach moved to approve the UAEA Agreement from July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2026 as presented. Exposito seconded (8 yes). The motion carried.

Exposito moved to approve Jessica Donnelly for tenure. She has satisfied the requirements of the Pennsylvania Department of Education. Mrozek seconded (8 yes). The motion carried.

Pacella moved to table agenda item #3 Jr. High Girls Softball Coaches. Allebach seconded (8 yes). The motion carried.

Exposito moved to approve Mr. Mark Egbert as a Volunteer Swimming Coach, effective January 18, 2023, pending receipt of all proper paperwork. Mrozek seconded (8 yes). The motion carried.

Allebach moved to approve the following Volunteer Varsity Boys Baseball Coaches, pending receipt of all proper paperwork.

- a. Bobby Meeks
- b. Josh Grimes

- c. Nate Meeks
- d. Nick Jacobs
- e. Jake Vitale
- f. Ricky Jones

Biondi seconded (8 yes). The motion carried.

Pacella moved to approve Charles Hedland as Assistant Boys Varsity Baseball Coach, effective January 18, 2023 and paid a stipend of \$2,325. Sylvester seconded (8 yes). The motion carried.

Sylvester moved to approve Shileen Haswell as a substitute van driver, effective January 18, 2023, pending receipt of all proper paperwork. Pacella seconded (7 yes, 1 No- Biondi). The motion carried.

**New Business (8:08 PM)**

Dr. Hink called for new business at 8:08 PM.

There was none.

**Adjourn**

Allebach moved to adjourn the Regular Meeting of the Union Area School Board at 8:08 PM. Mrozek seconded (8 yes). The motion carried.