

**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 May 17, 2023 in the Middle/High School Board Room 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  
Mr. Robert Mrozek  
Ms. Roxanne Exposito  
Ms. Valerie Peoples  
Ms. Elizabeth Sylvester

**Administrators:**

Dr. Michael Ross, Superintendent  
Mr. John Paella  
Dr. O'Donnell, Director of Curriculum & Instruction  
Ms. O'Neill, Elementary Principal  
Mr. Rob Nogay, MS/HS Principal  
Ms. Samantha Laverty, Bus. Mgr. /Board Secretary

**Media:** N/A

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

**Board Not Present:** 0

**Public:** Carter May, High School Student Council

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**Call to Order**

Hink called the meeting to order at 7:03 PM.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

Hink requested those in attendance to join in the salute to the flag at 7:03 P.M.

**Executive Session Announcement**

Hink announced that the Union Area School Board met in executive session at 6:30 PM to personnel for the purpose of hiring, student safety, and legal matters.

**Student Council Report (7:05 PM)**

Mr. Carter May updated the Board on the activities, fundraisers, and events that Student Council has organized for the 2022-23 school year.

**Executive Session (7:08 PM)**

Dr. Hink called for executive session to discuss legal matters at 7:08 PM. Biondi motioned to leave the regular session and go into executive. Mrozek seconded (9 yes). The motion carried.

Executive session ended at 7:25 PM.

**Public Comment on Agenda Items (7:25 PM)**

There was no public in attendance.  
No Media Comments.

**Informational Items (7:25 PM)**

1. 2023-2024 General Fund Budget Update
2. Commencement Update
3. Roofing Project Presentation –Petrus Engineering
4. Stadium shut down for lighting repairs

**Operations 7:40 PM**

Exposito moved to approve the following consent agenda items:

- A. Approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting on April 19, 2023 as presented.
- B. Approve the April 2023 Financial & Treasurer's Report as presented.

- C. Approve the Purchase Order List from April 15, 2023 through May 17, 2023 in the amount of \$147,840.39.
- D. Approve the checklist from April 20, 2023 through May 17, 2023 in the amount of \$378,396.09.
- E. Approve the April 30, 2023 High School Financials Reports for the Athletic Fund, Letterman's Fund, and Student Activities as presented.
- F. Approve the Cafeteria Invoice dated May 8, 2023 in the amount of \$37,690.41

Mrozek seconded (9 yes). The motion carried.

Sylvester moved to adopt the Proposed Final Budget for the 2023-2024 fiscal year, be advertised, and put on display in the office of the Superintendent for the required thirty days as per Section 687 PA School Code, as amended, that the proposed and/or amended budget be formally adopted with possible changes on June 21, 2023 and that the millage for the Union Area School District be proposed at 15.8 mills for the 2023-2024 fiscal year. The proposed budget is \$14,162,996. Exposito seconded (6 yes, 3 No – Bertolino, Biondi, & Peoples). The motion carried.

Pacella moved to approve the 2023-2024 Homestead/Farmstead Resolution (Property Tax Reduction), as presented. Sylvester seconded (9 yes). The motion carried.

Allebach moved to reenact without substantial change, the following resolutions imposing the following taxes for the 2023-2024 fiscal year:

- A. A Per Capita Tax of \$5 per person on all residents of the district over 18 years of age under the authority of Section 679, PA School Code, as amended.
- B. A tax of 1% on wage and net profits earned by every resident of the district under the authority of Act 511.
- C. A Per Capita Tax of \$5 per person on every resident of the district over 18 years of age under the authority of Act 511.
- D. A \$5 annual Occupational Privilege Tax to be imposed and levied on each individual engaged in occupation within the corporate limits of the Union Area School District, under the authority of Act 511.
- E. A tax of 1% on all transfers of real estate under the authority of Act 511.

Exposito seconded (9 yes). The motion carried.

Sylvester moved to name First Commonwealth Bank of PA, Union Township Office, as a depository for the funds of the Cafeteria, High School Activities, Athletic, and Letterman's Club account for the 2023-2024 fiscal year. Pacella seconded (9 yes), the motion carried.

Allebach moved to name First Commonwealth Bank as the depository and Treasurer for the General Fund and Payroll Fund Accounts of the Union Area School District for the 2023-2024 fiscal year. Exposito seconded (9 yes). The motion carried.

Sylvester moved to approve Attorney Louis Perrotta to serve as the Union Area School District Solicitor for the 2023-2024 fiscal year at a rate of \$120 (no increase) per hour and no retainer. Mrozek seconded (9 yes). The motion carried.

Mr. Perrotta thanked the board.

Biondi moved to approve the Agreement between Infocon Corporation and Union Area School District for the 2023 Tax Processing Services as presented. Exposito seconded (9 yes). The motion carried.

Allebach moved to approve the Adoption of the McGraw Hill Reveal Algebra I textbooks (Copyright 2020). Exposito seconded (9 yes). The motion carried.

Sylvester moved to approve the Adoption of the McGraw Hill Wonders K-6 textbooks (Copyright 2023). Biondi seconded (9 yes). The motion carried.

Sylvester moved to approve the 2023-2024 Lawrence County Career and Technical Center's Budget of \$7,106,421 (operating cost for schools of \$5,495,245 and same as prior year). Peoples seconded (7 yes, 2 No – Bertolino & Biondi). The motion carried.

Allebach moved to approve the FID Application for the 2023-2024 school year. Sylvester seconded (9 yes). The motion carried

Exposito moved to approve the 6<sup>th</sup> grade field trip on May 25, 2023 as presented. Mrozek seconded (9 yes). The motion carried.

Exposito moved to approve the facility request made by the UTAA for the High School Varsity Baseball Field as presented. Allebach seconded (9 yes). The motion carried.

Pacella moved to approve Resolution No. 5-2003 to execute an agreement with Frantz Law Group, APLC, and to enter into litigation against Norfolk Southern Corporation as presented. Exposito seconded (9 yes). The motion carried.

Pacella moved to table agenda item #16 Roofing Renovation Bid Award. Biondi seconded (9 yes). The motion carried.

Allebach moved to accept the resignation of Mr. David DeFiore for the purpose of retirement, effective April 28, 2023. Peoples seconded (9 yes). The motion carried.

Mrozek moved to accept the resignation of Mr. Edward Krzysik for the purpose of retirement, effective May 1, 2023. Biondi seconded (9 yes). The motion carried.

Sylvester moved to approve the attached list of the summer custodians and paid in accordance with the Local Laborers #964 Agreement, effective June 5, 2023. Pacella seconded (9 yes). The motion carried.

Exposito moved to accept the resignation of Mrs. Deborah Scherder from Van Driver, effective May 17, 2023. Mrozek seconded (9 yes). The motion carried.

### **New Business (7:45 PM)**

Dr. Hink called for new business at 7:45 PM.

There was none.

### **Adjourn**

Allebach moved to adjourn the Regular Meeting of the Union Area School Board at 7:45 PM. Sylvester seconded (9 yes). The motion carried.