

**Union City Area School District**  
**SCHOOL BOARD COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**Administrative Conference Room**  
**March 1, 2018**

President George Trauner called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. The salute to the flag and a moment of silence were observed.

**Roll Call by the Secretary**

Blain Blakeslee, David Fox, Stephen Gilbert, Brian Gregor, Lori Lewis, Barbara Miller, Loretta Price, David Robinson and George Trauner were present.

**Others Present**

Dr. Sandra Myers, Joan Quickle, Tara Lineman, Ann Sill, Steve Thompson, Adam Shrout, Melissa Tomcho, David Swanson, Stacey Mulson, Amy Webber, Timothy Brown, Mariea Sargent, Curtis Oakes, Sharon Reagle, Racquel Gray, Denise Kochanczyk, Kelly Knauff, Lynora Knauff, Frank Snyder, Jeannette Boyd, Denise Benedict, Natalie Wilmoth, Lauren Murphy, Stephanie Murphy and Christine Williams were present.

**Presentation**

**Mr. Curtis Oakes**, Culinary Arts Instructor from Erie County Technical School, thanked the Board for allowing him and **Mrs. Mariea Sargent**, Drafting and Design Instructor, to make their presentation tonight. Mrs. Sargent read a prepared letter signed by Mr. Marty Burnham, President of the ECTS American Federation of Teachers and supported by the membership, to those present concerning the lack of a contract which expired June 30, 2014. Mr. Oakes distributed copies of the letter to each Board member. [See Supplemental enclosed in the Minutes Book] Following their presentation, they left the meeting at 6:12 p.m.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Committee A Report**

Mrs. Lewis presented the second reading of the revisions to Policy #1200, formerly titled "Parent/Family Involvement" and retitled "Parent/Family Engagement." She also presented the first reading of the revision to Policy #5500 "Student Wellness." There were no questions or comments.

**Committee B Report**

Mr. Blakeslee stated that their committee met with Mrs. Tomcho and Mr. Keefer regarding athletic stipends and the Athletic Handbook. They are anticipating some changes being recommended to go into effect with the start of the 2018-2019 sports season.

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**REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS**

Northwest Tri-County Intermediate Unit Board of Directors

Mr. Trauner reported as follows:

1. The 2018/2019 Preliminary IU Budget was approved by the IU Board and will be on our District's agenda for approval next week. There is no increase in costs to any of the Districts.
2. He was surprised to be presented with an award having served ten years as UCASD representative to the IU Board. He added that a lot has happened in the past ten years but things seem to be running smoothly now. There has been more than 50% turnover in the Board representatives at this time. With 17 representatives on the Board, 10 or 11 are new.

Erie County Technical School Joint Operating Committee

Mr. Fox reported that a walk-through was held today with another architectural firm. He has not heard the results. Two UCASD students were awarded Student of the Month for January. In January, 19% of the ECTS students achieved honor roll status and 5% achieved the distinguished student designation. Also, the Personal Finance and Business Math course is being phased out and will be eliminated in 2019/2020.

**Administrative Reports** [See Supplementals enclosed in the Minutes Book]

Mrs. Lineman was asked about the purchases made on Amazon. She stated that when Amazon purchases are made with the procurement card, the District receives a percentage amount back. She added that Mrs. Butcher checks all vendors for the best deal before all purchases are made. Mrs. Lineman was asked for a PlanCon update. She stated that reimbursement is still possible. Right now things remain at a standstill.

Regarding his report, Mr. Thompson was asked if the leaks are at the high school again, to which he replied that all but one was. He added that our roofing contractor is A.W. Farrell. Mr. Thompson was also asked about the gas leak also referenced in his report, but he stated there was not actually a leak, but rather they found a pilot light that failed to relight. It was suggested that if it happened the same day the electricity went off, that may have triggered the problem.

Mr. Shrout was commended for another great February Follies program.

The following topics were asked of Mrs. Tomcho:

1. If PIAA areas are being reassigned. Mrs. Tomcho stated that she has heard suggestions of possibly going back to something similar to the former FCVC conference but has heard nothing definite. She will report if something is confirmed.
2. Several members of the swim team have advanced to the District 10 competition, which will be held this weekend. Those who will be competing include Grant Brown, Nick Cain, Calvin Franke, Natalie Franke, Justin Northrop, Ian Wienczkowski, and from Ft. LeBoeuf Veronica Walker and Own Wienczkowski.

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3. There was discussion regarding the March 14 student walk-out being held at several local school districts in honor of the seventeen people who were gunned down (on Feb. 14 at the High School in Florida). Mrs. Tomcho stated that a student came to her requesting that our District participate and be permitted to register for the walk-out which was granted. Due to concerns of student safety and possible inclement weather, the students will exit to the main gym and remain for 17 minutes (one minute per victim) before returning to class. Students will be required to sign up no later than March 12, and participation is voluntary.
  
4. Mrs. Tomcho then gave a PowerPoint presentation of the proposed Latin Grading System and distributed several handouts to the Board members [See Supplementals enclosed in the Minutes Book] She explained the handouts and reviewed the PowerPoint which was presented to three meetings held for parents. The exact cut-off scores for Summa Cum Laude, Magna Cum Laude and Honors have not yet been determined. Dr. Myers will meet with Mrs. Tomcho and Mrs. Dawson to come up with agreeable scores and report to the Board before next week's meeting. Mrs. Reagle added some insight and Lauren Murphy, UCASD Junior, was asked her opinion of the change. She stated the Class of 2019 is the largest class in the Middle School/High School, that she is in favor of the change, and the two top students in the class stated they would be relieved if it was instituted as it would reduce their stress in not competing against each other for the top slot. Instead of being a competition, students will be pushing themselves to reach their own academic goals. It was confirmed that all students, regardless of their career path, will benefit from the change and all students, not just those in the top of the class, can attain these levels by working hard. Mrs. Tomcho and Dr. Myers responded to all of the Board's questions. Mr. Trauner stated the item will be on next week's agenda for approval.

Mrs. Mulson was asked about the restraints as mentioned in her report. She stated that she and Mr. McMahan are trainers for "Handle with Care" restraining which is a safe way to restrain children physically when the normal de-escalation processes are not working. Mr. Shroul added that this is a last resort effort when the child is a danger to himself or others. Reports must be given to the state every quarter.

Mrs. Quickle reported as follows:

1. She displayed the Graduation Project Binder for the Class of 2019 and the career pathways sheets and informed the Board they were welcome to look at them after the meeting. [See Supplementals enclosed in the Minutes Book]
2. She and Dr. Myers will give a three- to five-minute presentation next week on Historical Data.

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3. She was asked about the after-school programs and stated that there are two programs; one for Middle School students (Engineering and Career Technology Pathway) and one for High School students (Medical Career Exploration) that are funded with a grant received from TANF (Temporary Assistance for Needy Families). A maximum of 25 students can participate in each group; there are 18 students in the Middle School program and 23 students in the High School program.
4. Mr. Gilbert asked the grades of the students who will be coming to his place of business in order to supply the correct size of safety glasses. Mrs. Quickle stated that they are in grades 6-8 and can bring their own safety glasses as the District already has them.

### **Superintendent's Report**

Dr. Myers reported as follows:

1. We are fortunate to have Mrs. Krista Byler as our Food Service Director. She thoroughly understands the dictates of the state regarding nutrition and will be attending the School Nutrition Conference next week. She will then travel to the Institute of Child Nutrition at the University of Mississippi where they will be previewing the statutes for allergens. She was one of only 15 who were selected nationwide. An article will be in the Corry Journal soon.
2. Regarding the most recent school shooting, training for staff will be held at the end of the school year and a drill will be held in August. She and Mrs. Quickle are working with various agencies and the PA State Police.
3. Concerning Mr. Niggel's request during last month's Public Comment regarding perfect attendance, information is being collected from area school districts regarding Elementary absences and perfect attendance. A procedure is expected to be in place for 2018/2019 and will be included in the 2018/2019 student handbook.
4. Mr. Thompson and Mr. Shaffer have received lead and radon training and the District was awarded a \$15,000 grant. They will begin testing soon, and tests must be repeated every five years.

### **Other Business**

Mr. Trauner reminded the Superintendent Search Interview Committee of the final two interviews which will be held on March 5 beginning at 5:30 at the IU. He also requested that all Board members and the two committee members from the District's Administrative Team come to the Middle School/High School Cafeteria on March 13 at 6:30 p.m. to meet with the finalist candidates. At 7:00 p.m., the public is invited to come to the auditorium where three finalists will be asked to respond to several questions. The public is invited to observe only.

Mr. Gilbert commended the Guidance Department on the nice scheduling packet his daughter brought home.

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**Executive Session**

Mr. Trauner reminded the Board that an Executive Session for the purpose of Legal discussion would follow this meeting and the Board would not be returning for any more business.

Finally, Mr. Trauner asked the Board to review the draft agenda which he noted includes a presentation of the Rain Garden. There was a question on the exoneration motion regarding the Municipal Authority being exonerated from the 2017 and all future taxes. Mrs. Lineman responded that the parcels were purchased in 2016 and the group had been waiting for tax exempt status which was finally awarded in 2018. There were questions on the requirements of having to approve this exoneration of taxes. Dr. Myers will contact Solicitor Moore for his legal opinion and have an answer for the Board prior to next week's voting meeting.

**Adjournment**

Mr. Gregor moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Hopson. The motion to adjourn was unanimously approved.

Mr. Trauner declared the meeting adjourned at 6:56 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ann Sill  
School Board Secretary