

Union City Area School District
REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
Virtual Meeting
December 3, 2020

President George Trauner called the meeting to order at 6:11 p.m.

Roll Call

Being no changes from the immediately preceding Reorganization meeting, the roll call from that meeting stood, namely, Stephen Gilbert, Douglas Hopson, Lori Lewis, Barbara Miller, David Robinson, Kimberle Thomas, and George Trauner were present via Zoom. Blain Blakeslee and Brian Gregor were absent.

Others Present

Matthew Bennett, Tara Lineman, Ann Sill, and Michael Swanson were present.

Superintendent's Report

Mr. Bennett congratulated Mr. Trauner and Mrs. Lewis on their being elected as President and Vice President again for another year. Mr. Bennett stated it's been a very busy 24 hours. He stated that they met with the Department of Health today and there will be no changes to the guidelines anytime soon. Safety is their priority.

- **ECTS** – Late in the afternoon the superintendents were informed that the Erie County Technical School will remain virtual through January 4. There will likely be more discussion about it at the December 4 PAC Superintendents' meeting.
- **Winter Sports** – Late in the afternoon PDE announced they are changing their mask order. He is pleased with the change as some of our young student athletes were becoming ill from wearing the masks because they were unable to get their physicians to write excuses. Students who feel physically impacted are permitted to pull their masks down during competition. As a result the Health and Safety Plan on tonight's agenda for approval was revised to include this update. To date, PIAA has remained silent on giving guidance. He asked the Board for latitude to only permit the players, coaches, and officials and broadcasters present in the gym and pool areas at this time. He wishes all could attend but at this time the safety of our kids is a priority and to give them a chance to have a season. He asked if the Board had any questions. Mr. Bennett was asked if he felt winter sports might be delayed. He replied that the Oil City Athletic Director appealed to PIAA to push back the season as some districts are not able to play at this time as they are virtual and are unable to hold practices. Everyone is waiting for PIAA to make an announcement. He stated our first competition is scheduled for December 11. He will keep the Board updated.

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- **Health and Safety Plan** – the terminology was changed from high risk to substantial which required all of the headings to be changed. Also, because he and Mr. Trauner signed the attestation, those rules had to be added as well as the masking update. It will be emailed to all families. There were no questions.
- **Country Fair** – The Union City store will be making a \$10,159.37 donation from their “Pump 4 Sports” program for the Union City Outdoor Sports Complex at the UCASD. In addition, the Union City Community Foundation has agreed to match Country Fair’s generous donation for this worthwhile community project!

Finally, he wished everyone a very happy holiday season.

Approval of Agenda

Mr. Gilbert moved, Mrs. Lewis seconded to approve the agenda, as presented.

Roll Call Vote: Stephen Gilbert, Douglas Hopson, Lori Lewis, Barbara Miller, David Robinson, Kimberle Thomas, and George Trauner voted yes. Blain Blakeslee and Brian Gregor were absent. Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Hopson moved, Mr. Gilbert seconded to approve the minutes of the November 5, 2020 Committee of the Whole meeting, the November 5, 2020 Special meeting, and the November 24, 2020 Regular Board meeting.

Roll Call Vote: Stephen Gilbert, Douglas Hopson, Lori Lewis, Barbara Miller, David Robinson, Kimberle Thomas, and George Trauner voted yes. Blain Blakeslee and Brian Gregor were absent. Motion carried.

Approval of Check List

Dr. Miller moved, Mrs. Thomas seconded to approve the Checks for Board Approval – December 3, 2020, Checks Between Board Meetings – November 2020, Athletic Checks – November 2020, Procurement Card Listing – November 2020, and Construction Project Checks for Board Approval – December 3, 2020. [See Supplementals enclosed in the Minutes Book]

Mr. Trauner announced he would be abstaining from Vendor Check 4053 to Bethesda Lutheran Services.

Roll Call Vote: Stephen Gilbert, Douglas Hopson, Lori Lewis, Barbara Miller, David Robinson and Kimberle Thomas voted yes. George Trauner voted yes for all items except for Vendor Check 4053 from which he abstained. Blain Blakeslee and Brian Gregor were absent. Motion carried.

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ITEMS FOR APPROVAL

Academics

Mrs. Thomas moved, Mr. Robinson seconded to approve the following Academic items:

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| Tenure – Reynolds | 1. Tenure status for Jessica H. Reynolds as per the Pennsylvania School Code, Section 24 PS 11-1121, and |
| UCASD Health and Safety Plan updates | 2. The updated Union City Area School District Health and Safety Plan. [See Supplemental enclosed in the Minutes Book] |

Mr. Bennett was asked if tenure took three years to acquire to which he required affirmatively – three consecutive years of satisfactory ratings.

Roll Call Vote: Stephen Gilbert, Douglas Hopson, Lori Lewis, Barbara Miller, David Robinson, Kimberle Thomas, and George Trauner voted yes. Blain Blakeslee and Brian Gregor were absent. Motion carried.

Personnel

**McChesney
resignation**

Mrs. Lewis moved, Mr. Hopson seconded to accept the resignation of Reghan McChesney, part-time Elementary Instructional Aide, effective December 13, 2020. [See Supplemental enclosed in the Minutes Book]

It was asked the reason for her resignation and if she was taking a new job. Mr. Bennett replied that she did not disclose the reason but indicated that it was due to unforeseen circumstances.

Roll Call Vote: Stephen Gilbert, Douglas Hopson, Lori Lewis, Barbara Miller, David Robinson, Kimberle Thomas, and George Trauner voted yes. Blain Blakeslee and Brian Gregor were absent. Motion carried.

Other Business

Mr. Trauner stated that on behalf of the entire Board of School Directors to all staff and students of the District that he wishes everyone a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year and hopes that 20201 brings everyone good health and everything positive.

Executive Session

Mr. Trauner announced that following adjournment an Executive Session will be held for the purpose of legal and contractual discussion with no business taking place afterward.

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Adjournment

Mr. Hopson moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mrs. Thomas.

Dr. Miller announced that she did not have the Zoom link for the Executive Session. Mr. Trauner responded that Mr. Swanson would see that everyone had it.

Roll Call Vote: Stephen Gilbert, Douglas Hopson, Lori Lewis, Barbara Miller, David Robinson, Kimberle Thomas, and George Trauner voted yes. Blain Blakeslee and Brian Gregor were absent. Motion carried.

Mr. Trauner adjourned the meeting at 6:24 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ann Sill
School Board Secretary