BOARD NOTES

To help aid communication, we were asked to post some notes of what took place at each board meeting. These are not the official meeting minutes as they will be approved at the next board meeting. This, however, is the running notes from each meeting.

Meeting Date: June 22, 2026 - Time: 6:00 p.m. - Location: Utica High School

The June meeting was held as a regular business meeting and began promptly at 6:01 p.m. with all members in attendance. In the absence of the Treasurer, President Krueger appointed Farrah Cooperider as Treasurer Pro Tempore in accordance with Ohio Revised Code 3313.23. The Board recognized the Summer Work Crew, the Facilities Committee, and the Athletic Boosters and golf outing participants. There were no Superintendent's or Treasurer's reports due to the absence of Mr. Hartley and Mrs. Breehl. During the Work Session, Adam Reynolds provided an update on Strategic Planning Goal 1 related to Facilities.

Within the consent agenda, the Board approved the Licking Regional Educational Service Center Certified Substitute List No. 1 for the 2026–2027 school year, accepted the resignation of Jessica Yancey, and amended the retirement date for Kimberly Stalling. The Board also approved the hiring of Tyler Keith and Shandi Lanning as Intervention Specialists and Michael Sandman as Middle School Dean of Students. Extra service supplemental contracts were approved, including Michelle Sarnes as an On-Board Instructor, along with home instruction tutors and elementary supplementals for the 2026–2027 school year. Classified substitutes and non-degree substitutes were approved, Zackery McElroy was approved as a paraprofessional aide, and Howard Hill was approved as Activities Director.

In the finance consent agenda, the Board approved the May 2026 financial and reconciliation reports, payment of bills including those with "Then and Now" certificates and authorized the Treasurer and Superintendent to issue purchase orders in accordance with Board Policy 6400. The Board approved FY26 appropriations and FY27 permanent appropriations as presented, as well as a transfer from the General Fund (001) to the Food Service Fund (006) to cover a fiscal year-end negative balance. The IT Consulting services agreement with Information Solutions Group, LLC, and liability insurance through Wright Specialty Insurance for the 2026–2027 school year were also approved.

Under other Board action, contracts with Great Lakes Biomedical, SafeRoutz Software, and Knox were approved, along with the Educational Service Center agreement, the North Fork Local Schools draft Communication Plan, and a request for early student graduation. The Board also approved a resolution authorizing the Treasurer to secure tax advances, two overnight trips for Utica Middle School sixth and eighth grade students, an HVAC technical support agreement, and a volunteer football coach.

During public participation, Scott Webster presented comments regarding concerns and perceptions shared by parents, students, staff, and community members related to communication, school culture, student experiences, and stakeholder engagement. His statement will be included in the official minutes, Dawn Nelson, the Food Service Director, acknowledged that she applied for and received the USDA Fresh Fruits and Vegetables Program Grant (FFVP) for Utica Elementary, Newton Elementary did not qualify. To qualify for the buildings, they needed to be 50% or higher for free and reduced, Utica Elementary is 50.58% and Newton Elementary is 39.22%. The grant awarded is $18,585.32.

The Board encourages continued engagement from students, families, staff, and community members and reminds stakeholders that specific concerns should be brought through established district processes to allow for appropriate review and response.

The meeting adjourned at 6:37 p.m., with the next regular meeting scheduled for July 20, 2026, at Utica Elementary School at 6:00 p.m.