BOARD NOTES

To help aid communication, we were asked to post 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: August 24, 2026, Time: 6:00 p.m. Location: Utica High School

The meeting in August is a regular business meeting. The board started on time at 6:00 p.m. with Dr. Krueger, Mrs. Cooperider, Mrs. Atherton, and Mrs. Paxton in attendance. Mr. Hartley recognized the staff for all their work on making the start of school a success. Congratulations to Mrs. Cooperider for receiving the 2026 OSBA Aptitude Award. The new website is up and running, we are still updating so it does say it's under construction, click out of that box and you can move around the site. Parent Square will be rolling out soon.

Mrs. Paxton reported on the Communications Committee. The committee discussed the district website, Parent Square, and participation in the Village of Utica Homecoming Festival. Dr. Krueger reported on the Buildings and Grounds Committee meeting. The committee discussed the need for parking lot repairs at the high school, as well as the conversion to LED lighting in both the parking lot and the high school building. Members also reviewed the performance of the Turf Tank and noted that it has been effective in lining the football field, weather permitting. Additionally, the committee discussed the press box and noted that it is in overall good condition, with the possible exception of needing new carpet.

During the Work Session, Mr. Lunsford presented Strategic Goal 4: Safety & Positive School Culture for students and staff. In summary the foundational systems are in place, but the committee wants to improve consistency, accountability, communication, professional development, student voice and staff support. Such as a school resource officer, bullying definitions and reporting across the board, PBIS accountability, student voice at board meetings and staff support for the following: Artificial Intelligence, Curriculum, State Initiatives, Trauma Informed Care.

The board went into executive session with action taken after they returned. They returned at 7:29 p.m.

As part of the consent agenda, the Board approved the Licking Regional Educational Service Center Certified Substitute List No. 3 for the 2026-2027 school year. The Board also approved the employment of Grant Rogers as Middle School Agricultural Science Teacher and Tyler Rosshirt as High School Math Teacher. Supplemental positions for the 2026-2027 school year were approved, and one extra service contract was rescinded. The Board accepted the resignation of an Assistant Bowling Coach and a Food Service Server. Tina Cummings was approved as a Transportation Driver. Additionally, the Board approved the Classified Substitute List and the Non-Degree Substitute List for the 2026-2027 school year.

In the finance consent agenda, the board acted on the financial and reconciliation reports, and payment of bills for July 2026 and payment of bills with "Then and Now" certificate, and purchase orders and approve the forecast as submitted by the Treasurer.

In other board action, the Board approved the 2026-2027 Volunteer Coaches for the 2026-2027 school year with additional Fall Volunteer coaches; they approved the 2026-2027 bus routes, and a memorandum of understanding with C-TEC of Licking County for a two year training program providing educator preparation for Career-Technical Workforce Development Licensure for our Middle School agriculture science teacher, An overnight trip to Cedar Point was approved for the Cross Country team, and early graduation for a student.

There was no Board Discussion or Hearing of the public.

The meeting concluded at 7:43 p.m. The next regular meeting is on September 21, 2026, at Newton Elementary School at 6:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Vice President Farrah Cooperider.