

**SCHOOL BOARD MEETING**  
**Minutes**  
**August 21, 2006**

The August meeting of the Unionville-Chadds Ford School Board was held on Monday, August 21, 2006 in the Unionville High School Large Group Instruction room. Mr. Baker, President, called the meeting to order at 7:34 p.m.

**CALL TO  
ORDER**

The following members were present: Curt Baker, Kathleen Brown, Karen Halstead, Bruce Swayze, Dr. Corinne Sweeney, Timotha Trigg, Ed Wandersee, and Dr. Therese West. Also present were Dr. John Kenney, District Superintendent, Dr. Brenda O'Hern, Robert Cochran, Thomas Marinelli, Jim Fulginiti, Rick Hostetler, Rich Hug, John Nolen, Maria Schwab, Charlene Stone, Bruce Vosburgh, Marie Wickersham, Gail Wolfel, Lexi Campton, student representative, community residents, members of the press, and Denise Miller, recording secretary.

**MEMBERS  
PRESENT**

Mr. Baker requested that the group stand for the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

Mr. Baker welcomed everyone back after a nice holiday. He reviewed the rules for public comments (three minutes per person) and stated that any questions would be noted for subsequent follow up. Mr. Baker requested comments from residents and there were none.

**RESIDENTS'  
COMMENTS**

Mr. Marinelli, Director of Personnel & Pupil Services, stated that it was his privilege and honor to be here to celebrate the careers of 12 district employees. This year's retirees hold a total of 274 years of service in our district. Several people were unable to be here this evening and others have passed but their families are here to celebrate their careers. He introduced Marie Wickersham, Director of Food Services.

**DISTRICT  
RETIREEES –  
2005-06:**

Mrs. Wickersham commented regarding the following retirees:

- Barbara Roney (not present this evening) – She came to Unionville-Chadds Ford at the same time as herself. She was the first Cafeteria Manager hired and was a model and a professional chef. She brought a level of quality to our school food services around which we've tried to model all of our schools.

**B. Roney**

District Retirees (Continued)

- Karin Manfredi – Karin was a staff member who passed away last year and whose husband and family members were here this evening. Mrs. Manfredi was famous in our high school cafeteria and was loved by the students and staff members. We were amazed at her story of coming here as a German immigrant. She worked tirelessly running the high school deli bar. Karin started at 8:00 a.m. instead of 7:00 a.m. so she could have breakfast with her husband. Mrs. Manfredi still came in to say goodbye to the high school seniors while she was very ill. She received an Outstanding Service Award last year. Mrs. Wickersham presented a yearbook to Mrs. Manfredi's family.

Mr. Jim Fulginiti, UHS Principal, commented regarding high school retirees:

- Elaine Benke – Elaine was also a staff member who passed away this year and whose husband and family members were in attendance. Mrs. Benke was a wonderful lady who worked in U-CF from 1985-2006. She battled the illness that took her from us and was a woman of courage. Mr. Fulginiti didn't know Elaine in prior years to her work at UHS but knows her sons, Chip and Scott, which told a lot about her as a mother. Mrs. Benke followed student Dave Ziegler as a One-on-One Paraprofessional from the beginning of his educational career at U-CF right to graduation. Jim thanked Elaine's family for letting us have their wife/mom for all those years.
- Susan Beach – Ms. Beach was with us for 28 years from 1978-2006 and was a real icon in the UHS Main Office. Her corporate knowledge was with her. He cannot say enough about her work with not only the office duties but beyond that with the costumes for musicals, etc. Susan is also a tremendous quilt maker. She still resides in the area and participates in the community. We will truly miss her.
- Dr. Jana Eaton – Dr. Eaton was a member of our Social Studies Department at UHS for 26 years from 1980-2006. The pursuit of academics is very important to her and she is now in Green Valley, Arizona working with the University of Arizona. A reception was held earlier for both Jana Eaton and Lee Krug. She will be missed.
- Lee Krug – Mr. Krug was in education over 35 years. He was a Chemistry Teacher at UHS and the boy's lacrosse coach for many years. He also coached girl's lacrosse and was featured in the *Daily Local News* recently. Lee will be greatly missed and is a model of excellence. His is taking off on a new endeavor with his flying career now and we wish him all the best.

**DISTRICT  
RETIREES  
(Continued)**

**Karin Manfredi**

**Elaine Benke**

**Susan Beach**

**Dr. Jana Eaton**

**Lee Krug**

Mr. Bruce Vosburgh, CFPMS Principal, commented regarding the middle school retiree:

- Shirley Miller – Ms. Miller has been with the district for 33 years as a Bus Driver and then as a maintenance person on day shift. We are now finding out all of the things she did since she is not there (e.g. the supply room). Shirley was loved by the middle school staff and a going away party was held for her in June. She has always done a lot of great things at the school as is a great person.

Ms. Gail Wolfel, Transportation Supervisor, commented regarding retirees in the Transportation Department:

- Suzanne Marks – Ms. Marks was a Bus Driver for 28 years from 1978-2006. She drove the non-public Bus 48 for students into the Delaware area. Sue was a member of the Safety Committee. We will miss her voice on the radio this year.
- Geraldine Nickle – Ms. Nickle served us as a Bus Driver for 25 years. She retired last fall and drove the public school and Unionville Elementary routes on Bus 45.
- Ed Marshall – Mr. Marshall was a member of the Transportation Department for 20 years from 1986-2006. He drove the public school route on Bus 40 and was a school bus instructor for many years. His daughter, Holly Hopkins, works in the Transportation office. Ed was a police officer and truck driver prior to coming to the district.

Mr. Marinelli commented regarding our retiree from Unionville Elementary (Mr. Beaver, Principal, was unable to be here this evening):

- Barb Fairbrother – Mrs. Fairbrother was employed as a Paraprofessional at UE from 1992-2006. She is happy spending her days with granddaughter, Courtney, after running the Copy Center 14 years. We wish her great success and happiness in her new career.

Mr. Marinelli commented about one additional retiree:

- Dave Dickens – Mr. Dickens was our Assistant Principal and then Principal of Unionville High School from 1994-2006. He is enjoying his retirement being a Principal at Archbishop Carroll High School. He thanked Mr. Dickens for the time he was with U-CF.

Mr. Baker requested that the retirees and family members who were in attendance allow the Board to honor them by coming forward. The Board members greeted everyone who was present this evening.

**DISTRICT  
RETIREEES  
(Continued)**

**Shirley Miller**

**Suzanne Marks**

**Geraldine  
Nickle**

**Ed Marshall**

**Barb  
Fairbrother**

**Dave Dickens**

It was moved by Dr. Sweeney and seconded by Mr. Swayze to approve the Minutes of the June 19, 2006 Regular Meeting (pp. 3.a.1-23).

Motion carried (8-0).

The following committee meeting minutes were reviewed:

1. Board Curriculum Committee – August 14, 2006 (pp. 3.a.24-26)

Mr. Baker requested that the secretary file the committee meeting minutes.

The following financial statements and reports were reviewed:

1. General Fund Treasurer's Report – June, 2006 (p. 3.b.1)
2. 2005-2006 GF Function Revenue Analysis with Details of 6100's and 7000's as of June, 2006 (p. 3.b.2)
3. 2005-2006 General Fund Function-Object Expenditure Analysis as of June, 2006 (pp. 3.b.3-5)
4. Category Expenditures Analysis – June, 2006 (p. 3.b.6)
5. Health Care Trust Fund Report – June, 2006 (p. 3.b.7)
6. Capital Reserve Fund Report – June, 2006 (p. 3.b.8)
7. Debt Service Reserve Fund Report – June, 2006 (p. 3.b.9)
8. Capital Projects Fund Report – June, 2006 (p. 3.b.10)
9. Outstanding Projects Summary – June, 2006 (p. 3.b.11)
10. Construction Project Reports – June, 2006
  - a. Unionville High School HVAC Project Budget Report (pp. 3.b.12-13)

Mr. Baker requested that the secretary file the financial statements and reports.

It was moved by Dr. Sweeney and seconded by Mr. Swayze to approve the Bill List for June, 2006 in the amount of \$3,444,163.64 (pp. 3.d.1-22).

In response to Mrs. Halstead's question, Mr. Cochran stated that the charge for The Water Guy payment is to an account for miscellaneous items and dues.

In response to Mrs. Halstead's question regarding a payment to Robert Conti-D'Antonio charged to contracted services, Mr. Cochran stated that it may be a reimbursement and he would follow up on it.

In response to Mrs. Halstead's question regarding payments to William Anderson and Kathy Newell, Mr. Cochran stated that the costs included more than one travel item (i.e. hotel, meals, registration) for conferences and were approved by the Board.

Motion carried (8-0).

**MINUTES  
APPROVED**

**FINANCIAL  
STATEMENTS**

**BILLS  
APPROVED**

It was moved by Mrs. Trigg and seconded by Dr. West to approve the Bill List for July, 2006 in the amount of \$2,205,988.83 (pp. 3.d.23-37)

Motion carried (8-0).

Mr. Swayze stated that there were no action items for Facilities this evening. He reported on the following items:

- Buildings and Grounds Department – Comments from Mr. Hostetler
  - Opening of School – They are ready and have completed some additional projects as well as the cleaning of our schools. Some of the significant ones included:
    - New chiller at Hillendale Elementary
    - New roof portion at Hillendale Elementary
    - Carpet replacement at Unionville High School office and a classroom at Hillendale
    - Modifications to the Middle School kitchen
    - Upgrades to the UHS LGI room lighting (still need to get the floor tiles done)
    - TV Studio created at Pocopson
    - High school concrete repairs and replacements in several locations
    - Upgrades to four of our athletic fields
    - Electrical upgrades in various locations

Most of this was performed by our own staff and it was a very busy summer. Mr. Swayze asked that everyone thank members of the Maintenance staff whenever they saw them. He stated that we would see improvement in just about every field. The middle school baseball field will be unused until next spring. He thanked the SCCSA for use of their high-powered sprinkler and the water company for the temporary hookup to the hockey field at the middle school. Once the fields are cut down for play this fall, he thinks you will be impressed with a very significant improvement. While these are not country club fields, they stack up fairly with other school grounds in our area. The Board gave approval to the administration last spring to restrict field usage so the fields could get some much-needed rest.

- Long-Range Plan for School Construction – They have visited a number of schools throughout the area, some of which were designed and improved upon by MM Architects who we are using. We've obtained some very good ideas. The architects are busy gaining insight from our staff, administrators and Board members to come up with another level of detail. You will see more of it in October.

**Routine  
Business  
(Continued)**

**BILLS  
APPROVED**

**FACILITIES**

Mrs. Brown stated that we did not have one of our books on the list that was approved in June.

It was moved by Mrs. Halstead and seconded by Dr. Sweeney to approve the adoption of the following textbook for the 11<sup>th</sup> grade Advanced Placement U.S. History course:

- a. *The American Nation (A History of the United States)*, 12<sup>th</sup> ed., c. 2006, Pearson/Longman Publishing Co.

Motion carried (8-0).

Mrs. Brown reported that the Board Curriculum Committee had met on August 14, 2006. They Middle School Common Assessments for all core courses in the middle school were discussed. Dr. O'Hern provided an update on summer curriculum writing. Proposed curricular goals for next year were reviewed. Mrs. Halstead commented that we had also talked about technology courses in the high school, which were not on the suggested list.

Mr. Wandersee reported for Finance that there would be a Tax Study Commission established for our school district as must be done by every district in Pennsylvania. As part of the establishment of the commission, eight sections of definitions and functions were developed. These bylaws will assure clarification of their operation and provide answers to questions that arise. We are working under a very compressed timetable.

Mr. Baker stated that the commission's final vote on its recommendation requires a majority of all members, not just those present.

Mr. Cochran commented that the bylaws were drafted by a law firm member, Clarence Kegel, who is developing this for many school districts. He reviewed portions of the by laws, include language regarding the four mandated study items to the commission. Mr. Cochran stated that information regarding the Tax Study Commission and the application process was advertised in local newspapers. Application information is available on the district's web site and in each school/district office. We need to have a demographically diverse representation of the school district on the commission.

It was moved by Dr. West and seconded by Mrs. Halstead to approve the Unionville-Chadds Ford School District 2006 Tax Study Commission Bylaws as on the attachment (p. 6.a.1).

Motion carried (8-0).

## **CURRICULUM**

**Textbooks  
Approved  
for 2006-2007**

**Board  
Curriculum  
Committee**

## **FINANCE:**

**Tax Study  
Commission**

**Tax Study  
Commission  
Bylaws**

It was moved by Mr. Wandersee and seconded by Mrs. Halstead to approve the following personnel items (agenda items 7a. and 7.c.1-4):

- a. Professional Conferences (13)
  - 1. Approve the Attendance at a Professional Conference as on the attachments (pp. 7.a.1-2)
- b. Retirement
- c. Resignations (4)
  - 1. Patricia Einstein - Unionville High School LTL Specialist, effective August 1, 2006
  - 2. Cheryl Salomone – Hillendale Elementary Learning Support Paraprofessional, effective August 28, 2006
  - 3. R. John Lane - Unionville High School Custodian, effective August 25, 2006
  - 4. Theresa Riale - Bus Driver, effective August 10, 2006

Mrs. Halstead stated that she hopes a parent could go to the math conference that Charlene Stone will be attending.

Motion carried (8-0).

It was moved by Mrs. Halstead and seconded by Mr. Swayze to approve the following personnel item (agenda items 7.c.5):

- c. Resignation (1)
  - 5. Maria M. Schwab – Director of Elementary Education, effective October 13, 2006

Dr. Kenney thanked Mrs. Schwab for the services she had given to the school district on behalf of the Board, community and elementary staff. She will be leaving to be an Assistant Superintendent. Maria has been involved with the MegaWords and Dibels programs in our schools, as well as the reading, math and social studies curricular areas. Typically, our elementary schools have been in the top of the state for PSSA scores. Our rankings for 2006 are:

- Grade 3 (Math) - 7<sup>th</sup>
- “ (Reading) - 1<sup>st</sup>
- Grade 4 (Math) - 1<sup>st</sup>
- “ (Reading) - 1<sup>st</sup>
- Grade 5 (Math) - 4<sup>th</sup>
- “ (Reading) - 3<sup>rd</sup>

Our elementary schools will probably be number one in the state this year. We have done well under Mrs. Schwab’s guidance. She has been involved in the selection of two of our current elementary principals. We will miss her.

**PERSONNEL:**

**Professional Conferences**

**Resignations:**

**P. Einstein**

**C. Salomone**

**R. John Lane**

**T. Riale**

**Resignation:**

**M. Schwab**

Personnel (Continued)

It was moved by Mrs. Halstead and seconded by Mr. Swayze to approve the following personnel items (agenda items 7.d through 7.k):

- d. Leaves
- e. Create Position (1)
  - 1. Create the following professional position to reduce class size:  
Additional .2 Spanish at Patton Middle School
- f. Reclassifications (5)
  - 1. Reclassify Unionville High School T-II LTL Specialist position to P-1 LTL Paraprofessional position
  - 2. Margarita Clyde – from .2 (LTS) Spanish Teacher to .4 (LTS) Spanish Teacher at Patton Middle School, effective August 22, 2006, at the Bachelor's Step 2 salary level
  - 3. Eleanor Buck – from 4.6-hour part-time Van Driver to 5+-hour part-time Van Driver, effective August 22, 2006
  - 4. Angela Marrs – from 4.6-hour part-time P-I Bus/Van Aide to 5+-hour part-time P-I Bus/Van Aide, effective August 22, 2006
  - 5. Regina Moran – from full-time Bus Driver to part-time Bus Driver (5+ hours per school day), effective August 22, 2006
- g. Supplemental Contracts
  - 1. Approve the updated 2006-2007 Supplemental Contracts as on the attachments (pp. 7.g.1-5)
- h. Employ (10)
  - 1. Audra Spitzer – Pocopson elementary School 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Teacher (first semester 2006-2007), effective August 22, 2006, at the Master's Step 1 salary level
  - 2. Jenny Lynn Steinen – Patton Middle School (LTS) Language Arts Teacher (first semester 2006-2007), effective August 22, 2006, at the Bachelor's + 24 Step 1 salary level
  - 3. Matthew Hurray – Patton Middle School Math/Science Teacher (.6 LTS, .4 TPE), effective August 22, 2006, at the Bachelor's Step 1 salary level
  - 4. Theresa Boland – Unionville High School Physical Science Teacher (.2 TPE), effective August 22, 2006, at the Master's Step 1 salary level
  - 5. Heather Weigner – Unionville High School (LTS) Spanish Teacher (2006-2007 school year), effective August 22, 2006, at the Bachelor's Step 1 salary level

(Continued)

**PERSONNEL  
(Continued)**

**Create Position-  
.2 Spanish-MS**

**Reclassifi-  
cations:  
UHS T-II LTL  
Spec. to P-1  
LTL Para-  
professional**

**M. Clyde**

**E. Buck**

**A. Marrs**

**R. Moran**

**Supplemental  
Contracts –  
2006-07**

**Employ:  
A. Spitzer**

**J. Steinen**

**M. Hurray**

**T. Boland**

**H. Weigner**

**3.a.8**

Personnel - Employ (Cont'd.)

6. Cheryl Press – Unionville High School One-on-One Paraprofessional (6.5 hours per day x 182 days), effective August 28, 2006, at a salary of \$11.57 per hour
  7. Gwynn Adcock – full-time Bus Driver (6+ hours per school day), effective August 22, 2006, at a salary of \$14.28 per hour
  8. Deborah Franciotti – full-time Bus Driver (6+ hours per school day), effective August 22, 2006, at a salary of \$14.50 per hour
  9. Nicole Westley – part-time Bus Driver (5 to 5-1/2 hours per school day), effective August 22, 2006, at a salary of \$14.50 per hour
  10. Audrey Avery – Unionville Elementary School One-on-One Paraprofessional (3.25 hours per day x 182 days), effective August 28, 2006, at a salary of \$11.57 per hour
- i. Correction
- j. Substitute Rates
1. Set the Substitute Teacher Rates for 2006-2007 as follows:
    - \$90 per day for the first twenty (20) days
    - \$100 per day after twenty (20) days
    - \$125 per day for 21-89 days
    - Salary Schedule after 90 days – same as teachers
- k. Home Game Rates for 2006-2007
1. Approve the Home Game Rates for 2006-2007 as on the attachment (p. 7.k.1)

Mrs. Halstead stated that she was still not happy with the supplemental contract for the person who will be the head of the Science Department not teaching science this year. It should be someone who is teaching science.

In response to Dr. West's question, Mr. Marinelli stated that the substitute rates were for consecutive days for the same teacher. They have been the same for several years.

Motion carried (8-0).

It was moved by Mrs. Halstead and seconded by Mr. Wandersee to award tenure to the following teachers who have satisfactorily completed three years of contracted teaching in the Unionville-Chadds Ford School District:

1. Cheryl Fulginiti
2. Michelle Lafferty
3. Jennifer Jones
4. Paula Remzas
5. Jenna Roberts

**PERSONNEL  
- Employ  
(Cont'd.)**

**C. Press**

**G. Adcock**

**D. Franciotti**

**N. Westley**

**A. Avery**

**Substitute  
Rates – 2006-07**

**Home Game  
Rates – 2006-07**

**Tenure  
Awarded**

Personnel – Tenure (Continued)

6. Todd Picard
7. Jennifer Clark
8. James Conley
9. Ron Phillips
10. Tabatha Bray-Gilbert
11. Ulrike Martin
12. Allison Goldberg
13. Christina Ciglinsky
14. Julie McGirl

Mr. Wandersee stated that he thinks we understand the definition and application of tenure to teachers for fulfilling their obligations for three years without a formal recognition of a corrective action. The term he was told by the Director of Personnel was that this was an administrative action of the Board. He commented that this implies that the Board has no input into evaluation. We spent time debating about the value of no input and of voting on this. He will vote for this. He applauded the chairman for bringing this up as a special area for a vote so we could have some discussion. Most members of this School Board would like a better definition that the administration is really doing the job on these that needs to be done. We don't want to have certain individuals slip through the cracks, which could be a very unfortunate situation for many kids to come. The Board feels they may not be getting a thorough examination and evaluation based upon input we have as Board members from the public.

Mrs. Halstead stated that as a former teacher she supports tenure but also supports keeping good teachers. If a person is not a good teacher, she could sit down (without an intensive assistance plan) and talk with him/her to offer advice. We need to have a better system not to reprimand but to help. The current system is that if you're reprimanded you become a target and someone else is following you with a foot (for new and old teachers).

Mr. Baker commented that as a Board member, he does not wish to be involved in tenure decisions but wants to have comfort that the processes to make sure that any individual brought before the Board have been faithfully followed and the appropriate decisions are being made before bringing them before the Board. We saw a high degree of interest in that process and some wish that we pay attention to it to make sure we build that level of concreteness across the board.

Mrs. Trigg stated that it had been indicated during the Work Session that the administration incorporate parent and student input into these types of decisions. We asked them to look into that possibility.

Motion carried (8-0).

**PERSONNEL –  
Tenure  
(Continued)**

It was moved by Mrs. Halstead and seconded by Mr. Swayze to renew second-year Temporary Professional Employee (TPE) contracts for the following teachers (25):

1. Rose Piccora
2. Katie Horning
3. Christina McHutchison
4. Thomas Grawe
5. Sara Condon
6. Ryan Fegley
7. Karen Carson
8. Catherine Calderone
9. Kristen Butler
10. Honey Beth Kropp
11. Jodi Byrne
12. Kristie Regan
13. Kevin Long
14. Lora Beckman
15. William Moss
16. Lori Collins
17. Dena DeTitta
18. Kelly Ross
19. Janet Faccenda
20. Kathryn Clegg
21. Josh Thomas
22. Greg Hilden
23. Joseph Herman
24. Christine Bunting
25. Cleo Brun

Motion carried (8-0).

It was moved by Mrs. Trigg and seconded by Mrs. Halstead to renew third-year Temporary Professional Employee (TPE) contracts for the following teachers (13):

1. Rachel Ackerman
2. Jennifer Babich
3. Jennifer Chi
4. Colleen Collins
5. John Cranston
6. Diana Brannon
7. Maribeth Lyles
8. Susan Pacella
9. Jennifer Sarno
10. Jennifer Spencer
11. Hillary Sterner
12. Margaret Buck
13. Carol Wren

Motion carried (8-0).

**PERSONNEL  
(Continued)**

**Second-Year  
TPE Contracts  
Renewed**

**Third-Year TPE  
Contracts  
Renewed**

It was moved by Mrs. Halstead and seconded by Mr. Swayze to approve the following personnel item (agenda item 7.o.):

- o. Discharge (1)
  - 1. Heriberto Pabon – Unionville High School Custodian, effective August 2, 2006

Motion carried (8-0).

It was moved by Dr. West and seconded by Dr. Sweeney to approve the award of bids for the sale of used school vehicles as on the attachment (p. 8.a.1).

Mrs. Wolfel, Transportation Supervisor, commented that these were old vans, trucks and maintenance vehicles.

Motion carried (8-0).

Mrs. Halstead reported for Transportation regarding:

- 1. State Police and Federal Inspection – Buses received a thorough inspection and they all passed; Transition to new Federal Inspection procedures went smoothly
- 2. Back to School Orientation – Meeting on Tuesday, August 22, 2006 for drivers; four new drivers and one van substitute driver will be added to our staff to replace staff that retired at the end of the school year
- 3. Sneek-a-Peek – for new Kindergarten students will be held on August 23 at Chadds Ford/Hillendale and on August 24 at Pocopson/Unionville. The children will take a ride in a school bus and receive a pencil and a bookmark with school bus riding rules printed on it.
- 4. Bus Stop Information – Letters were mailed to all families on August 18; call the Transportation Office with any questions.

Dr. West reported for Communications regarding:

- 1. E-board List Serve – is up and running thanks to Rich Hug; we have 2,830 e-mail addresses of parents who were already in the system and are also working with Kristine and Brian Parks on a mailing to all community members to join the list serve. We plan to send out our first e-mail to everyone who is already on the list serve at the end of this week. We will then mail out postcards to those who are not on the list serve. All e-mails will include a link to unsubscribe to be removed from the list serve.
- 2. Board Bios – as discussed at the Work Session, photos may be taken for Board members who can stay after the meeting tonight.

In response to Mrs. Trigg's question, Dr. West stated the coffee shop discussion idea was not mentioned with Ms. Parker coming on board. Sharon had e-mailed them to say that she was really interested in that system. It is on hold at the present time.

## **PERSONNEL (Continued)**

### **Discharge:**

**H. Pabon**

### **TRANSPOR- TATION:**

**Bids Awarded –  
Sales of Used  
School Vehicles**

## **COMMUNI- CATIONS**

Mrs. Trigg stated that the following items could not be discussed in public session due to the need for the confidentiality of the students. They were discussed in Executive Session last Monday.

It was moved by Mrs. Trigg and seconded by Mr. Swayze to approve the Special Education Release and Settlement Agreement for Student No. 2006-07-1 as on the attachment (2006-2007-1).

Motion carried (6-2). Mr. Baker and Mrs. Halstead voted nay.

It was moved by Mrs. Trigg and seconded by Mrs. Halstead to approve the Special Education Release and Settlement Agreement for Student No. 2006-07-2 as on the attachment (2006-2007-2).

Motion carried (6-2). Mr. Baker and Mrs. Halstead voted nay.

Mrs. Halstead reported for Technology that the Technology Department was working diligently to get the high school lab ready to go. They are also working on other new machines in all of the schools.

Rich Hug, Technology Director, commented regarding additional work that is being accomplished in the district:

- UHS CAD Lab
- UHS C-104 Macintosh Lab
- CFPMS Music Lab
- Various other projects in the district and just getting ready in general.

Mrs. Halstead stated that we're planning to have classes for teachers in the fall that will be held in each building. She commented about visiting Unionville Elementary this summer when classes were being held there. It is wonderful to see so many of our teachers becoming more confident and comfortable with the computer. It's also great that classes are being held so closely. Mrs. Halstead thanked Rich Hug for all he has done for the district and the others who work with him.

Lexi Crampton, Student Representative, provided a report regarding:

1. New School Year – It's hard to imagine that we'll be back in school in another week. Students are here already for Band Camp and Sports practice.
2. Air Conditioning – The air conditioning feels great in the hot weather.
3. Textbook Adoption – Thanks for approving a different book for 11<sup>th</sup> grade AP U.S. History. The book used last year was not the best book and we will see better exam scores.
4. New Superintendent – Welcome to Ms. Parker.

**BOARD  
POLICY**

**Special Educ.  
Release/  
Settlement  
Agreement  
Student  
#2006-2007-1**

**Special Educ.  
Release/  
Settlement  
Agreement  
Student  
#2006-2007-2**

**STUDENT  
REPRESENTATIVE  
REPORT**

Dr. Kenney presented a gift to Lexi in thanks for her work as Student Representative in 2005-06. He commented that it's great to hear from her and stated that whatever she says provides a sense of what the students feel.

There was no report for the Center for Arts & Technology/ Intermediate Unit and Special Education.

Mr. Wandersee reported for Legislation regarding the most serious thing we are dealing with now being a tax study commission. It's disappointing that we don't have more members of the general public here tonight. He asked that each person think of five to six people to whom they could transfer the information so we get a broad cross-section of this district. The information regarding the commission is available on the district website and has been published in area newspapers. Mr. Wandersee encouraged everyone to take a few minutes to go through it and get the detail. Information is also included in the district newsletter that is being mailed to property owners presently.

Mr. Wandersee stated that the Taxpayer Relief Act was signed into law on June 27, 2006 and we must approve a commission by September 14, 2006. The commission must consist of taxpayers and resident individuals who reflect a broad cross-section of people who live in our school district. It will consist of five, seven or nine members as determined by the school district, dependent upon how many applications are received. Mrs. Brown commented that we have four applicants currently. Mr. Wandersee stated that we may include one School Board member by law and no district officials are allowed to be on the committee.

The district must present a front-end referendum in the May elections regarding an earned income tax (EIT) or a personal income tax (PIT) to fund the Homestead and Farmstead Acts.

Mr. Wandersee reviewed the application process for the Tax Study Commission:

- Submit letter of interest, application, and indicate socioeconomic information; School district will not publish the information - it will be destroyed
- Applications must be received in the District Office by 4:00 p.m. on September 1, 2006 (Attn: Kathy Brown). Please get the word out and contact him by phone to discuss questions. He'd like us to get the broadest exposure that we can and stressed the importance of it.

The committee will come back with a line item on the May ballot for some recommended amount. The School Board may reject that but hopefully being a majority of nine people, we will have to pay a lot of attention to it.

**C.A.T./  
SPECIAL  
ED. / I.U.**

**LEGISLATIVE  
REPORT**

**Taxpayer  
Relief Act –  
Tax Study  
Commission**

Dr. West commented about the four mandatory study items and Mr. Wandersee reviewed them:

The study must include the following items:

1. Historic and present district revenue from current taxes
2. The percentage of total district revenues provided by current taxes (Mr. Cochran stated that figure is about 80% from taxes now)
3. The age, income, employment and property use characteristics of the existing district tax base (~90% residential and 10% commercial in U-CF)
4. Projected district revenue from current taxes, and from the possible new or additional Act 1 EIT or PIT.

This is tax shifting – taking it out of one person’s pocket and putting it into another person’s bill, be it an EIT or a PIT (PIT refers to dividends, etc. and EIT refers to money one makes as salary). It will determine how much the property tax will be reduced.

Dr. Kenney provided the Superintendent’s report.

John Nolen, Hillendale Elementary School Principal, reported on the elementary schools. He thanked the custodial and maintenance crews for doing such an excellent job in preparing our schools. Mr. Nolen welcomed Ms. Parker and thanked Dr. Kenney for his support over the years.

- Chadds Ford Elementary –
  - Welcome to all of the new families who have moved into the area; orientation is August 22<sup>nd</sup>
  - Tree Removal – It’s sad to say goodbye to a huge tree that had to be removed recently from the property.
- Unionville Elementary –
  - Wednesday –Sam Patrone will be the Star Ambassador to greet everyone.
  - Welcome to our new staff members
- Hillendale Elementary -
  - Welcome to new Building Secretary, Dana Ely
  - Welcome to our new families and students; orientation will be Tuesday at 10:30 a.m.

**Taxpayer  
Relief Act –  
Tax Study  
Commission  
(Continued)**

**SUPERIN-  
TENDENT’S  
REPORT**

**Elementary  
Report**

## Superintendent's Report – Middle School

Bruce Vosburgh provided the Patton Middle School report:

- Thank you to Dr. Kenney and welcome to Ms. Parker
- Thanks to the building and district maintenance staff who have worked in the middle school
- Thank you to the technology staff members for their work also
- Transition Day – over 240 6<sup>th</sup> grade students attended this day of team-building activities last Wednesday
- New Family Orientation – over 30 families were present last Thursday
- Attendance – Record attendance of 1,043 student is being projected
- Team letters – were mailed out over a week ago
- Prime Times – were posted last Friday night
- New School Year – We are fully staffed and ready to start the school year.

Mr. Jim Fulginiti provided the Unionville High School report:

- Thanks to Dr. Kenney
- Maria Schwab – Best wishes to Maria in her new position
- Lexi Crampton – Thank you for what you've brought to the table
- District Maintenance and Technology Staff – Thank you!
- New School Year – We received a resignation from a staff member today but otherwise, we are ready to go.
- Football Scrimage – Was a pleasure
- Enrollment – 1,344 students now; 2 exchange students (1 from Costa Rica and 1 from Mexico); 331 students in 9<sup>th</sup> grade
- Tom Marinelli – Thanks for his help in hiring 22 total positions
- UHS Home & School – will now be known as a PTO
- Open House – Thursday, September 14th
- Student Parking – Kurt Barker took time this summer to review this issue. Seniors will receive permits; juniors will receive them by lottery on a quarterly basis; juniors who live across the street will not be issued passes,
- New Student Orientation Picnic – Tomorrow night from 5-8:00 p.m. (be aware if you're picking up students); Thursday night is for transfer students.

## Middle School Report

### Superintendent's Report (Continued)

Dr. Kenney commented that this was the last time he would be sitting here as Superintendent. He thanked each Board member both present and past, including Herb Brown, Steve McClaskey and Anne Michelini. They had great respect for the staff, students and community.

He commented about Dr. O'Hern's work with the subjects, aligning the curriculum, etc. and stated that they worked so well together. We are as successful in this district as we have ever been. When looking at the demographics of districts similar to ours, we thump them.

Dr. Kenney stated that Mr. Marinelli was handling personnel, pupil personnel, labor relations, etc. He thanked Tom for everything he had done for us.

He discussed Mr. Cochran's work with Marie Wickersham, Rick Hostetler, and Gail Wolfel. Dr. Kenney commented about his work with Transportation during the early hours of the morning on days off due to inclement weather. Last year, there were close to 35 days that were questionable. He stated that he had gone through four budgets (three with Bob Cochran) and the GASB changes.

Dr. Kenney stated that Mr. Hostetler was working on the Unionville Elementary construction project when he came to the district. We have now completed the UHS air-conditioning project. He also commented on the work with Rick, Bob, and Ed Wandersee in traveling to Philadelphia regarding litigation.

He commented to Mrs. Wickersham that he really does not like institutional food but he does eat her food!

Dr. Kenney commented about the superior support from everyone around. He enjoyed his work with the Board, staff and students and takes fond memories with him. He will still be around and the Board will have access to him for things like:

- Act 1
- Facilities Master Plan (High school, Middle school, Hillendale, Fields and Venues, and a District Office as the high school needs space)
- Curriculum Cycles (extend them under Act 1?), including the special areas
- Act 31 – Front-end, back-end and building referendum (The index appears to be 2.5/2.9% so you will not be able to exceed that limit.)

**SUPERIN-  
TENDENT'S  
REPORT –  
(Continued)**

Superintendent's Report (Continued)

- PSSA Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) – By 2014, 100% of the students must be proficient.
- Replacing staff will be ongoing; In his four years, 13 Cabinet members are no longer here, as well as many staff members
- Teacher Contract Negotiations
- Support Staff meet and discuss agreement this year
- Administrators' agreement two years from now
- Pension increases – There is an exception under Act 1
- Building Capacities
- Elementary Foreign Language Program
- Split English/Social Studies courses in the high school

Dr. Kenney stated that he enjoyed his challenges and will enjoy someone else having them next year. Thank you to everyone.

Mr. Baker stated that Dr. Kenney has agreed to appear at the September Board meeting where he will be honored. He is extremely pleased that Dr. Kenney will be around and about. Next month, Sharon Parker will be here as our new Superintendent.

Dr. Kenney stated that we have a great person coming in with Sharon Parker.

Judy McClaskey, Birmingham Township resident, extended a welcome back to Board members, Therese West and Ed Wandersee. She commented that Dr. Kenney would be missed and wished the best to him. In response to her question, Mr. Cochran stated that the 13 conference that were approved this evening totaled approximately \$9,700 in cost. Mrs. McClaskey stated that the total excludes costs for substitutes, if needed. Dr. O'Hern commented that those conferences paid through the Federal Programs Grant (Title 2 – reading and math) were not indicated and would be noted on future reports.

Mrs. McClaskey thanked Maria Schwab for a fantastic job. She will miss her and is sorry to see her go. In response to her question regarding Maria's replacement, Ms. Parker stated that we would need to look at a collaborative discussion. She is sure the process will be outlined with the community.

Mrs. McClaskey commented that she agreed with the Board's input regarding temporary professional employees (TPE's). As parents and students, they wonder how much value is given to what they have to say. She is all for the great ones but stated that it's very concerning when you get a person to the third level and they are given their contract without a very good track record. She hopes we can make a change and get some more input to given those excellent teachers who are challenging our children some type of perks.

**SUPERIN-  
TENDENT'S  
REPORT –  
(Continued)**

**RESIDENTS'  
COMMENTS**

Mrs. Brown welcomed everyone back to the new school year and hopes everyone had a good summer.

In response to Mrs. Halstead's question, Mr. Marinelli stated that the district calendar would be distributed soon. Mrs. Halstead stated that she was sorry to have lost some of the people who retired this year (Susan Beach, Shirley Miller, and Elaine Benke). Mrs. Benke began her illness just before she had been diagnosed with cancer and she is sorry that she has lost the battle.

Mrs. Haslstead wished happy trails to the graduates. She is happy they are going off in the world to make their names. Mrs. Halstead stated that some of the girls expressed the question of who would be filling the lacrosse coaching position (for Lee Krug). In response to her question, Mr. Marinelli stated that the position would be advertised outside of the school district if no one offered to fill it from within. She commented that they hold prestigious team record.

Mr. Wandersee stated that it was good to be back and was not fun being gone. He welcomed Dr. West back also.

Mr. Wandersee stated that Dr. Kenney's comments were good. We still have a lawsuit out there regarding the Chadds Ford Elementary project. He commented that Jack was always good to protect the instructional time. He wished good luck to Maria Schwab and commented that she would do well in Phoenixville.

He offered congratulations to Lexi Crampton for her work as Student Representative. It's always nice to have a student representative on the Board who takes the time to report things that impact our decisions.

Dr. West welcomed everyone back and stated that it was nice to be back. She is reserving her comments regarding Dr. Kenney for next month. Dr. West commented that Maria Schwab would be missed and stated that Phoenixville has a wonderful person coming to them. She thanked Lexi Crampton and appreciates her being here.

Dr. Sweeney commented that Barbaro was doing well. The polar bear is also doing well and halfway back to Cleveland from New Bolton Center. There is no question that Unionville-Chadds Ford is also doing well!

**BOARD  
MEMBERS'  
COMMENTS**

Mr. Swayze welcomed everyone back and stated that it was good to see Therese West and Ed Wandersee. He commented that he had watched Maria Schwab grow dramatically in this job and thanked her for the improvement of the young ones to a higher level. He stated that he was very excited about the building and grounds long-range model and could not wait to see it start to bloom. It's a slow process and you won't see anything tangible right away but he will do his best to keep the community involved along with the communication.

Mrs. Trigg thanked Lexi Crampton for her time and stated that it's great to have her here. She commented that the PSSA test scores were on the PA Department of Education website now. It was a pleasure to look at them. The middle school scores were wonderful and they have done a great job with the math and literacy. The elementary schools have also done a good job. There were 5<sup>th</sup> graders who had a 100-point gain. We have proof that we are doing a great job there.

Mr. Baker commented that Lexi Crampton had made the irrational decision to rejoin us as Student Representative. He offered kudos to her for the first lap. Over the course of the summer, he had the opportunity to visit six colleges and his perspective on the grading scale issue was fundamentally altered. He reviewed four of his questions:

1. Are we targeting our kids to schools that are at the right level for their academic ability?
2. Are we opening the student's eyes to schools so they are at the right level?
3. Are we marketing the district appropriately to schools?  
Pennsylvania admissions officers were not familiar with U-CFSD.
4. Are we presenting our kids properly for admission to schools where they want to attend?

This should be the context for inquiry next year.

Dr. West stated that photos of Board members would be taken at another time.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen M. Brown  
Secretary

**BOARD  
MEMBERS'  
COMMENTS  
(Continued)**

**MEETING  
ADJOURNED**