

Union Board of Education Meeting

Union, CT 06076
Wednesday, April 9, 2025 at 6:30 pm
Union School Library

Call to order: The meeting was called to order at 6:31pm by Andrea Estell.

Attending: A. Estell, E. Fournier, E. Perkins, M. Silbermann
Sup./Prin. S. Jackopsic, M. Powers, Rec. Secretary

Others Attending: A few town residents

Approval of Minutes

E. Fournier made a motion to approve the minutes from February 19 and 26, 2025.
Seconded by M. Silbermann. Unanimously approved.

Individuals to be heard- L. Fitzgerald (Vernon Vo-Ag rep) inquired about the option for Vernon Vo-Ag as a continuing choice for high school students.

Communications: Sup./Prin. Jackopsic read an email from the Board of Finance that the Board of Education line item budget of \$2,021,264.00 will proceed on April 15, 2025 at the budget hearing meeting.

Administrative Reports and Activities Summary

a. Superintendent's Report- Musical and after school clubs have resumed. Report cards were sent home and parent teacher conferences took place in mid-March. Sup./Prin. Jackopsic read a letter of resignation from Cecilia Stallone to The Board. The new bus contract was reviewed by our attorney. High school registrations are being finalized. Capital improvement program, early childhood and special education are being discussed at the legislature. An actuator was replaced in the HVAC system. Whitewater is taking over the oversight and maintenance of our water system. State Rep. Kurt Vail was in to speak to the middle school students on how a bill becomes a law. Grades 6-8 recently attended a field trip to the UConn Animal Science department. Grades K-5 will be visiting the Old State House on April 25. The school art/music showcase is April 29. Field Day is June 6. 8th grade graduation is June 11.

Committee Reports

a. Curriculum- continuing to review various science programs. EASTCONN will be having a workshop for new social studies standards.

b. Communication- stated earlier in meeting.

c. Transportation- will discuss in new business in Item A.

d. Personnel- will discuss in New Business Item C

e. Building- We need to replace a pump in the water system control room.

f. EASTCONN- none

Financial Report

a. Review of bills- The bills were reviewed and in order.

- a. b. 2024-2025 BOE Spending Plan- We've had savings in health insurance. We have spent more in transportation.

Old Business

- a. 25-26 Spending Plan- The Board of Finance has requested a \$24,736.00 reduction. M. Silbermann made a motion to reduce the 2025-26 school budget by \$24,736.00 in line item high school tuition to present to the Board of Finance. E. Fournier seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried.
- b. High School Policy- Amendments were made in agreement on p. 4 and 7. M. Silbermann made a motion to amend the policy to be in agreement with the optional high school agreements regarding transportation. E. Perkins seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried.

New Business

- a. New Bus Contract- We have a 5-year agreement with M & J Bus, beginning on July 1, 2025 and concluding June 30, 2030. The standard agreement includes E.O. Smith, Woodstock Academy, tech and Vo-Ag school exchanges. It is capped at 190 days and includes am and pm routes.
M. Silbermann made a motion to accept the transportation contract with M & J Bus through June 30, 2030. E. Fournier seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried.
- b. 2025-2026 Calendar- The board reviewed the 2025-26 school calendar. M. Silbermann made a motion to adopt the 2025-26 school calendar. E. Fournier seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried.
- E. Perkins made a motion to move item 10- Individuals to be Heard before item 9C- Superintendent/Principal Contract. E. Fournier seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried.
- c. Superintendent/Principal Contract (anticipated executive session)- E. Fournier made a motion to go into executive session and invite Sup./Prin. Jackopsic into the meeting. M. Silbermann seconded the motion. The board went into executive session at 7:10 pm and exited executive session at 7:44 pm.

Individuals to be heard- A few town residents had questions about the finalization of high school agreements and federal funding.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn at 7:44 pm. by M. Silbermann. E. Fournier seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:44 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Michele Powers, Recording Secretary.