

TO ALL BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBERS:

The regular meeting of the Board of Education of the Township of Union will be held on Tuesday, May 16, 2006 at 7:00 p.m. at Union High School, Union, New Jersey 07083

The regular meeting of the Board of Education of the Township of Union was held in the Library at Union High School on Tuesday, May 16, 2006 at 7 p.m. pursuant to notice sent to each member.

PRESENT AT ROLL CALL: Mr. Gary Abraham, Mrs. Judith Axelrod, Mrs. Linda Gaglione, Mr. Steven Helmstetter, President; Mr. Anthony Manochio, Mrs. Versie McNeil, Mr. Francis Perkins, Mr. Steve Ruhl and Mrs. Judy Salazar

ABSENT AT ROLL CALL: None

Mrs. Axelrod led the board members and audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The secretary read the statement required under the "Open Public Meeting Act", a copy of which is on file in the office of the secretary.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Moved by Mr. Abraham, seconded by Mr. Ruhl that the minutes of the Organization Meeting on April 25, 2006 and the Executive Session of April 25, 2006 be approved:

AYE: Mr. Abraham, Mrs. Axelrod, Mrs. Gaglione, Mr. Manochio, Mrs. McNeil, Mr. Perkins, Mr. Ruhl, Mrs. Salazar and Mr. Helmstetter

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

MOTION WAS CARRIED

COMMUNICATION

REQUEST FOR UNPAID EXTENDED CHILD REARING LEAVE – MORENO-GOLD

Karen Moreno-Gold, instrumental music teacher at Union High School, submitted a letter dated April 19, 2006, requesting unpaid extended child rearing leave for the 2006-2007 school year.

LETTER OF RESIGNATION – ROLLI

Marian C. Rolli, mathematics teacher at Burnet Middle School, submitted a letter of resignation dated April 24, 2006, effective July 1, 2006.

## COMMUNICATION

## REQUEST FOR UNPAID FAMILY LEAVE – VARGA

Maria Varga, classroom assistant at Battle Hill School, submitted a letter dated April 25, 2006, requesting unpaid family leave for the period April 4, 2006 through the end of the 2005-2006 school year.

## LETTER OF RESIGNATION – DIXON

Robert Dixon, industrial arts-general shop teacher at Burnet Middle School, submitted a letter of resignation dated April 26, 2006, effective July 1, 2006.

## LETTER OR RESIGNATION (RETIREMENT) – CORTESE

Richard Cortese, social studies teacher a Union High School, submitted a letter of resignation for the purpose of retirement dated April 27, 2006, effective July 1, 2006.

## LETTER OF RESIGNATION – MITCHELL

Tamika Mitchell, districtwide social worker, submitted a letter of resignation dated April 27, 2006, effective July 1, 2006.

## LETTER OF RESIGNATION – GILMORE

Joan Gilmore, cafeteria/playground assistant from Hannah Caldwell, submitted a letter of resignation dated April 24, 2006, effective April 28, 2006.

## REQUEST FOR EXTENDED UNPAID CHILD REARING LEAVE – LILOIA-O'DONNELL

Christine Liloia O'Donnell, teacher at Connecticut Farms School, submitted a letter dated April 29, 2006, requesting extended unpaid child rearing leave for the 2006-2006 school year.

## LETTER OF RESIGNATION – THOMAS

David Thomas, music teacher at Union High School, submitted a letter of resignation dated May 8, 2006, effective July 1, 2006.

## BOARD PRESENTATIONS

Dr. Jakubowski stated that it was his pleasure to present plaques to two individuals who have served the board of education for seven and nine years, respectively. He said that each of these individuals served as President of the Board during their terms on the board and each assisted in the passing of school budgets and a bond referendum and each were instrumental with what has been achieved within the school district. Dr. Jakubowski said that each of these individuals was very supportive of him with programs and changes which he wanted to institute within the schools. He was happy to see that each individual was present tonight along with members of their families.

## BOARD PRESENTATIONS

Dr. Jakubowski presented the first plaque to Linda Lewis. The plaque read as follows: *"The Township of Union Board of Education, Union, New Jersey gratefully acknowledges Linda Lewis for nine years of dedicated service rendered to the children of the Township of Union School System as a Board Member, Vice President and President."* Ms. Lewis said that she stood before the board this evening with overwhelming gratitude and some regret. She said that she was grateful for the continued confidence shown by the community and fellow board members throughout her tenure. Ms. Lewis said that she regretted that there was not more emphasis placed on student-specific education related issues. She said that in her time off the board she was committed to placing an emphasis on student-specific education issues. Ms. Lewis said that the nine years spent of the board were filled with lessons of school district policy, operations, teamwork, interpersonal relationships and political science. She said that through it all, it was time "well spent". Ms. Lewis said that there were individuals and groups of individuals that she wanted to take time to thank for their part in her growth over the past nine years. She said that Mr. Manzella was her running mate from the beginning and he initially showed her the "ropes" and she thanked him for that. Ms. Lewis said that Ms. Middlebrooks was a friend, a running mate and a true fellow board member and she thanked her as well. She said that Mr. Manochio was the "T" in team and he personified consensus building. Ms. Lewis said that Mr. Manochio was always there to be supportive of what the team wants and she thanked him. She said that Mr. Perkins had proven to be a testament that you do not always have to agree and even though you are sometimes disagreeable but through it all there is an understanding. Ms. Lewis thanked Mr. Perkins for all of the lessons that he has taught her. She thanked Mr. Damato and said that he had served as an advisor and a friend. Ms. Lewis stated that the board was fortunate to have Mr. Damato, with his even temperament and she wished him a long, long time with the board. She thanked Mrs. Lombardi, Ms. Dunn and Mr. Magliacano for being supportive of her through the good and bad times and for always being professional. Ms. Lewis said that she and Dr. Jakubowski have had "war and roses" but the "roses" stand out most of all. She said that she knew that Dr. Jakubowski wanted what was best for the district and that he would go to war for the children, he cared for the children and that is first and foremost. Ms. Lewis thanked the Central Office support staff for their consistent cordial assistance. She thanked Mrs. Ditri and said that Mr. Damato was very "blessed" to have her in his support. Ms. Lewis thanked the community for their support.

Dr. Jakubowski presented the second plaque to Melinda Middlebrooks. The plaque read as follows: *"The Township of Union Board of Education, Union, New Jersey gratefully acknowledges Melinda Middlebrooks for seven years of dedicated service rendered to the children of the Township of Union School System as a Board Member, Vice President and President."* Ms. Middlebrooks thanked Ms. Lombardi for her help and she apologized for missing her in her statement at her last board meeting. She also thanked Mrs. Ditri for always making sure "where

## BOARD PRESENTATIONS

she was going" and "pointed her in the right direction." Ms. Middlebrooks also thanked Ms. Lewis and stated that she would always be her "sister". She referred to her family members present tonight and commented that "these were the people who always stood behind me."

Mr. Helmstetter noted that Mr. Manzella, who was also scheduled to receive a presentation this evening, could not be present and his plaque would be presented at the next board meeting.

## SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Jakubowski gave his Superintendent's Report a copy of which is appended to these minutes.

Dr. Jakubowski introduced Dr. Anthony Lentine, the principal of Livingston School who would present a little picture of that school. Dr. Lentine thanked the board for the invitation to present to the public a small "snapshot" of Livingston Elementary School. He said that the presentation which the public was about to see was written and designed totally by the students with the technical assistance of Mr. Seyffart. Dr. Lentine said that the presentation represents a year-long project that was undertaken by the students of Livingston School. He said that the "Family Forest" was the conceptual idea that everything through education is connected and that students learn through cross-curriculum instruction. Dr. Lentine stated that "Students Teaching Students" was a culminating idea where every grade level communicated their "piece to the puzzle" in a schoolwide assembly. He introduced Meaghan Caulfield and Michelle Desjardins, two fourth grade students, who would be making tonight's presentation. Ms. Caulfield said that she and Ms. Desjardins would like to take a moment of the public's time to visit Livingston School through tonight's presentation. (A copy of the slide presentation is attached as a part of these minutes).

Mr. Helmstetter thanked Dr. Lentine and the students from Livingston School for a wonderful presentation. Dr. Jakubowski thanked Dr. Lentine and the two student presenters and he was sure that the parents of these students were very proud.

Dr. Jakubowski introduced Mr. Thomas Tsirikos, the principal of Franklin School who would also be making a presentation this evening. Mr. Tsirikos congratulated the students from Livingston who just made their presentation. He thought they did an outstanding job. Mr. Tsirikos said that he was accompanied this evening by Mrs. Katherine DiGiovanni, Vice Principal as well as Mr. Andy Pfeiffer, who is the computer and gifted and talented teacher at Franklin Elementary School. He said that it was Mr. Pfeiffer who put together tonight's

## SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

powerpoint presentation. Mr. Tsirikos thanked the board for inviting him to attend the meeting in order to share information about Franklin School and its curriculum.

He said that he thought it would be especially appropriate since there are new board members, to give them an opportunity to familiarize them not only with Franklin School but also with the curriculum. Mr. Tsirikos stated that Franklin School was currently in its 74<sup>th</sup> year of serving the community and it currently has an enrollment of 542 students with 42 full and/or part time teachers. He said that Franklin School was located at the northern end of Union and had the second largest enrollment of any of the pre-k through fourth grade elementary schools in the district. Mr. Tsirikos said that Franklin School has one of the most culturally and ethnically diverse student populations of any school in the district. He said that this includes a large number of children who come from homes where English is the second language. Mr. Tsirikos said he believed that the school's diversity is one of its greatest strengths. He said that Franklin School's teachers strive to provide students with an environment that promotes academic and personal growth, a positive self image and enthusiasm toward learning. Mr. Tsirikos said that each student is encouraged to achieve to his fullest potential. He said that Franklin had a strong academic curriculum that is aligned to the State's CORE curriculum content standards. Mr. Tsirikos said that in addition to their regular classroom instruction, all kindergarten through fourth grade students receive instruction in health and physical education, art, vocal music, library science and computers on a weekly basis by special area teachers. He said that the school's second through fourth grade students participate in a World Languages program which provides an enjoyable exposure to conversational Spanish as well as the Spanish culture. Mr. Tsirikos said that instrumental music lessons are available to third and fourth grade students and all third and fourth grade students participate in the school's chorus and perform at the annual holiday music program and spring arts and music festival, which is scheduled for next Tuesday night. He said that Franklin School's Title I program provides small group instruction for students who need remedial help in the areas of language arts and math. Mr. Tsirikos said that the Title I program features a network computer lab that enables students to work at their own pace and level on a variety of skill-content areas. He said that ESL (English as a Second Language) services are also provided on a daily basis for students with limited English proficiency. Mr. Tsirikos said that full and part time special education programs are available for students with special needs and many special needs students receive related services such as speech, occupational therapy, physical therapy, counseling and/or in-class support. He said that in all cases Franklin School tries to keep students in the least restrictive environment, mainstreamed with their chronological peers. He also acknowledged the gifted and talented program at Franklin School and stated that the students participating in this program are identified based upon the district's eligibility criteria and in this class, they participate in a variety of hands-on, thought-provoking activities. Mr. Tsirikos said that Union Township has historically offered quality early childhood

## SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

programs for its students, including Pre-School/Head Start Program as well as the Kindergarten Program. He said that these programs provide developmentally appropriate learning activities that help build a solid foundation for learning. Mr. Tsirikos said that last year one of Franklin's kindergarten teachers, Mrs. Maimone, received a grant from the Union Education Foundation to initiate a program titled "Community Reading" which involves guest readers from the school and community being invited to read a favorite story to kindergarten students and afterwards the guest readers recorded their stories on cassettes which were put into the classroom library and the students were able to enjoy re-hearing these familiar stories during center times using individual cassette recorders. He said that Franklin School was among the first schools in the district to offer a Breakfast Program for its students and on an average day there are approximately 60 students taking advantage of this service. Mr. Tsirikos said that there is also a morning and an after-school childcare program that is operated by the Five Points YMCA and these programs offer an important for the many working parents and families at Franklin School. He said that for the past eight years, Franklin School has received a DEPA (Demonstrably Effective Program Aid) grant; this grant comes from the State Department of Education and funds from this grant are used to provide a remedial summer school for approximately 80 students each year and an afterschool reading enrichment program for students in grade 1 and 2 and an afterschool NJASK preparation program. He said that these programs help to provide individualized and small group instruction to improve the students' skills and enthusiasm toward learning. Mr. Tsirikos said that the DEPA grant also provides funding for cultural arts assembly programs and these programs have been used to supplement and enrich Franklin School's curriculum. He said that in addition to assembly programs that have dealt with science, health and nutrition and character education, assemblies have also dealt with the life of Benjamin Franklin, Thomas Edison, Martin Luther King, Jr., Frederick Douglas and Rosa Parks. Mr. Tsirikos said that three classes at Franklin School also participated in the highly educational chick hatching project. He said that Franklin School has had several evening parent and family programs which included a presentation by Mrs. DiGiovanni and Mrs. Lombardino, which familiarized parents with the nature of the NJASK and also provided parents with suggestions on how to help their children at home. Mr. Tsirikos said that there was also a program which was entitled "Positive Parental Involvement" featuring Ted Fataros, a motivational speaker, who has addressed schools and colleges throughout the country. He said that there was also a family night planned featuring the "Harlem Wizards" which was expected to be fun with a large turnout. Mr. Tsirikos stated that the DEPA grant also has enabled students at Franklin School to go on field trips that extend and enrich the school curriculum without charge to parents. He said this year some classes took trips to the Green Meadows Farm, the Union Library, Liberty Hall Museum, the Caldwell Parsonage, Waterloo Village, Kean University, the Children's Museum and the New York Aquarium. Mr. Tsirikos said that lunch and recess times enable

## SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

students to take a break from their studies while providing them with an opportunity to develop their physical and social skills. He said that some of the more popular activities on the playground are kickball, throw ball, four-squares and jumping rope. Mr. Tsirikos said that during the winter months and on inclement weather days, students are able to play board games, read for pleasure and pursue any interests or hobbies that they may have. He said that through a grant from the Union Township Education Foundation, Ms. Chinsky, the art teacher at Franklin School, has helped approximately forty fourth graders, to learn how to knit. Mr. Tsirikos said that the Franklin School PTA is certainly one of the school's greatest resources and through their various fundraising activities, the PTA has sponsored many programs and activities for Franklin School's students and parents throughout the year including the School Fair, Family Fun Night of Roller Skating, Grandparents Day, Mother/Son Tea and for the first time this year, the PTA is sponsoring a Father/Daughter Dance for fourth graders. He said that each year parents and other members of the community provide hundreds of volunteer hours working for students and staff. Ms. Tsirikos said the volunteers provide support for students, individualized practice and lots of encouragement as well. He said that Franklin School stresses the importance of appropriate social behavior and good character among its students. Mr. Tsirikos said that twice each month, teachers are asked to recommend a student from their classroom for a PRO (People Respecting Others) award and these awards are given to students who follow school and classroom rules and show kindness and respect towards their fellow students and teachers as well. He said the students who are nominated for a PRO award, receive a certificate, a Franklin School Pencil, a sticker and a complimentary ice cream from the school cafeteria; in addition, their picture is taken and it is displayed on a bulletin board in main hallway of the school. Mr. Tsirikos said that Franklin School's fourth grade student council has organized a number of schoolwide philanthropic projects including raising money for the Juvenile Diabetes Society, the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society, the American Heart Association and the Save the Children Foundation. He said that they have also helped to raise funds to support the construction of a handicapped accessible playground for children affected by Hurricane Katrina. Mr. Tsirikos stated that helping others is certainly a very important lesson for Franklin School students. He said that as principal of Franklin School, he is very proud of the students and staff as well as the quality of programs and services that are provided to its students. Mr. Tsirikos said that Franklin School was a great place to learn and to grow. Mr. Helmstetter thanked Mr. Tsirikos for his presentation and Dr. Jakubowski also thanked Mr. Tsirikos, Mr. Pfeiffer and Mrs. DiGiovanni for the presentation. He said that Franklin School is a building where teachers take advantage of all of the opportunities offered in the district.

## COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC ON PROPOSED RESOLUTIONS ON THE AGENDA

Ms. Ciampi asked about the operations resolutions which were added to the agenda since the worksession. She stated that O-5 deals with the purchase and installation of cameras and recorders for school buses and she wanted to know if these were being added onto buses that do not have cameras or are they replacement units. Ms. Dunn said that these are replacements for video VHS recorders. She said that last year some of the recorders were replaced and this year the remainder are being replaced. Ms. Dunn stated that they are digital recorders which are an improvement over the ones that were originally installed. Ms. Ciampi asked if O-6 and O-7 were related. Mr. Abraham stated that resolution O-6 reports the receipt of various bids and O-7 recommends the rejection of all of the bids received for the HVAC upgrades at Burnet Middle School because they were all above the architect's estimate of the project. Ms. Ciampi said that resolution O-8 was disturbing to her because it deals with the lease and installation of two digital copy machines at the rate of \$3,171 per month for sixty months. She said that this cost would be over \$38,000 for the year. Ms. Ciampi asked if it would have been better to just purchase the copiers and were two machines necessary. Ms. Dunn said that this bid was for the replacement of two huge Xerox machines in the copy center at Union High School and the Xerox machines have been there for approximately seven years. She said that she was very pleased with the result of this bid because the costs to lease the new machines are actually less than what it has been costing the district over the past few years to maintain the Xerox machines. Ms. Dunn said that this was a cost savings for the district. Mr. Damato said that in his opinion it would be cost prohibited to purchase the copiers outright and this would also have some negative consequences. He said that in a lease where everything such as maintenance, supplies, repairs and copy costs are included, if there is a problem during the term of the lease, the leasing company is responsible and when a machine is purchased outright, the district must then get a maintenance contract on the machine. Mr. Damato did not think that anyone is purchasing a machine of this size because at the end of five years the machine is not worth very much because the technology changes so rapidly, and it is more cost effective to lease the equipment. Ms. Ciampi said that she understood that the district should do things that were cost effective but she stated that she would rather own than lease.

Mr. Donnarumma wanted to know if the district owned the Xerox machines that were presently being used at Union High School. Ms. Dunn said that the district did own these two machines. Mr. Donnarumma asked what would happen to the Xerox machines when the new machines are leased. Ms. Dunn said that incorporated into the bid, those machines are traded in and they will be taken away. She said that for the benefit of the board and the public who may be listening this evening, the two machines in question are only two of approximately fifty that the board has throughout the district. Ms. Dunn said that these two machines do the most volume for the district, approximately 500,000 copies per

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC ON RESOLUTIONS ON THE AGENDA

month. She said that she was very pleased with the bid amount as it includes maintenance, per copy costs and supplies and this will be a benefit to the district. Ms. Dunn said that the maintenance on the current machines cost more than what the two new machines will cost. Mr. Donnarumma just wondered what was going to happen to the old machines. Ms. Dunn said that would be taken away and it was a benefit to have them taken away. Mr. Donnarumma asked what happened after the 60 month lease period was up. Ms. Dunn said that the district could renew the lease or go out to bid.

EDUCATION/STUDENT DISCIPLINE COMMITTEE

Moved by Mrs. Axelrod, seconded by Mr. Abraham that the following resolutions be adopted:

E-1. AMEND LIST OF STUDENTS REMOVED FROM THE ROLLS

That Board approval be given to amend the list of students removed from the rolls [five (5) students exited from April 1<sup>st</sup> through April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2006; a total of seventy (70) students have been removed from the rolls for the 2005-2006 school year] who are not domiciled in this school district and five (5) students who will be allowed to complete the 2005-2006 school year, in accordance with the information in the nonpublic portion of these minutes.

E-2. APPROVE 2006-2007 NONPUBLIC TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM

That the board approve 2006-2007 Nonpublic Technology Program contract with the Union County Educational Services Commission in accordance with the information appended to these minutes.

E-3. APPROVE 2006-2007 SPECIAL EDUCATION TUITION CONTRACT

That the board approve 2006-2007 Special Education Tuition Contract with Union County Educational Services Commission in accordance with the information appended to these minutes.

DISCUSSION:

None

AYE: Mr. Abraham, Mrs. Axelrod, Mrs. Gaglione, Mr. Manochio, Mrs. McNeil, Mr. Perkins, Mr. Ruhl, Mrs. Salazar and Mr. Helmstetter

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

MOTION WAS CARRIED

FISCAL AND PLANNING COMMITTEE

Moved by Mrs. Gaglione, seconded by Mr. Perkins that the following resolutions be adopted:

F-1. CERTIFIED REPORT OF ANNUAL SCHOOL ELECTION

Certified report of the annual school election held on April 18, 2006 as follows in accordance with the information appended to these minutes:

	<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>
Public Question No. 1 –General Fund	1022	1105

Three Year Term

Steve Ruhl	1642 votes
Karen Loessel	845 votes
Roxanne Ciampi	875 votes
Versie McNeil	1152 votes
Judy Salazar	1312 votes

F-2. ACCEPT TREASURER’S REPORT

That the Treasurer’s Report dated April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2006 be accepted.

F-3. ACCEPT SECRETARY’S REPORT

That the Secretary’s Report dated April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2006 be accepted.

F-4. CERTIFY TREASURER’S AND SECRETARY’S REPORTS

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.11(a), I certify that as of April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2006 no budgetary line item account has obligations and payments (contractual orders) which in total exceed the amount appropriated by the district board of education pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:22-8 and 18:22-8.1.

_____	_____
James J. Damato, Board Secretary	Dated

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.2(h), we certify that as of April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2006 after review of the secretary’s monthly financial report (appropriations section) and upon consultation with the appropriate district officials that to the best of our knowledge no major account or fund has been over-expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.2(d)3 and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district’s financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year. This certification is solely based on the information provided by the School Business Administrator and Board Secretary and is assumed by the board to be correct.

F-5. APPROVE LINE ITEM TRANSFERS

That the Board approve line item transfers in accordance with the information appended to these minutes.

F-6. CONCUR WITH INVESTMENTS

That the Board concur with the investments made by the Business Administrator as follows:

Mature Date	Purchase Date	Number of Days	Amount	Invest. Held by	Home A/C Account	Interest	Estimated Income
05/16/06	04/25/06	21	200,000	Commerce	Chase MIC/CA	5.05%	589.17
05/16/06	04/25/06	21	800,000	Commerce	UCNB Café	5.05%	2,356.67
05/16/06	04/25/06	21	1,300,000	Commerce	UCNB CAP RESERVE	5.05%	3,829.58
05/16/06	04/25/06	21	14,000,000	Commerce	UCNB OP AC	5.05%	41,241.67
05/16/06	04/25/06	21	5,500,000	Commerce	UCNB JAN 03 BOND	5.05%	16,202.08
05/16/06	04/25/06	21	900,000	Commerce	Unity BankSUI	5.05%	2,651.25

F-7. APPROVE CONTRACTS AND/OR PURCHASE ORDERS PURSUANT TO THE REQUIREMENTS OF *N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-5* and *18A:18A-10(a)*

That the Board approve the following contracts and/or purchase orders pursuant to the requirements of *N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-5* and *18A:18A-10(a)* and in accordance with the information appended to these minutes.

F-8. APPROVE ATTACHED LIST OF CONTRACTS AND/OR PURCHASES PURSUANT TO THE REQUIREMENTS OF *N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-5(21)*

That the Board approve attached list of contracts and/or purchases pursuant to the requirements of *N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-5(21)* in accordance with the information in the hands of each board member: (a) Pioneer Bus Company - \$1,455 – fourth grade fieldtrip to Camden Aquarium – Hannah Caldwell School; (b) Freedom Fundraising - \$3,888.72 – music production- Kawameeh Middle School; (c) J. Weiss & Sons, Inc. - \$1,740 – spring musical/star drop – Union High School

F-9. APPROVE RENEWAL OF STUDENT AND ATHLETIC ACCIDENT INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR 2006-2007

The committee recommends and I so move that the Board approve renewal of Student and Athletic Accident Insurance Coverage for the 2006-2007 school year from Bollinger Insurance, 101 JFK Parkway, Short Hills, New Jersey at an annual premium of \$30,242.25 (this is a 7.5% increase over last year's premium) in accordance with the information appended to these minutes.

## FISCAL AND PLANNING COMMITTEE

## F-10. AUTHORIZE DISBURSEMENT OF SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS

That the board authorize disbursement of the following scholarship funds:

Dora D. Feins	\$ 100.00
Edith Firsichbaum Memorial	\$ 150.00
Myrtle Vohden Hassey Memorial (Medicine)	\$ 50.00
Myrtle Vohden Hassey Memorial (Nursing)	\$ 50.00
Louis J. Rettino Scholarship	\$ 1,000.00
Jack Segale Memorial Award	\$ 500.00
Anna Zofay Slobodianyik (Business)	\$ 500.00
Anna Zofay Slobodianyik (Math)	\$ 500.00
Nick Wellner Memorial Fund	\$ 100.00
Geraldine Minieri Memorial Fund	\$ 1,000.00
Bob O'Dell Scholarship	\$ 2,500.00

## F-11. APPROVE TRUST AGREEMENT – KARA A. LACZYNSKI MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND

That the board approve Trust Agreement for the Kara A. Laczynski Memorial Scholarship Fund in accordance with the information appended to these minutes.

## F-12. APPROVE 2006-2007 GENERAL FUND SCHOOL BUDGET LEVY AS ADOPTED BY THE TOWNSHIP OF UNION

That the board approve 2006-2007 General Fund School Budget Levy as adopted by the Township of Union on May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2006 in the amount of \$68,832,048. This General Fund School Budget Levy amount represents a reduction of \$493,276 due to voter defeat of budget question on April 18<sup>th</sup>, 2006 annual school board election. (Attached are copies of resolution from the municipal governing body together with line item adjustments to be sent to the County Superintendent of Schools for approval.)

## DISCUSSION:

Ms. Gaglione stated that she had gone to Union High School with Kara Laczynski; this being the 25<sup>th</sup> reunion year for her class. She said that Ms. Laczynski was very much into school and she enjoyed English and Journalism and Ms. Gaglione was very glad that she could be the one to present the resolution this evening.

Mr. Helmstetter thanked the public who attended the budget meeting on Monday at Town Hall to support the school district. He said that he would have loved to see no cut to the budget but unfortunately that did not happen. Mr. Helmstetter hoped that in the future everyone would come out to vote for the budget and make sure that the budget passes.

## FISCAL AND PLANNING COMMITTEE DISCUSSION

Dr. Jakubowski said that working with the Township Committee and deciding what was going to happen was a good experience. He thought that it was positive and the two groups worked together to see what could be done. Dr. Jakubowski said that it was important for the public to understand that once a budget is defeated it is no longer in the hands of the Board of Education as to what the board will spend or what the board will do. He urged the members of the community to get out to vote for the school budget. Dr. Jakubowski said that the number of "no" votes in this year's election are no different than they have been for the last seven or eight years. He thought that the difference was that many people choose not to go out to vote for the school budget. Dr. Jakubowski said that due to the reduction in the budget there will be higher class sizes and there will be positions eliminated for the next school year. He said that Union's cost per pupil is \$1,000 lower than the county average and \$1200 lower than the State average and that means that this district is doing a good job but it means that it needs the support of the community. Mr. Perkins said that Dr. Jakubowski had commented at Monday night's meeting about the difference between the budget presented and what that budget would be if Union were to spend the average amount of money per student on a statewide and countywide basis. Dr. Jakubowski said that if the district spent the county average per student, the budget would be \$8 million more per year and if the district spent the state average per student, the budget would be \$9.6 million more per year. He stated that when he says that the district has been "fiscally prudent", it really has been prudent. Dr. Jakubowski said that only two districts in Union County spend less per pupil than Union does. He said that administrative costs across the State of New Jersey which have been the focus by Governor Corzine, Acting Governor Codey and former Governor McGreevy, that school districts administratively spend too much money but the district's costs, administratively, are lower than 91% of the districts in the State of New Jersey. Dr. Jakubowski said that this district does not overspend and what is spent, is spent on the students. He promised that next year he would start making a push in February for the community to come out to vote on the budget. Mr. Perkins said that he thought it was fair to say that the board and the administration, particularly, save the community between \$8 million and \$9 million every single year as compared with the average and one of the problems when this is done is that people tend to take that for granted. He said that if one were to take the number of "yes" and "no" votes, there were 2,127 people who voted in the last election. Mr. Perkins said that last year Westfield, a smaller community than Union, with a smaller budget lost their budget. He said that this year there were over 5,000 people who came out to vote on the budget.

Mr. Perkins hoped that the same thing will happen in Union next year and that people will wake up to the fact that it is really important to come out and vote in the school elections each year.

AYE: Mr. Abraham, Mrs. Axelrod, Mrs. Gaglione, Mr. Manochio, Mrs. McNeil, Mr. Perkins, Mr. Ruhl, Mrs. Salazar and Mr. Helmstetter  
NAY: None  
ABSTAIN: None MOTION WAS CARRIED

#### OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

Moved by Mr. Abraham, seconded by Mr. Manochio, that the following resolutions be adopted:

##### O-1. APPROVE ADVERTISEMENT FOR DISPOSAL OF EQUIPMENT

That the board approve advertisement for disposal of the following equipment, which is no longer functional and deemed unserviceable for school use:  
(a) Hewlett Packard Printer – LaserJet 4+ from Head Start Department in accordance with information appended to these minutes. If equipment is not sold, it will be disposed of as scrap.

##### O-2. APPROVE CHANGE ORDER #8 – TRU-VAL ELECTRIC CORP

That the board approve Change Order #8 from Tru-Val Electric Corp., 100 Leuning Street, South Hackensack, NJ for remaining unused allowance from Allowance EC-1 as per Specification Section 01020-3, item K-6 from the total amount of \$36,000 in the deducted amount of \$17,962.20 in accordance with the information appended to these minutes. (BOND)

##### O-3. APPROVE CONTINGENCY CHANGE #2 – C&M DOOR CONTROLS, INC.

That the board approve Contingency Change #2 from C&M Door Controls, Inc. for two (2) new doors at Connecticut Farms Elementary School (custodial entrance and stage exit) in the deducted amount of \$6,450 which shall be deducted from Owner's Contingency Reserve in accordance with the information appended to these minutes.

##### O-4. APPROVE DISPOSAL OF PUBLIC RECORDS

That the board approve the disposal of public records in accordance with the information appended to these minutes.

OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

O-5. AWARD BID – DIGI COM DIGITAL COMMUNICATIONS

That the board award bid for purchase and installation of cameras and recorders for school bus vehicles (Bid# 06-36) to DigiCom Digital Communications, 63 King Road, Landing, New Jersey in the total bid amount of \$29,535.

O-6. REPORT RECEIPT OF BIDS

Report the receipt of bids received on May 11, 2006 for proposed HVAC upgrades at Burnet Middle School.

O-7. REJECT BIDS RECEIVED MAY 11, 2006 – HVAC UPGRADES AT BURNET MIDDLE SCHOOL

That the board reject the bids received on May 11, 2006 for proposed HVAC upgrades at Burnet Middle School as being greater than the architects estimate and authorize the board secretary to rebid the project.

O-8 AWARD BID FOR LEASE AND INSTALLATION OF TWO DIGITAL COPY MACHINES – LANIER WORLDWIDE

That the board award bid for lease and installation of two digital copy machines at Union High School to Lanier Worldwide, 485 Route 1 South, Iselin, New Jersey (Bid #06-35) in the total bid amount of \$3,171 per month for a term of sixty (60) months in accordance with the information appended to these minutes.

DISCUSSION

None

AYE: Mr. Abraham, Mrs. Axelrod, Mrs. Gaglione, Mr. Manochio, Mrs. McNeil, Mr. Perkins, Mr. Ruhl, Mrs. Salazar and Mr. Helmstetter

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

MOTION WAS CARRIED

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Moved by Mr. Manochio, seconded by Mr. Abraham that the following resolutions be adopted:

P-1. APPROVE PERSONNEL ACTIONS

That Personnel Actions be approved in accordance with the information appended to these minutes.

## PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

## P-2. AMEND SUBSTITUTE LISTS

That the Board amend Substitute/Home Instruction List; Substitute Custodians, Substitute Cafeteria/Playground Aides, Teacher Assistants and Secretaries for the 2005-2006 school year in accordance with the information appended to these minutes.

## P-3. ACCEPT LETTERS OF RESIGNATION

That the Board accept letters of resignation from staff: (a) Marian C. Rolli, mathematics teacher at Burnet Middle School, effective July 1, 2006; (b) Robert Dixon, industrial arts-general shop teacher at Burnet Middle School, effective July 1, 2006; (c) Richard Cortese, social studies teacher at Union High School, effective July 1, 2006 (retirement); (d) Tamika Mitchell, districtwide social worker, effective July 1, 2006; (e) Joan Gilmore, cafeteria/playground assistant, effective April 28, 2006; (f) David Thomas, music teacher at Union High School, effective July 1, 2006; (g) Nicole Marcianti, English teacher at Union High School, effective July 1, 2006.

## P-4. APPROVE UNPAID EXTENDED CHILD REARING LEAVE – MORENO-GOLD

That the board approve unpaid extended child rearing leave for Karen Moreno-Gold, instrumental music teacher at Union High School, for the entire 2006-2007 school year.

## P-5. APPROVE UNPAID FAMILY LEAVE – VARGA

That the board approve unpaid family leave for Maria Varga, classroom assistant at Battle Hill School for the period April 4, 2006 to the end of the 2005-2006 school year.

## P-6. APPROVE UNPAID EXTENDED CHILD REARING LEAVE – LILOIA-O'DONNELL

That the board approve unpaid extended child rearing leave for Christine Liloia O'Donnell, teacher at Connecticut Farms School, for the 2006-2007 school year.

## P-7. APPROVE PAYMENT FOR CPR INSTRUCTION

That the board approve payment to Sean Paterno and Sandy Mamary for CPR instruction to transportation department workers at a rate of \$40 per hour not to exceed 18 hours or \$720 per person.

## P-8. APPROVE MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT – UNION TOWNSHIP ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS

That the board approve Memorandum of Agreement between Union Township Association of School Administrators and Township of Union Board of Education in accordance with the information appended to these minutes.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

P-9. APPROVE ANNUAL RECEPTION ON JUNE 20, 2006

That the board approve annual reception to be held on June 20, 2006 at 5:30 p.m. at Union High School Library honoring retirees, staff members with twenty-five years service and district volunteers in accordance with the information appended to these minutes.

DISCUSSION

Dr. Jakubowski said that the district has been looking for an Industrial Arts Teacher for Union High School since October. He said that last week he met with a gentleman who taught in Union for a number of years; his name is Daniel Eberenz. Dr. Jakubowski said that Mr. Eberenz had been a student in the Union School District and left teaching to enter the private sector. He said that Mr. Eberenz has since retired from his job a few years ago and when he heard there might be a possibility that he could come back to Union, contact me. Dr. Jakubowski said that having Mr. Eberenz will be a nice thing and is a great addition to the Union School District.

AYE:	Mr. Abraham, Mrs. Axelrod, Mrs. Gaglione, Mr. Manochio, Mrs. McNeil, Mr. Perkins, Mr. Ruhl, Mrs. Salazar and Mr. Helmstetter	
NAY:	None	
ABSTAIN:	None	MOTION WAS CARRIED

APPROVAL OF BILLS

Moved by Mr. Abraham seconded by Mr. Manochio that the Board concur with the bills listed in the permanent bound register appended to these minutes and be ordered for payment.

AYE:	Mr. Abraham, Mrs. Axelrod, Mrs. Gaglione, Mr. Manochio, Mrs. McNeil, Mr. Perkins, Mr. Ruhl, Mrs. Salazar and Mr. Helmstetter	
NAY:	None	
ABSTAIN:	None	MOTION WAS CARRIED

## UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Mrs. Gaglione said that she had a comment and a concern regarding safety and security with regard to the Elementary Schools in the district. She said that she has visited several of the Elementary Schools in the district and she noticed that there was only one monitor for the front door and none going throughout the building. Mrs. Gaglione said it was her concern that although they are elementary students, the district still needs to know that the access doors going in and out throughout the locations of each school need to be covered. She was aware that there was not much money left in the safety and security account that has been utilized over the years and she asked the safety committee what the district's plans were in the future for security in the elementary schools. Mrs. Gaglione asked what each elementary school have as far as security and what is the district's plan as far as possibly getting grant money for this purpose, because the budget has been cut.

Dr. Jakubowski said that he would get the information for Mrs. Gaglione by the next worksession. He said that the cameras at the front door of each elementary school have been there for a number of years. Dr. Jakubowski said that a monitor was installed into each main office as part of the security project and in addition, several of the elementary schools already had cameras at other doors. He said that sensors were also installed in rooms that needed them and he thought that each exit door was to have a sensor installed as part of the security project, so that if any door was left "ajar", the main office would be notified. Mr. Magliacano said that he and Mr. Endrzejewski are working on the final plans for the entire district for the door alarms. Mrs. Gaglione said that she understood that the security system which was previously used in Livingston School, does not work any more. Dr. Jakubowski said that he would look into that also.

Dr. Jakubowski said that the interviewing of candidates for the Assistant Superintendent position has been completed. He said that he would now be meeting with Mrs. Lombardi, Ms. Dunn and Ms. French, who assisted him in the second phase of the interviews. Dr. Jakubowski said that they have been given their assignment to list their candidates in order and prior to the end of the week, they would all meet to discuss this matter. He said that if the matter can be brought to closure, he may ask the board to have a special meeting to appoint a new Assistant Superintendent, as the candidate would probably have to give sixty (60) days notice in order for someone to take the position as of August 1<sup>st</sup>. Dr. Jakubowski thought that the interviews were interesting.

## NEW BUSINESS

None

## COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Mr. Donnarumma said that he knew the budget had failed but he suggested that the outside of the Administration Building be "spruced up". Mr. Helmstetter stated that this issue has been discussed by the board and hopefully, it will be done this year. Mr. Donnarumma thought that there was going to be work done on the Administration Building with bond monies.

Ms. Ciampi wanted to know how many of the candidates still in the running for the Assistant Superintendent's position were from in district. Dr. Jakubowski said that there are both in-district and out-of-district candidates that are still being considered for the position. Ms. Ciampi said that she was very upset that nothing has been done to make the Administration handicapped accessible. She said that there are public meeting held there yet people with physical handicaps cannot enter the building and there is no "handicapped" bathroom available. Ms. Ciampi said that this issue must be addressed. Mr. Helmstetter said that there have been discussions about possibly renovating the back of Hannah Caldwell and moving the administrative offices to that location but the board must wait to see how much money is left from the bond referendum before anything can be done. Mr. Abraham said that part of the problem regarding bond projects is that the State, because of the SCC investigations, has been moving very slowly on approving the district's Long Range Facility Plans, which they still have not done, and this is a delay in the process. Ms. Ciampi wanted to know whether the light bulb was ever put into the post in front of the High School. Dr. Jakubowski said that it was discovered that the light post was connected to the same electrical breaker which had been turned off due to another electrical problem and it was not that the light bulb had burned out. He said that Mr. Hanson was informed of this information prior to his passing away. Ms. Ciampi asked whether the AHERA management plans were up to date and in the Administration Building as well as in each building. Dr. Jakubowski said that Mr. Magliacano showed him where the updated plans from PMK are in his office. Ms. Ciampi asked if they were available to be seen. Dr. Jakubowski said they were available. Ms. Ciampi asked if there are copies in each building. Dr. Jakubowski said that each principal should have a copy available.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

There being no further business before the board it was moved by Mr. Abraham, seconded by Mr. Ruhl that the meeting be adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

AYE:	Mr. Abraham, Mrs. Axelrod, Mrs. Gaglione, Mr. Manochio, Mrs. McNeil, Mr. Perkins, Mr. Ruhl, Mrs. Salazar and Mr. Helmstetter
NAY:	None
ABSTAIN:	None

MOTION WAS CARRIED

Respectfully submitted,

JAMES J. DAMATO  
BOARD SECRETARY