

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 15, 2007 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 at Union High School on Tuesday, May 15, 2007 at 7:00 p.m. pursuant to notice sent to each member.

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

ABSENT AT ROLL CALL: Mr. Anthony Manochio

Mr. Figueiredo 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. Helmstetter, seconded by Mr. Ruhl that the minutes of the Organization Meeting of April 24, 2007 be adopted:

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

MOTION WAS CARRIED

COMMUNICATIONS:

LETTER OF RESIGNATION – KELLER

Craig Keller, HVAC mechanic submitted a letter of resignation, effective April 30, 2007.

THANK YOU NOTE – ZURKA FAMILY

The Zurka Family submitted a Thank you note for the sympathy basket sent in memory of Dorothy M. Zurka.

LETTER OF RESIGNATION – FERRARA

Franklin Ferrara, science teacher at Union High School, submitted a letter of resignation, effective July 1, 2007.

LETTER OF RESIGNATION (RETIREMENT) – FICCHI

Joseph A. Ficchi, custodian at Hannah Caldwell, submitted a letter of resignation for the purpose of retirement, effective July 1, 2007.

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

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

Mr. Abraham said that he also attended the Teacher Recognition Awards breakfast with Dr. Jakubowski and it certainly is a worthwhile recognition for the teachers to be recognized by their peers from their respective schools and it is interesting to note that not all school districts in Union County participate in the recognition of their teachers but for these ten teachers to be recognized by their peers is certainly an outstanding achievement and speaks well for the teachers in our school district and for these ten teachers this year. Dr. Jakubowski said that the voting for Teacher Recognition goes on in each school and the UTEA is very much involved. He said that the schools are very selective in what they do and there has never been a duplicate winner in the district, although there was once or twice that a person would have won a second time. Dr. Jakubowski said that there is a running list that is kept and the votes are counted in the superintendent’s office with a representative of the UTEA being present. He said that there was a time when he started to think if this was worth it anymore because some schools only had six or seven ballots but participation has increased and he believed at least 50% of teachers did vote at the high school this year.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC ON RESOLUTIONS ON THE AGENDA

Ms. Ciampi stated that last week Mr. Perkins gave information to the board regarding the parking policy but she did not see the policy posted on line. Mr. Perkins said that nothing had happened since the worksession at which she was present. Ms. Ciampi thought that Mr. Perkins had given the board changes at the worksession. Mr. Perkins said that he did not give the board any changes, what he handed out to them was responses that he had articulated from board members to some of the comments that have previously been made. Mrs. Ciampi asked if this discussion would be opened to a public forum. Mr. Perkins commented that he thought that was what was going on over the past several months. Ms. Ciampi

## COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC ON RESOLUTIONS ON THE AGENDA

said that last month Mr. Perkins had instructed her to "write in". Mr. Perkins asked her if she had done that. Ms. Ciampi said that she did not because she did not have time. Mr. Perkins said that she could write in if she wanted.

Ms. Hall asked if there was a reason why the girls' varsity gymnastics coach would be making significantly less than any of the other varsity coaches at the high school level. Dr. Jakubowski said that the salary is based upon whatever the contractual stipend is. He said that Mr. Parsons sends the names in to me and whatever the coaching stipend is listed is contractual. Dr. Jakubowski said that he would check it out. Ms. Hall asked if some of the sports are paid at a different level. Dr. Jakubowski said that he knew that the Head Football Coach is higher than everything else. He said it used to be that sports like bowling, tennis, gymnastics (may be one of them also) that although it is a varsity sport the stipend is a little bit less. He said that he would check it out and if Ms. Hall called his office he would be able to clarify this information for her.

## EDUCATION/STUDENT DISCIPLINE COMMITTEE

Moved by Mrs. McNeil, seconded by Mr. Helmstetter that the following resolutions be adopted:

## E-1. ADOPT FORMAL STUDENT RESOLUTIONS

That the Board adopt formal student resolutions in accordance with the information appended to these minutes.

## E-2. 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>, 2007; a total of sixty-six (66) students have been removed from the rolls for the 2006-2007 school year] who are not domiciled in this school district and twelve (12) students who will be allowed to complete the 2006-2007 school year, in accordance with the information appended to the non public portion of these minutes.

## E-3. APPROVE 2007-2008 SPECIAL EDUCATION TUITION CONTRACT – UNION COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICES COMMISSION

That the board approve 2007-2008 Special Education Tuition Contract with Union County Educational Services Commission in accordance with the information appended to these minutes.

EDUCATION/STUDENT DISCIPLINE COMMITTEE

E-4. AMEND 2006-2007 OUT OF DISTRICT ATYPICAL STUDENT PLACEMENT LISTS

That approval be given to amend the 2006-2007 Out-of-District Atypical Student Placement, Exit Lists and tuitions in accordance with the information appended to these minutes.

E-5. ADOPT RESOLUTION SUPPORTING NO CHILD LEFT BEHIND IMPROVEMENTS ACT OF 2007

That the board adopt formal resolution supporting No Child Left Behind Improvements Act of 2007, (H.R. 648) being sponsored by Representative Don Young (R-AK), in accordance with the information appended to these minutes.

E-6. APPROVE 2007-2008 NONPUBLIC TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM CONTRACT – UNION COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICES COMMISSION

That the board approve 2007-2008 Nonpublic Technology Program Contract with the Union County Educational Services Commission in accordance with the information appended to these minutes.

DISCUSSION:

Dr. Jakubowski said that resolution E-1 involved students from DECA. He thought there was a miscommunication and since the students were not present tonight, he asked that this resolution be passed but he would invite the students to attend the June meeting and have the resolutions presented to them on that night.

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

MOTION WAS CARRIED

## FISCAL AND PLANNING COMMITTEE

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

- F-1. CERTIFIED REPORT OF THE ANNUAL SCHOOL ELECTION - APRIL 18, 2007  
Certified report of the annual school election held on April 18, 2006 as follows in accordance with the information in the hands of each board member:

	<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>
Public Question No. 1 –General Fund	1157	771

Three Year Term

Steven Helmstetter	1475 votes
Karen Loessel	476 votes
Manuel T. Figueiredo	1219 votes
Joseph Matará	344 votes
Linda Gaglione	1060 votes
Roxanne Ciampi	368 votes
Jonathan Titmas	531 votes

- F-2. ACCEPT THE TREASURER'S REPORT  
That the Treasurer's Report dated April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2007 be accepted.
- F-3. ACCEPT THE SECRETARY'S REPORT  
That the Secretary's Report dated April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2007 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>, 2007 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

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Dated

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.2(h), we certify that as of April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2007 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.

## FISCAL AND PLANNING COMMITTEE

## F-5. APPROVE LINE ITEM TRANSFERS

The committee recommends and I so move 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 Rate	Estimated Income
05/15/07	04/24/07	21	900,000	Commerce	UCNB Café	5.10%	2,677.50
05/15/07	04/24/07	21	1,600,000	Chase	UCNB CAP RESERVE	5.12%	4,778.67
05/15/07	04/24/07	21	16,000,000	Chase	UCNB OP AC	5.22%	48,720.00
05/15/07	04/24/07	21	4,000,000	Chase	UCNB JAN 03 BOND	5.17%	12,063.33
05/15/07	04/24/07	21	1,000,000	Chase	Unity BankSUI	5.12%	2,986.67

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) Union Board of Education - \$6,000 – book fair proceeds -Kawameeh Middle School; (b) 3-J Fund Raising - \$7,069 – fundraiser – Kawameeh Middle School

## FISCAL AND PLANNING COMMITTEE

## F-9. AUTHORIZE DISBURSEMENTS OF SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS

That the board authorize disbursement of the following scholarship funds:

Dora D. Feins	\$ 100.00
Edith Firsichbaum Memorial	\$ 50.00
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
Kara A. Laczynski Memorial Fund	\$ 100.00

## F-10. APPROVE PAYMENT FOR ROBERT O'DELL SCHOLARSHIP DINNER – HINSLEY

That the board approve payment to Joanne Hinsley, the amount of \$500 from Robert O'Dell Scholarship for the scholarship dinner and awards in accordance with the information appended to these minutes.

## F-11. ACCEPT DONATION FROM CITIBANK – WASHINGTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

That the board accept donation from Citibank in the amount of \$5000 for use by Washington Elementary School, in accordance with the information appended to these minutes.

F-12. APPROVE DISTRICTWIDE TRAVEL AND RELATED EXPENSES PURSUANT TO THE REQUIREMENTS OF *N.J.A.C. 6A:23B* and Board Policy File Codes 4133, 4440 and 9250

That the Board approve districtwide travel and related expenses pursuant to the requirements of *N.J.A.C. 6A:23B* and Board Policy File Codes 4133, 4440 and 9250 and in accordance with the information appended to these minutes.

FISCAL AND PLANNING COMMITTEE

F-13. ACCEPT IDEA CONSOLIDATED GRANT AWARD FOR FISCAL YAR 2007

That the Board accept IDEA Consolidated Formula Grant Award for Fiscal Year 2007 as follows and in accordance with the information in the hands of each board member: (a) Basic - \$ 1,670,243; (b) Preschool - \$48,364

F-14. APPROVE 2006-2007 DEPA/ECPA TRANSFER – CONNECTICUT FARMS SCHOOL

That the Board approve 2006-2007 DEPA/ECPA transfer from Connecticut Farms School to transfer funds from DEPA Teacher Salary account to DEPA Teacher Assistant Salary account in the amount of \$30 in accordance with the information appended to these minutes.

DISCUSSION:

None

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

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

MOTION WAS CARRIED

OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

Moved by Mr. Ruhl, seconded by Mrs. McNeil 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 in accordance with information appended to these minutes. If equipment is not sold, it will be disposed of as scrap.

O-2. ACCEPT DONATION TO CAST PROGRAM – UNION COUNTY VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL SCHOOL AND THE MAGNET SCHOOL

That the board accept the donation of equipment to the CAST program from Union County Vocational Technical School and the Magnet School in accordance with the information appended to these minutes.

O-3. REPORT RECEIPT OF BIDS

Report receipt of bids received on April 24, 2007 for Vocational Education Supplies (Bid #07-35).

OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

O-4. AWARD BID FOR VOCATIONAL EDUCATION SUPPLIES (BID #07-35) – VIDEO CORPORATION OF AMERICA

That the board award bid for Vocational Education Supplies (Bid #07-35) to Video Corporation of America, 7 Veronica Avenue, Somerset, New Jersey 08875 in the total bid amount of \$28,795.

O-5. ACCEPT PROPOSAL FOR ROOFING REPAIRS AT CENTRAL-FIVE/JEFFERSON SCHOOL – POTTER ARCHITECTS

That the board accept the proposal (Proposal No. P2007082) from Potter Architects for roofing repairs at Central-Five/Jefferson School and the Administration Building in an amount not to exceed \$8,800 in accordance with the information appended to these minutes.

DISCUSSION:

None

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

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

MOTION WAS CARRIED

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Moved by Mr. Helmstetter, seconded by Mr. Perkins that Resolutions P-1 and P-2 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 2006-2007 SUBSTITUTE LISTS

That the Board amend Substitute/Home Instruction List; Substitute Custodians, Substitute Cafeteria/Playground Aides, Teacher Assistants and Secretaries for the 2006-2007 school year in accordance with the information appended to these minutes.

DISCUSSION

Dr. Jakubowski announced that Edward Gibbons who has been serving as Interim Principal at Union High School since Mr. Fortunato’s retirement at the end of December. He said that replacing Mr. Fortunato after 19 years would be a difficult task and it certainly was. Dr. Jakubowski said that a number of outside candidates were interviewed as well as individuals within the district. He said that Mr. Gibbons has done a great job since January; he said being an interim at any position is difficult because you have to walk a fine line and he felt that Mr. Gibbons has handled the job nicely and professionally. He said that this position would become effective as of June 1<sup>st</sup> and this way he will be principal of the high school at graduation.

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

MOTION WAS CARRIED

Moved by Mr. Helmstetter, seconded by Mr. Perkins that Resolution P-3 be adopted:

P-3. ACCEPT LETTER OF RESIGNATION

That the Board accept letters of resignation from staff: (a) Craig Keller, HVAC mechanic, effective April 30, 2007; (b) Franklin Ferrara, science teacher at Union High School, effective July 1, 2007; (c) Joseph A. Ficchi, custodian at Hannah Caldwell Elementary School, effective July 1, 2007.

DISCUSSION:

None

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

MOTION WAS CARRIED

Moved by Mr. Helmstetter, seconded by Mr. Perkins that Resolution P-4 through P-9 be adopted:

P-4. AMEND LIST OF STAFF MEMBERS WHOSE SALARIES ARE FUNDED IN FULL OR IN PART THROUGH 2006-2007 TITLE I GRANT

That the board amend list of staff members whose salaries are funded in full or in part through the district's 2006-2007 Title I grant in accordance with the information appended to these minutes.

P-5. APPROVE ANNUAL RECEPTION HONORING RETIREES, STAFF MEMBERS WITH TWENTY-FIVE YEARS SERVICE AND DISTRICT VOLUNTEERS

That the board approve annual reception to be held on June 19, 2007 at 5:30 p.m. at Union High School cafeteria honoring retirees, staff members with twenty-five years service and district volunteers in accordance with the information appended to these minutes.

P-6. APPROVE INDIVIDUALS TO PERFORM REQUIRED SERVICES AND/OR ATTEND DETERMINATION/ELIGIBILITY IEP MEETINGS – SUMMER 2007

That the Board approve individuals to perform required services and/or attend determination/eligibility IEP meetings from July 2, 2007 through August 31, 2007 for a combined total of the summer 2007 program including extended school in an amount not to exceed \$122,600 in accordance with the information appended to these minutes.

P-7. APPROVE TRANSITION COORDINATOR FOR PREPARATION OF INITIATION OF STATE MONITORING INDICATOR – MC CULLOH

That the Board approve Sarah McCulloh as transition coordinator for preparation of initiation of state monitoring indicator, for the period August 13 through August 31, 2007 at a rate of \$33.75 per hour, up to forty (40) hours, not to exceed \$1,350.

P-8. APPROVE STAFF FOR EXTENDED SCHOOL YEAR – SUMMER 2007 – HANNAH CALDWELL SCHOOL

That the Board approve staff for extended school year (summer 2007) at Hannah Caldwell for the period July 2 through August 13, 2007 in accordance with the information appended to these minutes.

P-9. APPROVE NEUROLOGICAL EVALUATION – ST. BARNABAS HEALTH CARE SYSTEM

That the Board approve Dr. Lara Morse, Saint Barnabas Health Care System to provide a neurological evaluation for a student in an amount not to exceed \$500.

## PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

## DISCUSSION:

None

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

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

MOTION WAS CARRIED

## POLICY COMMITTEE (FOR DISCUSSION ONLY)

Pol-1. The committee recommends and I so move that the board adopt Student parking policy in accordance with the information in the hands of each board member.

## DISCUSSION:

Mr. Perkins said that he had distributed material to the board at the worksession. He said that this was a draft of response to many of the questions that were raised and comments that were submitted and he pointed out during the discussion at the worksession that he was particularly pleased with this as a process for the development of policy on serious matters and he guessed that this was somewhat of a redundant statement in that policy should always be considered serious. Mr. Perkins said that the parking policy will touch many people in the district and it was important from his point of view to mimic the procedure followed by administrative agencies both at the state and federal levels in effectively putting a proposed regulation out for comment, receiving such comments and then in a document, which will be presented at the worksession next month, responding in detail to each of the comments and suggestions that were made. He said he spent a fair amount of time since there has been some confusion as to the legality of certain aspects of the proposed policy regarding both privacy rights of students and also of the search and seizure law as has developed in both the federal and state jurisdictions. Mr. Perkins said that one or two commenters had indicated that they had a legal background but the substance of the comments did not really reflect that. He said he felt it was important that the community understand exactly the legal foundation for the proposal. Mr. Perkins said that additionally other comments were made such as "how can I register two vehicles?" or "what happens if my car has flat tire, etc." and the committees response was that it will be possible to register multiple vehicles and use a single hang tag. He said that there also comments received from the police chief regarding the speed limit in the parking lot and other such detail that will be fully addressed in the response.

## APPROVAL OF BILLS

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

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

MOTION WAS CARRIED

## UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Dr. Jakubowski said that now that the task of finding a principal for the high school has been completed, the deadline for application for elementary principal; language arts supervisor and media supervisor 9-12; as well as math and language arts supervisor K-8 has been completed and the interview process will begin. He said he hoped to have these positions filled as soon as possible. Dr. Jakubowski said that there are a number of candidates for each of the positions. He said that he had a discussion with the four Deans of Students last week and it was very interesting. Dr. Jakubowski said that the Deans feel that this program is working nicely at the high school; he said that they discussed some strategies and the position itself that the district will now be posting for; and he has had conversations of what the exact title of the position when it is posted. He said that he would send home a memo to the board and he would like to get the posting out now that a principal has been chosen who can do the interviewing. Dr. Jakubowski said that he thought administratively the district was doing a lot of good things. He said that he has also reached out to an attorney who will be coming in to speak to the principals in August to talk about issues like harassment, etc and he is setting something up for the last week in June for staff development for all district administrators. Dr. Jakubowski said that he anticipated over the next year there will be a number of other administrators who will be retiring. He said that he would like to consolidate positions, look for more K-8 supervisors as it is becoming more and more difficult for one supervisor to handle the entire district at each academic level and he felt he had some good strategies and he thought that August would be a very busy planning session for the Board of Education.

## NEW BUSINESS

None

Mr. Donnarumma said he thought that Dr. Jakubowski made an excellent in appointing Mr. Gibbons as principal at the high school. He thought Mr. Gibbons was a very distinguished gentleman.

Ms. Loessel asked who in the district who is the IPM Coordinator. Dr. Jakubowski stated that it was Mr. Magliacano. Ms. Loessel asked if Mr. Magliacano was certified. Dr. Jakubowski said he was. Ms. Loessel asked if there was an IPM plan for each school. Dr. Jakubowski said that there was a plan for each school and there is a copy of the plan in each school. Ms. Loessel asked if there was a copy of each plan at the Administration Building. Dr. Jakubowski said there was. Ms. Loessel stated that she understood there was an incident at Central-Five School and when the EPA came to the building their representative could not find a plan in the building. Dr. Jakubowski said that he has already discussed this matter with the building principal. Ms. Loessel asked if the district was in compliance. Dr. Jakubowski said that the district was not totally in compliance as there are some things that need to be done based upon some of the new regulations. He said that Mr. Magliacano had approached him approximately a month and a half ago with the new booklet and it is in the process of being reviewed by Mr. Tatum. Dr. Jakubowski said that what caused the incident at Central-Five was that the district had reached out and informed all parents that there was some pesticide work done; he said the work was done on the Wednesday during the spring recess so that there would be no students in the building. He said that he received a call from one parent and he also received a call from Mr. Boyle, Senior Environment Specialist, because he had received a call from the same parent. Dr. Jakubowski said that he told Mr. Boyle why the letter was sent home to parents and that the district was following the rules and regulations as they existed. He said that he told Mr. Boyle that the treatment of the school was done during a week where there were no students in the building and it was done on Wednesday and there would be more than 48 hours before the students would be returning to the building on Monday. Dr. Jakubowski said that the district was not fined and there were no citations issued but there were some recommendations of what the district needs to do to make sure that the plan is fully in effect. He said unfortunately, Mr. Tsirikos did not know where the booklet was in the building. Dr. Jakubowski said that he would go over this issue with all of the building principals again as fire drills and evacuation procedures in August before the beginning of the new school year. Ms. Loessel said that she has a problem with this issue. She said that this law came into effect in 2004 and there is no reason that the district should fail anything and this was just like the asbestos and lead problems in the past. Ms. Loessel said that there are federal laws and regulations that each district has to follow. She said that Mr. Perkins was pushing for the parking policy for the safety of the students and the community which is wonderful but she felt that the district could not even follow state laws that are mandated and she said that the

district, not the state or the EPA, responsibility to contact the district. Ms. Loessel said it was the district's responsibility to find out what the laws and regulations are in each district. She said that it was not very hard for her to go to the web page and get the information which she wanted. Ms. Loessel said that this was the same thing over and over again. She said that Mr. Magliacano was the Director of Operations and Maintenance and he was supposed to be taking care of the facilities in the district. Ms. Loessel said it was Mr. Magliacano's responsibility to make sure that students and staff are in a safe environment. She said that this was the third incident within the last couple of years and she felt that someone needed to be held accountable for this. Ms. Loessel said that besides the district's policies, the board needed to make sure that the laws and regulations are all in compliance with the EPA and the state. She stated that she knew radon testing was not mandatory but she wanted to know if there was radon testing in the buildings. Ms. Loessel said that although it is not a state law, it is recommended that school district do test for radon.

Ms. Lipstein, president of the Township of Union Education Foundation, said that for those in the community who were not aware, the foundation is a non profit charitable organization whose purpose is to raise money to fund innovative and creative programs in the public schools. She said that all Foundation board members are volunteers and they work hard all year to raise money. Ms. Lipstein wanted to announce to the community the recipients for the 2007-2008 school year. She said that the Foundation has awarded mini-grants (grants of up to \$750) to individual teachers: Carol Longley who is a third and fourth grade AAP at Franklin School is awarded funds to supplement the existing Successmaker computer program with a classroom Jeopardy game component which will engage students and promote class participation; it will improve reading, comprehension, spelling, vocabulary, math and speaking skills; Linda Hrevnak and Joan Pikula, who teach K-4 one being a fourth grade teacher and one being a special education teacher at Connecticut Farms School who will implement a program called "Developing Young Authors" where students will write, design and bind books for grades K, 1 and 2 and these books will be donated to the school library; this program will help students learn to appreciate writing as an art and a craft; Thomas Harrell, a science teacher at Burnet Middle School, will implement an in-house greenhouse as part of his eighth grade science course and students will have the opportunity to analyze soil and grow plants and vegetables in a specialized eco-system; Kathy White who is the Union High School sewing teacher for grades 9-12 will purchase materials and teach students to design and create their own machine embroidered quilts, techniques and skills will be explained and various quilt-making tools and notions will be used and the completed and signed quilts will be donated to a charity chosen by the students; Sandra Mangarella an English teacher at Union High School, will purchase materials so that each of her 12<sup>th</sup> grade students will compose a documentary that will incorporate text,

## COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

photography, audio and video and James Grassi, biology teacher at Union High School has been awarded funds to develop a "grow lab" for 10<sup>th</sup> graders in his classroom to study plant anatomy and physiology and his students will participate in hands on activities in areas of photosynthesis, leaf structure, transpiration gas exchange and plant nutrition. She said that the foundation also awarded larger grant amounts to two supervisors (macro grants). Ms. Lipstein said that Linda Ionta at Union High School has been awarded funding to start a teen fit club for 9<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> graders which will be done after school and will be implemented by Michele Nicastro and Donna Santoro; the club will teach students to eat healthfully, exercise in a non hostile, non competitive environment that will promote cardiovascular health and endurance, muscle tone strength and self esteem; and Judith Marcus also at Union High School, will receive funds to purchase equipment to infuse technology into the marketing education courses in grades 9 through 12; students will utilize pod casts and do web quests. Ms. Lipstein said that the recipients have worked hard in writing grants and coming up with some creative projects that the Education Foundation is very happy to fund. She said that working on the foundation is a labor of love for all the volunteers who do it. Ms. Lipstein stated that quite a few of them are now retired teachers who worked in the Union School District and who have stayed on because of their love of education and the feeling that this is a worthwhile project to be involved in. She said that in the years since the Foundation was created, it has funded forty grants and given over \$50,000 in grants to the students in the district. Ms. Lipstein said that the Foundation will be honoring the educators listed above and also hearing about the grant recipients from the past school year at the Foundation's annual reception at 5:30 p.m. on Thursday evening May 17, 2007 at Schering Plough and members of the community and members of the board of education can attend; the donation is \$20 and the reception is funded through the generosity of Schering Plough; just one of the many businesses and supports that the Foundation has had over the years. Ms. Lipstein also thanked Dr. Jakubowski for his generous donation to the Foundation and she hoped all the members of the community will follow his lead in reaching out and supporting the Foundation.

Ms. Ciampi asked Mr. Tatum when he was principal of Central-Five if he had an IPM plan. Mr. Tatum said that the same manual that Mr. Tsirikos presently has was also in his possession when he was at Central-Five. Ms. Ciampi asked if Mr. Tatum was aware of the plan. Mr. Tatum said that he was. Ms. Ciampi said she was concerned that the EPA had to come into the school and the school was "written up". She said that she was concerned that the district again has put people's health at risk and she asked how many times the district would continue to allow the happen. Dr. Jakubowski said that he wanted to clarify. He said that after he spoke to Mr. Boyle and he decided to do a random check, what his report indicated was that there was certain paperwork things that should have been in place that were not in place. Dr. Jakubowski said at no time was anybody at risk

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because the district has been following the right procedure to do these things; a phone call is made and letters are sent home. He said that his discussion with Mr. Boyle was that the problem had to do with paperwork that the district is working on. Dr. Jakubowski said he would not argue and say that it should not be up to date at all times. He said that he has been going through the booklet, which is continually being changed, and the district has been working on it and should the principal have known where the booklet was, first of all, that is correct. Dr. Jakubowski said that the EPA left that day not thinking there was a book in place and that was one of the citations. He said that he went through the records in the Director of Operations office and every time a pesticide treatment is done in any building, the principal signs off on the treatment and Mr. Magliacano is sent a copy of the sign off sheet. Dr. Jakubowski said that the principal as well as a custodian at Central-Five should have known the location of the record book. He said that to say that students or anyone was in a dangerous situation over the way the district conducts pesticide control, is really an inaccurate statement and it is not fair to anyone in the district, because it is done at the right and appropriate time. Ms. Ciampi said that it was her understanding that there is a procedure to follow before the district does the pesticide and that procedure was not being followed because people are not informed or trained about it and if they don't know the information and the procedures then the procedures are not being followed which means they are taking the course of putting people at risk. Dr. Jakubowski said that if that were true, Mr. Tsirikos would not have called him to tell him that the school was sending home letters ahead of time, the week before to make sure all the parents had the letter before the vacation began because the treatment was being done during the break and Mr. Tsirikos wanted the letter to go home so he must have known the procedure. Dr. Jakubowski said that one parent who received the letter called him because she was concerned about what was being done and this parent subsequently called Mr. Boyle and that is why he came in to see what was in place at Central-Five and when Mr. Boyle was at Central-Five, the manual could not be found and that was bad, but to say that things were done and not done properly is an inaccurate statement. Ms. Ciampi said it sounds like Mr. Tsirikos did not know about the plan or the manual so he couldn't be following the procedure. Dr. Jakubowski said he did not say that; he said that Mr. Tsirikos called him to say that he was sending home a letter to parents about the pesticide treatment and this means that he absolutely knew the procedure but what he didn't know was where the manual was and told Mr. Boyle he did not have one in the building. Dr. Jakubowski said that Mr. Tatum has already acknowledged that it was in the building. Mr. Tatum said that earlier in the school year the procedures for the IPM plan were reviewed at a principal meeting and he said that he also met with all of the principals last Friday and at that time he shared a copy of the manual to share with everyone so they would be able to identify it in case the inspector did come into their building. Mr. Tatum said that the turnaround time for letters to go out is

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forty-eight (48) hours and there was a similar situation last year where there was an area that would have to be treated but it was done during the summer months when school was closed and a letter was never sent out. He said that there was a procedure that he, as a principal, was trained on. Mr. Tatum said that as far as the actual log manual that is in the school, there is a regulation in the packet that Mrs. Loessel has, which speaks to the fact that the contractor is also required to make sure that whatever treatment that is done is entered into the manual and the manual is kept up to date. Ms. Ciampi stated that she was aware that a treatment was also done at Hannah Caldwell, she asked if the district followed procedure at Hannah Caldwell and should there be a log for that treatment. Mr. Tatum said that if something was done at Hannah Caldwell, it was the first time he was hearing about it and he did not know when this occurred but he said that he could say emphatically that approximately in October of this school year at one of the principals' meeting, the information was reviewed. Ms. Ciampi asked if the board had to approve the job before the vendor who does the pesticide treatment comes into a building. Dr. Jakubowski said that the district has a contract with Western Exterminating. Ms. Ciampi asked if the board had to approve the contract because she could not find anything in past meetings. Ms. Dunn said that the only approval for that contract would be if it exceed the annual bid threshold. She said that the board only approves the purchase order. Ms. Ciampi asked if the purchase order had to go through approval to the board. Ms. Dunn said it only has to be board approved if it exceeds the bid threshold.

Mrs. Grievias was the parent of a student at Central-Five School and she stated that her daughter was a candidate for response to intervention and in August she met with Mr. Tsirikos to request a teacher who would be able to support her with reading to meet her needs and that was not done. She said that in January as a part of the response to intervention committee, nothing was put in place to support her with instruction nor was she entered into the "Successmaker" program. Mrs. Grievias said that it has been an ongoing battle to get the proper support for her and she pays for a reading specialist to support her. She stated as an educator she knew that under Tier II of NCLB and the IDEA Act that her daughter should be receiving the proper intervention. Mrs. Grievias said that she has spoken to the Superintendent, her daughter's teacher and to the principal of Central-Five and nothing has been done. She said as an educator she was embarrassed with the response that she has been given as a parent and as a parent she was disgusted with the system because her daughter is doing everything that she can to try to improve herself as a reader and quite honestly, she is very typical of readers in fourth and fifth grade who hit a "slump" and need extra support. Mrs. Grievias said she was at the meeting to ask as a parent, what her alternatives were and how did she get her daughter into the program as there was only a short amount of time left in the school year. Mr. Damato said that the

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board of education should not discuss student matters in a public meeting. Mrs. Grievias said that she understood that, but she has already done everything else she could to get this problem resolved and she was very willing to talk about the matter in public. Mr. Damato stated that perhaps it could be addressed by a committee of the board with Dr. Jakubowski present but a public forum was not the place to address individual student matters. He said that this was his advice to the board. Mrs. Grievias said she knew as an educator her alternatives are to get an advocate or an attorney for her daughter because her issues are not being addressed at this level. Mr. Abraham asked that at the end of the meeting, Mrs. Grievias give him her name and telephone number and someone from the education committee would contact her to arrange for a meeting to discuss the matter. Mrs. Grievias said that was agreeable.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

There being no further business before the board, it was moved by Mr. Helmstetter, seconded by Mr. Ruhl that the meeting be adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

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

MOTION WAS CARRIED

Respectfully submitted

JAMES J. DAMATO  
BOARD SECRETARY