

**UTICA COMMUNITY SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES
Joan C. Sergent Instructional Resource Center
14201 Canal Road
Sterling Heights, MI 48313
October 24, 2011**

Attending: C. Klenow, G. Klida, R. Ross, D. Meyers, M. Templeton, K. Krolczyk
Absent: J. Prybys

1.-2. Meeting Call to Order

Board of Education President Dr. Carol Klenow called the meeting to order followed by The Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Minutes

Motion by Klida, supported by Ross, to accept the minutes as presented.

Motion carried.

4A. Health Occupations Students of America (HOSA)

Mr. Robert Monroe, Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning, introduced the Health Occupations Students of America recognition. HOSA more than 3,200 secondary and post-secondary chapters, 76 of which are in Michigan. HOSA's two-fold mission is to promote career opportunities in the health care industry and to enhance the delivery of quality health care to all people.

For the first time in Utica High School's history, three HOSA students qualified to compete in the 34th Annual HOSA National Leadership Conference in Anaheim, CA this past June. All three students became involved in HOSA after taking Medical Health Science career courses at Utica High School.

Comments from the Board of Education were entertained.

4B. Skills USA

Mr. Robert Monroe introduced the Skills USA recognition. Michigan has 85 chapters and more than 4,000 members. The purpose of SkillsUSA is to prepare "high performance" workers, and it does so by providing quality educational experiences for students in leadership, teamwork, citizenship and character development.

Every student who participates in SkillsUSA is sponsored and advised by a dedicated Career and Technical Education instructor. These teachers and students spend many hours outside of the school day preparing for and participating in these competitions.

This year Utica Community Schools had six students earned first place at the State competition, which qualified them to compete at the national competition in Kansas City, MO in June.

Comments from the Board of Education were entertained.

4C. Michigan School Band and Orchestra Association (MSBOA)

Mr. Robert Monroe introduced the four high school marching bands and directors. These outstanding bands are to be commended for a very successful season culminating in performances at the Band-A-Rama on October 9 and the Michigan School Band and Orchestra Association Marching Band Festival.

All four bands participated in the MSBOA festivals on Tuesday, October 11 and Wednesday, October 12. Eisenhower, Henry Ford II, Stevenson and Utica each received a Division I rating.

The performances this year were: from the Eisenhower Eagle Marching Band – “Celebrating the 70’s”, from the Henry Ford II Falcon Marching Band – “Made in Michigan”, from the Stevenson Titan Marching Band – “Road Trip 2011” and from the Utica Chieftain Marching Band – “Do You Believe in Magic?”.

Comments from the Board of Education were entertained.

4D. Utica Center for Science and Industry Automation Alley Education Award

Superintendent of Schools Dr. Christine Johns introduced the Utica Center of Science and Industry U(CSI) Automation Alley Educational Program of the Year.

UCSI provides a rigorous academic program for students pursuing a career in technology. Advanced technical training is offered in the areas of engineering technology, mechatronics and multi-media technology. Students have access to work-based learning opportunities, including job shadowing, mentoring and internships. This high school program is housed at the Joan C. Sergeant Instructional Resource Center. Students spend half of the school day at their home high schools and travel to Utica CSI for the other half for integrated, thematic curricula that teaches rigorous high school content expectations in mathematics, English language arts and the core technical curriculum.

UCSI students in all three areas will finish with a portfolio, extensive experiences working with industry experts - both in school and the workplace - and complete courses designed in partnership with post-secondary partners, such as Macomb Community College and Michigan Technological University. The partnerships allow students enrolled in all three programs to earn articulated college credit while still in high school.

Initially established through a federal grant, the UCSI program is beginning its fourth year and will graduate its first group of seniors in 2012. The program services approximately 280 students in grades 9-12.

The outstanding Utica Center for Science and Industry staff was acknowledged.
Comments from the Board of Education were entertained.

4E. Utica Community Schools Foundation for Educational Excellence Superintendent’s Scholarship Fund

Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Christine M. Johns introduced the Utica Community Schools Foundation for Educational Excellence. Representatives of the Utica Community Schools Foundation for Educational Excellence presented the district with a \$30,000 check to be used for the Superintendent’s Scholarship Fund. The funds were raised through the Foundation’s third annual Arts & Idols Gala held last May.

On hand to present the check were Foundation president Brent Bohlinger, vice president Roy Rose and trustees and Gene Klida. Special appreciation was expressed to Mrs. Klida for her hard work as Arts & Idols committee chairperson and to UCS staff members Patricia Gonser, Susan Rosso, Josephine Braun, Bob and Pat Wilcox, Bob Van Camp and Nancy L. Smith for being instrumental in staging the event.

The Superintendent's Scholarship is open to all UCS seniors. Specific criteria based upon leadership and merit are used in awarding these scholarships. The funds raised from the second Arts & Idols Gala provided \$1,000 scholarships for 17 UCS seniors in the 2011 graduation class. It helped enable these students to attend schools such as Michigan, Oakland, Michigan Technological and Western as well as Harvard and Pittsburgh Universities.

Comments from the Board of Education were entertained.

4F. Michigan School Business Officials (MSBO) Certification

Dr. Johns stated that the office of Michigan School Business Officials has communicated that Ms. Stephanie Eagen, Assistant Superintendent for Business and Employee Services, has met the requirements for renewing the Chief Financial Officer certification under the MSBO voluntary certification program. This required a commitment of 180 hours of professional development established by the MSBO Board of Directors through their Professional Development Committee.

Obtaining this certification demonstrates Ms. Eagen's dedication to her profession and Utica Community Schools. The information she has gained assures the district that she has the knowledge about laws, regulations, and procedures for functioning in a Michigan public school system.

On behalf of the Board, Dr. Carol Klenow and congratulated Ms. Eagen for her dedication and leadership.

5. Superintendent's Report

Dr. Johns began her update by reporting that the district has been working hard to communicate details of the November 8 ballot through more than 100 presentations and information in school and community publications. She stated that the UCS community has been extremely positive about the election because they know the value of the educational services provided in our schools.

She continued that the millage will allow our residents to consider maintain the investment they have made in their schools, the quality of which is demonstrated by the student recognition activities at the meeting. Dr. Johns also stressed three important points about the election: the resources created through the millage represent about a quarter of what county schools lose on an annual basis through funding cuts; the proposal would benefit all students and unlike the school aid fund, resources created through the millage would go directly to our classrooms.

She closed by reminding community residents that more information is available on school and the district Web sites through the "Our Students, Our Future" link.

6. Community Correspondence

There was no community correspondence to be acknowledged.

7. Public Communication

Dr. Klenow reviewed the guidelines for public communication.

Mr. Anthony Bonczak and Ms. Shirley Molzon addressed the Board of Education.

8A. MEAP/MME Cut Scores

Mr. Monroe presented information on the new MEAP/MME cut scores approved on September 13 by the Michigan Department of Education. The new scores establish more rigorous levels for students to achieve proficiency.

9A1. Utica ParaProfessional Association

Ms. Eagen reported that the membership of the Utica Community Schools' Utica Paraprofessional Association has ratified the Tentative Agreement reached between the Board of Education and the Utica Paraprofessional Association.

The contract is a one (1) year contract, commencing July 1, 2011 and expiring June 30, 2012.

Motion by Klida, supported by Meyers, that the Board of Education ratify the agreement between the Utica Community Schools and the Utica Paraprofessional Association, effective July 1, 2011 through June 30 2012.

Motion carried.

9A2. Utica Skilled Trades Association

Ms. Eagen reported that the membership of the Utica Skilled Trades Association – Local 400 has ratified the Tentative Agreement reached between it and the Board of Education.

The new contract is a one (1) year contract, commencing July 1, 2011 and expiring June 30, 2012.

Motion by Templeton, supported by Ross, that the Board of Education ratify the agreement between the Utica Community Schools and the Utica Skilled Trade, Local 400 effective July 1, 2011 through June 30 2012.

Motion carried.

9B. Changes in Certified Personnel

Ms. Eagen reviewed the changes in certified personnel since the last presentation to the Board of Education on October 10, 2011.

Motion by Ross, supported by Krolczyk, that the Board of Education approve the changes in certified personnel as presented.

Motion carried.

10. Schedule of Bills Report

Ms. Jill Tomy, Executive Director of Business and Finance, reviewed the schedule of bills for the General Fund and Capital Project Funds.

Prior to the Board of Education meeting, all pertinent information necessary to process payment of the bills is reviewed by Dr. Robert A. Ross, Treasurer of the Board of Education, in conjunction with Ms. Evelyn Bihl, Controller.

GENERAL FUND (10/12/11)	\$ 1,128,201.50
GENERAL FUND (10/19/11)	\$ 261,789.50
General Fund Total	\$ 1,389,991.00

BOND 2003:

CAPITAL PROJECTS 2006 – September 2011	\$ 42,359.60
CAPITAL PROJECTS 2007 – September 2011	\$ 146,569.01
CAPITAL PROJECTS 2008 – September 2011	\$ 78,455.68
Bond 2003 Total	\$ 267,384.29

BOND 2009:	
CAPITAL PROJECTS 2009 – September 2011	\$ 130,350.59
CAPITAL PROJECTS 2011 – September 2011	\$ 379,724.47
Bond 2009 Total	\$ 510,075.06

The Board of Education accepted the report as presented.

11. Board Items

Dr. Klenow acknowledged that Mrs. Gene Klida, Mr. Ken Krolczyk and Dr. Johns will be attending the Michigan Association School Boards conference being held October 27 to October 29, 2011.

12. Adjournment

Motion by Klida, supported Meyers that the meeting adjourn at 8:21 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mrs. Michele Templeton, Secretary
Utica Community Schools
Board of Education