

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 19,

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Approved December 18, 2019

The Urbana City School Board of Education met for a regular board meeting Tuesday, November 19, 2019, at 711 Wood Street, Urbana, Ohio. President Darrell Thomas called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Roll call: Mr. Arter, present; Mr. Engle, present; Ms. Finch, present; Ms. Paul, present; Mr. Thomas, present.

Five members present.

(Motion #1119.01) APPROVAL OF AGENDA

It was moved by Ms. Paul and seconded by Mr. Arter to approve the amended agenda as presented.

Roll Call: Mr. Arter, aye; Mr. Engle, aye; Ms. Finch, aye; Ms. Paul, aye; Mr. Thomas, aye. Motion carried.

RECOGNITIONS, PRESENTATIONS, & BOARD COMMENDATIONS

Mr. Thomas read the Good News:

Urbana High School had nineteen students participate in the Champaign County Design Challenge during the month of October, which is Manufacturing Month. The Design Challenge is sponsored by Ohio Hi-Point, the Champaign Economic Partnership, and local manufacturing companies. Mrs. Zachrich and Mr. Klingler worked with four UHS teams.

Participating students were:

Gaven Napper	Chris Napper	Justin Preece	Shelby Stoops
Ethan Melms	Jolynn Stoops	Hunter Adams	Hailey Combs
Kolin Bowdle	Domnick Miller	Johnny Moore	Emily Nigh
Jacob W. Johnson	Bryant Chamberlain	Bryant McKenzie	Ron Ragland
Jessica Salyers	Zachariah Pence	Dale Mason	

The winners of our building competition presented on November 1 at Urbana University, competing against teams from Graham, Mechanicsburg, Triad, and West Liberty.

Congratulations to the WINNERS of the Champaign County Design Challenge - the Urbana High School Team of Bryant Chamberlain, Dale Mason, Bryant McKenzie, Johnny Moore, and Ron Ragland.

Congratulations to Dale Mason, from Mrs. Cook's Supply Chain Management program, for having his Champaign County Ohio Manufacturing Brochure Design selected for publication by the Champaign Economic Partnership.

Students of the Month:

October

Elementary:	Barrett Abrams Alyssa Swan Isla Wooten Kathleen McHenry
Junior High:	Toll Run - Caileigh Busch Mohawk - Xavier Snyder Gutridge - Preston Wisma Five Points - Jackson DeWitt
High School:	Lucas Chess Kelsey Hackley

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November

Elementary: Aniya Minnifield
 Jane Somosa
 Amari Underwood
 Taylynn Baltierrez
 Connor Moore
 Josiah Johnson

Junior High: Toll Run - Keisha Anderson
 Mohawk - Sam Wilhelm
 Gutridge - Rosie Parthemore
 Five Points - Jessica Rooney

High School: Shelby Stoops
 Aysha Lucas

Champaign Economic Partnership – Marcia Bailey

Marcia Bailey from the Champaign Economic Partnership addressed the Board. Ultra-Met Corporation has submitted a tax abatement application through the Community Reinvestment Act provision. Ms. Bailey noted this is another opportunity for growth in our community. She presented a summary of recently approved tax abatements in the area. Ultra-Met has been in Urbana for many years and has been working on an expansion project for the past five years. The company needs to expand in order to accommodate new customers, products, and people. The company has purchased the land surrounding its current facility.

The expansion project would enlarge the current building to the north. The approximate construction costs will be \$1.5 million. The total investment for the project is estimated to be \$4.7 million. The project will retain 125 current jobs and add fifteen permanent full time positions and five temporary full time positions and is expected to add \$600,000 to the payroll. The request is for a 100% abatement for fifteen years. The total amount of the abatement is unknown at this time because new tax rates are not yet available.

Will Witten, Ultra-Met Vice-President of Operations, was also in attendance and presented the board with a document on the operations and production at Ultra-Met.

Mr. Arter asked if the request for the abatement was on the additional construction. He also asked if the land that had been purchased would see a change in classification. Finally, he asked if the company would be able to reapply for the abatement at the end of the fifteen years.

Marcia noted that the request would only be on new construction and that the company would not be able to apply again for abatement on that construction; only on anything new. The company can apply for a fifty percent abatement for fifteen years without board approval.

Mr. Arter said his concern is that the district can only collect a set amount and the tax abatements cause the amount to be spread across the rest of the tax base, often to residential homeowners. Marcia commented that this is a tool used across the state toward the betterment of the community.

Mr. Arter said his qualm is in asking others to pay the taxes. He agreed that growth is positive. He said he feels better that the abatement is on new construction and the district will still collect the original taxes on the property. He said he appreciates what the group and the company is doing for Urbana. He wants our community to do well; he just has hesitations about stretching the tax base.

Mr. Engle said he has seen the growth the company has gone through and noted there is a great deal of history with the company.

Ms. Paul confirmed that the abatement was only on the \$1.5 million in new construction, not the total project investment. She said this is a delicate situation. She said she feels we are missing a big piece of information because we do not know the new tax rates. Mr. Thomas asked if the company also did business with local suppliers. Mr. Witten confirmed that Ultra-Met does business with several suppliers in the county and city. He said Ultra-Met rarely sells to the end user of its products. Instead, the products are sold to companies that put them in machines and those machines are then sold to other companies.

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Public Participation: There was no public participation.

(Motion #1119.02) APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Mr. Arter and seconded by Ms. Finch to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of October 15, 2019 and the special meeting of October 28, 2019.

Roll Call: Mr. Engle, aye; Ms. Finch, aye; Ms. Paul, aye; Mr. Thomas, aye; Mr. Arter, aye. Motion carried.

(Motion #1119.03) TREASURER'S REPORT

It was moved by Ms. Paul and seconded by Ms. Finch to accept the Treasurer's Report as follows:

- A. Approve monthly reports
- B. Approve updated certificate of estimated resources for FY 2020
- C. Approve updated permanent appropriations for FY 2020
- D. Approve Five Year Forecast for fiscal year 2020
- E. Approve the following donations:
 - To Urbana City Schools, from The Georgine E. Bates Memorial Fund, \$10,000.
 - To Urbana Elementary Principal's Fund, from Laura Hess and Suzanne Bever, a total of \$50.
 - To Urbana City Schools Robert K. Martin Scholarship, from Frederick & Margaret Seeberg, \$100.
 - To Urbana High School Band, from Ned Kirby, Graham Local Schools, Bellefontaine City Schools, Champaign Historical Society, and Champaign Ag, a total of \$450.
 - To Urbana FFA, from David Greenlee, \$100.
 - To Urbana Athletics, from Gametime Sports, in-kind donation valued at \$3,000.
 - To Urbana High School Athletics, from The Urbana Athletic Boosters, a total of \$14,458.66.

Mandy reviewed the five-year forecast, noting the continued deficit spending. All operating levies are now included as continuing levies for revenue estimation purposes.

Roll Call: Ms. Finch, aye; Ms. Paul, aye; Mr. Thomas, aye; Mr. Arter, aye; Mr. Engle, aye. Motion carried.

REPORTS OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

- A. School Facilities Update: The team is working with our OFCC project manager to reach an agreement on a credit for the landscaping that has not been completed. With that credit, the district will secure a provider in the spring and finish the work. The interior of the Castle has been painted and a vendor is working on cleaning the interior. The windows and finishing work are also being completed. Punch list items at both buildings are being finished as well. Mr. Thiel thanked the board members who were able to attend the Arbor Day event at the PK8 building, highlighting the donation of trees from the Urbana Rotary. Ms. Finch asked if items from North would be moved to the Castle once it is totally finished. Mr. Thiel said records would be moved there and other items would be evaluated as to whether they needed to be kept, sold, or disposed of.

(Motion #1119.04) APPROVE SUPERINTENDENT'S RECOMMENDATIONS

Consent Agenda – All matters listed under the Consent Agenda (contingent upon meeting all local/state/federal laws/guidelines) are considered by the Board of Education to be routine and will be enacted by the Board in one motion in the form listed below. The Superintendent of Schools will briefly discuss each item in the consent agenda before they are actively acted upon. However, a board member, staff member, or the public may request that specific items shall be discussed and/or removed from the consent agenda. The Superintendent and administrative staff recommend approval of all consent agenda items.

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It was moved by Mr. Arter and seconded by Ms. Finch to approve the Superintendent’s recommendations as follows:

A. Personnel

All employment contracts are contingent upon certification by the state and the availability/continuation at current levels of any local/state/ and/or federal funding which directly supports the position to which the employee has been assigned. If such funding loss occurs, the employee agrees to waive his/her rights to any employment.

1. The Superintendent recommends the approval of the following substitute teachers for the 2019 - 2020 school year:

Lance Jackson	Joanne Petty	Mary Stanson	Samantha Woods
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2. The Superintendent recommends the approval of Melanie Anders at Title I Coordinator for the 2019 - 2020 school year.

3. The Superintendent recommends the approval of Robert Ball as a substitute bus driver and on-board instructor for the 2019 - 2020 school year.

4. The Superintendent recommends the approval of the resignation of Richard Swickard, custodian, effective end of the day October 25, 2019.

5. The Superintendent recommends the approval of Ryan Swain as Assistant Junior High Boys Basketball Coach, Step 0, for the 2019 - 2020 school year.

6. The Superintendent recommends the approval of the resolution to hire the following non-certified individuals as coaches for the 2019 - 2020 school year:

James (Luc) Russell	High School Boys Bowling	Step 0
Chad Souders	Assistant Junior High Wrestling	Step 0

7. The Superintendent recommends the approval of the following athletic department volunteers for the 2019 - 2020 school year:

James Stewart	High School Wrestling
David Myers	High School Boys Basketball
Megan Michael	High School Girls Basketball
Ronald Clark	High School Boys Bowling
Bill Borland	Junior High Boys Basketball
Taylor Nehls	High School Baseball

8. The Superintendent recommends the approval of the following substitute custodians for 2019 - 2020 school year:

Michelle Boardman	Jeffrey Baugh
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9. The Superintendent recommends the approval of Jeffrey Baugh as a substitute bus aide for the 2019 - 2020 school year.

10. The Superintendent recommends the approval of Marian Baumgardner as a substitute associate for the 2019 - 2020 school year.

11. The Superintendent recommends the approval of the following volunteers at the elementary for the 2019 - 2020 school year:

Amy Padilla	Jennifer Ricketts
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12. The Superintendent recommends the approval of the following volunteers at the high school for the 2019 - 2020 school year:

Kelly Fleming	Rich Pickering
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13. The Superintendent recommends the approval of the following intra-sub for the elementary for the 2019 - 2020 school year:

Suzanne Bever	Mendie Bowdle	Matt Bushey
Katie Deans	Corina Fain	Emily Ginn
Ryan Holeton	Grace Hower	Jay Keely
Ann Keep-Maloney	McKenzie Marino	Traci Pine
Dee Roosa	Michele Slone	Kristen Wasson
Nichole White	Margie Williams	Kelli Wright

14. The Superintendent recommends the approval of Michelle Boardman as a Custodian, Step 0, for the 2019 - 2020 school year, effective November 21, 2019.

15. The Superintendent recommends the approval of Tracy Flora as Junior High Student Council Advisor, Step 0, for the 2019 - 2020 school year.

B. Travel

1. The Superintendent recommends the approval of the Urbana Junior High 8th grade to Washington DC, October 19 - 23, 2020; pending approval of all travel arrangements.

Roll Call: Ms. Paul, aye; Mr. Thomas, aye; Mr. Arter, aye; Mr. Engle, aye; Ms. Finch, aye. Motion carried.

BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

Career-Technical Center/Activities – Mr. Engle said the Arbor Day program was nice and the kids were excited to be involved. There were Veterans Day activities as well and the veterans were very pleased to be invited.

Community Advisory – We still plan to set up a table at various school events and answer questions from the community.

Finance/Facilities – Mr. Huelsman provided a report detailing work done over the last several months, including additional lockers for the high school, boiler repairs, casework at the elementary building, and bleacher repair.

Legislative/Policy – Ms. Paul said it is quiet right now. New science guidelines are out for review.

(Motion #1119.05) NEW BUSINESS: It was moved by Ms. Paul and seconded by Mr. Arter to approve a resolution declaring the farm ground located near Boyce Street is not presently needed for public use.

The ground is currently being rented as cropland.

Roll Call: Mr. Thomas, aye; Mr. Arter, aye; Mr. Engle, aye; Ms. Finch, aye; Ms. Paul, aye. Motion carried.

(Motion #1119.06) NEW BUSINESS: It was moved by Mr. Engle and seconded by Ms. Finch to approve the following leave without pay request:

Larry Saunders January 3, 2020

Roll Call: Mr. Arter, aye; Mr. Engle, aye; Ms. Finch, aye; Ms. Paul, aye; Mr. Thomas, aye. Motion carried.

(Motion #1119.07) NEW BUSINESS: It was moved by Ms. Paul and seconded by Mr. Arter to table the consideration of the Community Reinvestment Area Tax Incentive application with UltraMet until January.

Ms. Finch asked what would be the benefit of waiting. Mr. Thomas noted we do not know the amount of the abatement yet because of the tax rates. Ms. Finch said we are not losing money. Ms. Paul agreed that we should have the same dollars coming in as we do currently. Mr. Thomas said he understands the different points of view. He said we are at a crossroads. We have done this in the

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past. The taxpayers have supported our levies. With homes reappraised, individual homeowners may see increases in their taxes. He said he is all for economic development. We also have to consider that the company may consider leaving the area without a tax abatement and we do not want to see a loss of jobs. We need to remember we represent the taxpayers and the community. How crucial is the abatement. We need to know the taxes and if we can negotiate. Mr. Arter commented he has fewer concerns when the abatement is an existing company that will continue paying their current taxes.

Mr. Thomas said we have to try to understand the dynamic in the community. There is a great deal of confusion about whether the school gets more money when home values increase. Ms. Paul said part of her reasoning for wanting to table is to try to have hard numbers available for us to see.

Mr. Thiel said there are numerous ways to address the abatement application. We know they can get fifty percent without Board approval. They have already purchased the property and have spent several years working on this. Ms. Paul said we certainly do not want to see the company leave. It is established in the community, but there has to be a balance for the schools. She said she is uncomfortable voting at this time.

Ms. Paul amended her motion in favor of tabling the consideration of the Community Reinvestment Area Tax Incentive application with Ultra-Met until December. Mr. Arter agreed to second the amended motion.

Roll Call: Mr. Engle, aye; Ms. Finch, aye; Ms. Paul, aye; Mr. Thomas, aye; Mr. Arter, aye.
Motion carried.

(Motion #1119.08) NEW BUSINESS: It was moved by Mr. Arter and seconded by Ms. Paul to authorize the Superintendent and Treasurer to work with the Champaign Economic Partnership and Ultra-Met to negotiate the Community Reinvestment Area Tax Incentive application.

Roll Call: Ms. Finch, aye; Ms. Paul, aye; Mr. Thomas, aye; Mr. Arter, aye; Mr. Engle, aye.
Motion carried.

BOARD COMMENTS

Mr. Arter said he recently read an article in the *Canton Repository* about Canton City Schools serving free dinners to those students participating in after-school sports, clubs, and activities. It is the twentieth school in the state to implement this program. He said Mr. Thomas plans to write something for the paper thanking the public for its support. We never want to take the community support for granted. He said one joy of his in reading the agenda each month is to see the volunteers and the list of donations. He thanked Mr. Bowdle for the information given last month about the House system at the junior high and thanked him for the invitation to the House events. He was glad to see the students of the month at the junior high chosen by House. He said the Arbor Day event was fun. He noted this had been a rough ten days in our district and he offered his condolences to the Rader family and he appreciated the community and the connections brought forth by so many people. He noted the baseball coaches and teachers who gave up time and planned the vigil and thanked Mr. Huelsman, Mr. Thiel, and the custodial staff for their work. He also mentioned Leigh-Ann Simpson and the number of students looking to her for support. He said throughout this he just wanted to hug his son and show kindness to strangers. He said what we do for our kids is important. We all matter. We all have a connection.

Ms. Paul said several board members were in Columbus when they received news of the tragedy and they were all glad to see the support our students were given by the staff and by each other. The vigil was put together quickly. These are the things that make Urbana great – the support for one another and making the connections with students. This has been difficult, but our community has pulled together.

Ms. Finch said she was able to make it to the vigil put together by the coaches. She said the Arbor Day event was very nice and it was great to see the kids involved. The sports awards were very good. She noted there were a lot of girls on the soccer team. The Veterans Day celebration was great and she knows the vets enjoyed being a part of the event. She also offered congratulations on the levy passage.

Mr. Engle said while he did not know the young man who passed away, he still cannot imagine going through something like that. He said with Thanksgiving coming up, it reminded him to give thanks

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and that we have a great deal to be thankful for. He said being on the board means being transparent, being involved, and doing positive things.

Mr. Thomas said as a Board, we do not want the community to think we take them for granted. He said he received a lot of feedback from friends and he thinks we need to do a better job of communicating between the Board and the community. He said he knew Alex as he had worked with his son. It has been a roller coaster for a few days. He thanked Mr. Thiel for rallying and getting counselors for our children. Ms. Leonard had to put aside her own feelings to help kids first. We have a wonderful, awesome community. Mr. Petty and Mr. Russell pulled together the vigil in a short amount of time and gave the kids an opportunity to just be together and support each other. Several people gathered Monday morning to greet the students as they returned back to school and let them know we are there for them and support them. He said this was a senseless tragedy, but he appreciates all that was done and how everyone pulled together. He also noted the seventh grade football team won the CBC Championship this year and the eighth grade team had a good season as well. He said the high school record did not reflect this season. He said he never saw any classless behavior from our kids. They were always respectful and never gave up or got down on themselves. He said they did not lose sportsmanship and he is proud of them for their efforts. He said that goes for all fall sports. He mentioned he was grateful for the Rotary tree donation and the Arbor Day event. He said he was shocked at how many people came and participated in the Veterans Day event. He said the kids were very excited. He wished everyone a good and safe holiday.

Mr. Thiel said the staff at the high school took care of almost everything. He said the recent passage of the levy as continuing is a great thing. We can put our focus more on educating our students. The first grade recently had its PBL exhibition night. The students did a project on playground safety. He was a member of an expert panel that also included the school nurse, Mrs. Anders, and an engineer. The students asked questions about how to make the playground safer. Other students did a project where they designed and built houses to see if they could be blown over after reading the story of *The Three Little Pigs*. He reminded the board members that there are many activities on the calendar this time of year and several exhibition nights are coming up and to keep an eye on the calendar.

(Motion #1119.09) EXECUTIVE SESSION – It was moved by Mr. Arter and seconded by Ms. Paul to enter into executive session to consider the investigation of charges and/or complaints against a public employee or public official, under ORC 121.22.

Roll Call: Ms. Paul, aye; Mr. Thomas, aye, Mr. Arter, aye; Mr. Engle, aye; Ms. Finch, aye.
Motion carried.

The Board entered into executive session at 8:07 p.m.

The President reconvened the open meeting at 8:30 p.m., noting all members were still present.

(Motion #1119.10) EXECUTIVE SESSION – It was moved by Ms. Paul and seconded by Mr. Engle to enter into executive session to consider the purchase of property for public use, under ORC 121.22.

Roll Call: Mr. Thomas, aye; Mr. Arter, aye; Mr. Engle, aye; Ms. Finch, aye; Ms. Paul, aye.
Motion carried.

(Motion #1119.11) ADJOURNMENT - Being no further business to discuss, it was moved by Mr. Arter and seconded by Ms. Finch to adjourn the meeting.

Roll Call: Mr. Arter, aye; Mr. Engle, aye; Ms. Finch, aye; Ms. Paul, aye; Mr. Thomas, aye.
Motion carried.

The President declared the meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

President

Treasurer