

**UNION  
SCHOOL  
DISTRICT**

**BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**February 19, 2026**

**Monthly Meeting  
Union High School Library**

UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT

**AGENDA**

February 19, 2026

- I. Call to Order
- II. Moment of Silent Meditation
- III. Pledge to the Flag
- IV. Roll Call
- V. Approval of Agenda (**all in favor**)
- VI. Approval of Minutes: January 8, 2026 work session and January 15, 2026 regular board meeting minutes. (**all in favor**)
- VII. Announcements
- VIII. Correspondence
  - PA Department of Education Letter dated January 20, 202–the Single Audit Report for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2025, is approved as being substantially in compliance.
  - PA Department of Education Letter dated January 12, 2026 regarding the rate of increase for all proposed tax rates is less than or equal to the school district's index.
  - Penn West Letter of Support dated February 3, 2026 from Dr. Kimmel
  - Petition to the Honorable PA House of Representatives regarding PIAA Playoff format.
- IX. Visitors/Comments
  - UHS/ACV Cheer Team and Coaches
  - Josh Beard with Premier Sports Medicine
    - Presentation concerning options for an Athletic Trainer
  - Rick Myers–Rick Myers Busing
- X. **Administration Reports**
  - School Police Officer
  - Food Service Department
  - Technology Department
  - Maintenance Department
  - Special Education Director
  - Elementary Principal
  - High School Principal
  - Superintendent
- XI. **Board Reports**
  - Finance Report
  - Personnel Report
  - Curriculum/Instruction Matters
  - Buildings, Grounds & Transportation
  - Athletic Report
  - Career Center Representative
  - Riverview IU6 Representative
- XII. Old Business

- Approve the 2nd reading of the following policy:
  - a. Policy No. 218.1: Weapons **(all in favor)**

**XIII.** New Business **(all in favor)**

- Approve the 1st reading of the following policies:
  - a. Policy No 610: Purchases Subject to Bid Quotations
  - b. Policy No 611: Purchases Budgeted
  - c. Policy No. 204: Attendance

**XIV.** Visitors/Comments

**XV.** Adjournment

UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT  
**ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS**

February 19, 2026

- I. School Police Officer**
- PSP contacted for substantiated threat from one student to another
  - Exploring avenues for funding of shotguns - denied by ECCLES
  - Purchase of ammunition (less-lethal rounds being considered for recommendation by the Threat Assessment Team)
  - Coordination with PSP/CYS - mandated reporting
  - Conducted vehicle record checks for district vehicle drivers
  - Student turned in a pocket knife once he realized it was on his person while going through morning check-in
    - ACT 44 notice was provided
  - Incident was handled internally concerning a student wiping fecal material on a bathroom stall
- II. Food Service Department**
- January claims lower due to Remote Instruction days and 2 hr delays
- III. Technology Department**
- 522 Support Tickets from January 7th to January 28th
    - 54 Support tickets from November 25th to January 7th
  - Prepare/Plan for Spring testing
  - Installing/programing Battery backup replacements
  - Prepping and imaging admin team laptops
  - Prepared RFPs following E-Rate guidelines
  - Prepared budget for 26-27 school year
- IV. Maintenance Department**
- A lot of snow removal.
  - Unclogged main drain for 5th grade hand sinks.
  - Repaired several undersink traps at Sligo.
  - Repaired several toilets at the HS.
  - Installed a new thermostat on the Art Kiln.
  - I am having an issue with one of the domestic boilers starting hard again, called for service and McClure sent a factory Rep. to troubleshoot and repair. I am still waiting on a final solution.
  - The roof top unit at Sligo went into a heating failure 3X during the extreme cold, I called for service and they are still working on it. The unit is currently running without issue, however, we still are trying to determine why it failed. Possibly a low gas supply pressure issue in the area at those particular failures.
  - Replaced 2 HVAC unit ventilator motors.
  - Unclogged 1 unit ventilator radiator which led to some minor clean up in 2 classrooms.
- V. Special Education Director**
- Early Intervention Transition Meetings- February 2nd, 2026
  - 13 incoming EI students
  - Mid-Year Special Education Numbers

## VI. Elementary Principal

-  Benchmark 2 CBM and Benchmark 3 STAR ELA and Math
- SWPBIS recharge for grades 3-5. Thanks to Mrs. Kifer and Miss Marissa for taking the lead.
- Cursive - taught in 2nd and 3rd grade using Handwriting without Tears.  
2nd grade: practice writing spelling words and their name. 2nd grade 1-2 pages a day throughout the year.  
3rd grade, maybe once to twice a week.
- Executive functioning training for staff to support students:  
Our data is reflecting that students struggle with the following daily:
  - organization
  - goal directed persistence - completion of work
  - working memory - multiple step directions
  - task initiation
  - time management
- SMILE committee: group of teachers that came together to make Sligo an even better place to work. Thanks to Mrs. Klein for taking the initiative and lead.
- Elementary Principals Meeting - Punsxy
  - TDA training - outside resource
  - Whole child development - have we gotten away from this (cursive mandate) get back to the core foundation in the elementary. Reading, math, grammar, art. PE, music, choir, STEAM, library - in reflection what have we learned from the last 10 years?

## VII. High School Principal Report

- Mid-Year Discipline Report Comparison -
  -  25-26 Mid Year Discipline Board Report - UHS
- Class Rank and GPA Discussion
  -  Class Rank and Grade Point Average - Handbook Language and Board ...
- Talent/Variety Show in place of Musical - Lack of Engagement (Cancelled)
- Mid-Year IXL Data
  -  IXL Data - 25/26
- Request for Purchasing Marching Band Uniforms
  - Roughly 525 dollars per uniform set
  - Need approximately 50
    - \$27,000 would be the approximate Union share

## VIII.

### Superintendent's Report

- Congratulations to our Cheerleading Team! Great job!
- Continued work with McClure on a Facilities Improvement Grant Application
  - Sizing grant to maximize savings (target of \$5 million); items prioritized in the following order
    - Heat exchanger/furnace/chiller for UHS main gymnasium
    - 2007 addition roof
    - UHS window replacement
    - UHS heating ventilators
    - Emergency generator upgrade
    - Electrical switchgear upgrade
- ACT 44 - Required notification of staff and parents concerning incidents involving a weapon on school property.
  - Notice was provided on February 6th via the district website as well as Facebook
  - TAT discussion and decision concerning what and when to report
- Public notice was provided concerning weather related district decisions
  - Reminder that parents may utilize parental excuses for days they deem to be unsafe for student travel
  - I shared the letter with other districts for their use
- Reminder that March 13th is a make-up day
- Discussion concerning a consistent district logo, font, etc.
  - No changes to colors or mascot
  - Use of font for windows, doors, letterhead, etc.
- Transportation Contractor
  - Currently approved for 78% reimbursement on Union School District Remote Instruction Days
  - Vans were not covered in the vote for reimbursement
    - Coverage for Vans?
    - Retroactive or forward only?
    - Only Union remote days or also days when other schools do not run?
  - Other contractors such as Career Center Bus?
- Follow-up from January concerning travel times/distances and hotel stays
  - Discussion concerning appropriate limits for consideration
    - Time between events
    - Distance Traveled
    - Need for equipment/baggage
    - Weather related considerations
    - Age of students
- Hunter Safety Course
  - Request for UHS Library use on February 24th and 25th after school
- Governor's Proposal
  - Cyber funding cap at the median cost for districts for non-special education students
- HB41 - signed petitions
  - Mr. Carlson, Mr. Kindle, and I
  - Petition to separate non-boundary and boundary schools in athletic playoffs
- 21st Century Cyber
  - Go to ADR and seek a resolution
  - File for a hearing
  - Drop it
- Marching band Uniforms

UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT  
**FINANCE REPORT**  
February 19, 2026

**Board Action Requested**

- I. **Treasurer's Report (roll call)**  
Approve the Treasurer's Report for the month ending January 31, 2026.
- II. **Accounts Payable List (roll call)**  
Approve the Accounts Payable List for the month ending February 28, 2026.
- III. **Panda Sports Tech Purchase (roll call)**  
Approve an athletic department scheduling software purchase through Panda Sports Tech at the cost of \$349.00 per year for the next three years.
- IV. **2026-2027 Riverview IU6 Budget (roll call)**  
Approve the Riverview IU6 2026-2027 General Operating Budget, in the amount of \$1,686,416.00 (Budgeted Expenditures), with Union School District's Projected share of members by withholding \$4,138.00.  
(2025-26 budget was \$1,673,821, with Union School District's share being \$4,122.00)
- V. **Union School District Auditor (roll call)**  
Approve the engagement letter from Brooks & Rhoads, Certified Public Accountant to perform the audit for the year ending June 30, 2026, at a cost not to exceed \$16,500.00.
- VI. **Union School District Tax Collectors Auditor (roll call)**  
Approve the engagement letter from Brooks & Rhoads, Certified Public Accountant to perform the tax collectors audit for the year ending December 31, 2025, at a cost not to exceed \$4,000.00.
- VII. **Arin Cooperative Purchasing Resolution (roll call)**  
Approve the resolution with ARIN Intermediate Unit 28 for the purchase of school supplies for the 2026-2027 school year and thereafter.

UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT

**PERSONNEL REPORT**

February 19, 2026

**Board Action Requested**

- I. **Custodial Retirement (all in favor)**  
Accept the letter of retirement from custodian Garry Vasbinder, effective May 22, 2026 and authorize the administration to post &/or advertise for this position.
- II. **PTO Volunteer/Chaperone (all in favor)**  
Approve Eric Chambers, Holly Skinner, Cara Hockenberry, and Katherine Martinelli as PTO volunteers/chaperones. All clearances are on file.
- III. **Intermittent Unpaid Leave of Absence (roll call)**  
Approve an intermittent unpaid leave of absence to employee #497, effective February 9, 2026 through the end of the current school year.
- IV. **Intermittent Unpaid Leave of Absence (roll call)**  
Approve an intermittent unpaid leave of absence, as needed, to employee #483 for the remainder of the 2025-2026 school year.
- V. **Unpaid Leave of Absence (roll call)**  
Approve an unpaid leave of absence to employee #506 for March 5-March 6, 2026.
- VI. **Family Medical Leave (roll call)**  
Approve a paid Family Medical Leave to employee #167 from approximately April 24, 2026 through the end of the 2025-2026 school year.
- VII. **Family Medical Leave (roll call)**  
Approve an unpaid Family Medical leave to employee #81 from February 23, 2026 through approximately March 20, 2026 and then intermittent, as needed, until the end of the 2025-2026 school year.
- VIII. **Summer School Instructors (roll call)**  
Hire Rachel Kindel and Cathy Walzak as Summer School Instructors for the Summer 2026 at the rate of \$2,800.00 each.

UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT  
**CURRICULUM REPORT**  
February 19, 2026

**Board Action Requested**

**I. Conferences a-c (roll call)**

Approval is requested for staff attendance at the following conference/workshops:

- a. Conference: TDA Workshop/Training  
Staff: Robert Corrado  
Location: Riverview IU6, Clarion  
Date: Retroactive February 9, 2026  
Approx. Cost: \$155.00  
Funding Source: General Fund
  
- b. Conference: Commonwealth Budget Seminar  
Staff: Megan Hepler  
Location: Virtual  
Date: Retroactive, February 6, 2026  
Approx. Cost: \$85.00  
Funding Source: General Fund
  
- c. Conference: Western Region Gifted Day  
Staff: Nicole Bish  
Location: Allegheny Intermediate Unit  
Date: Thurs., March 12, 2026  
Approx. Cost: \$205.00  
Funding Source: General Fund

**II. Student Trips (a-o) (roll call)**

Approval is requested for the following student trips during the school year:

- a. Student Trip: National Elementary Honor Society Field Trip  
Students: 16 NHS Students & Melissa Anderson  
Location: Union High School  
Date: February 23, 2026  
Approx. Cost: \$20.00  
Funding Source: General Fund
  
- b. Student Trip: District Jazz Rehearsals and Performance  
Students: 3 Jazz Band Students and Paul Brown  
Location: Armstrong High School  
Date: Retroactive February 12, 2026  
Approx. Cost: \$815.00  
Funding Source: General Fund
  
- c. Student Trip: District Jr. High Band Fest  
Students: 12 Band Students and Paul Brown

- Location: Clarion University  
 Date: March 27, 2026  
 Approx. Cost: \$630.00  
 Funding Source: General Fund
- d. Student Trip: Music Performance Assessments  
 Students: 12 Sr. High Concert Band Students & Paul Brown  
 Location: Clarion Area High School  
 Date: March 4, 2026  
 Approx. Cost: \$628.00  
 Funding Source: General Fund
- e. Student Trip: Region Band Rehearsals & Performance  
 Students: 5 High School Band Students & Paul Brown  
 Location: Northwestern High School, Albion PA  
 Date: Thurs., March 19, 2026  
 Approx. Cost: \$1,570.00  
 Funding Source: General Fund
- f. Student Trip: 2nd Grade Field Trip  
 Students: 40 2nd grade students, Erin McGinnis, Haley Sherman & Chaperones  
 Location: Olympic Fun Center, Hermitage PA  
 Date: May 7, 2026  
 Approx. Cost: \$1,190.00  
 Funding Source: PTO
- g. Student Trip: YMCA Swimming Lessons  
 Students: Approx. 30-35 first grade students, teachers, and aides  
 Location: Clarion County YMCA  
 Date: August-December 2026  
 Approx. Cost: \$2,200.00  
 Funding Source: Title IV Funds
- h. Student Trip: Senator for the Day  
 Students: 16 Juniors & Seniors & Nick Rimer  
 Location: Pennwest Clarion, PA  
 Date: Thurs., March 12, 2026  
 Approx. Cost: \$344.16  
 Funding Source: General Fund
- i. Student Trip: 5th Grade Field Trip  
 Students: 40 5th grade students, Rachel Kindel, Ange Salvo, David Louder & Chaperones  
 Location: Kennywood Amusement Park  
 Date: Fri., May 8, 2026  
 Approx. Cost: \$2,488.51  
 Funding Source: PTO
- j. Student Trip: PBIS Bowling Field Trip  
 Students: 130 Middle School Students & Teachers  
 Location: Family Bowlaway, Butler PA

- Date: Tues., March 31, 2026  
 Approx. Cost: \$1,888.00  
 Funding Source: Title IV Funds
- k. Student Trip: PSSA Field Trip  
 Students: 125-3rd, 4th & 5th Grade, Teachers & aides  
 Location: Cook Forest State Park  
 Date: Mon., May 11, 2026  
 Approx. Cost: \$503.50  
 Funding Source: General Fund
- l. Student Trip: Winter Jam: Christian based concert  
 Students: 9 Bible Club Members & Brianna Lauer  
 Location: PPG Paints Arena, Pittsburgh, PA  
 Date: Sat., February 28, 2026  
 Approx. Cost: \$230.00  
 Funding Source: Bible Club Funds
- j. Student Trip: Yearbook Business Ad Sales Trip  
 Students: 18 Yearbook Club Members & Nick Rimer + 1 teacher  
 Location: Various businesses in the community  
 Date: Tues., April 7, 2026  
 Approx. Cost: \$344.00  
 Funding Source: General Fund
- k. Student Trip: Future Educators Field Trip  
 Students: Up to 9 students, Andy Carlson + 1 teacher  
 Location: Pennwest Clarion  
 Date: Mon., March 2, 2026  
 Approx. Cost: \$180.00  
 Funding Source: General Fund
- l. Student Trip: 3rd Grade Field Trip  
 Students: 37-3rd grade students, Julie Jordan, Rebecca Dill, Tisha Frederick & PTO Chaperones  
 Location: Camp Coffman, Cranberry PA  
 Date: Thurs., May 7, 2026  
 Approx. Cost: \$901.00  
 Funding Source: PTO
- m. Student Trip: Softball skills and pitching clinic  
 Students: 5-20 softball players & coaches  
 Location: Westminster College  
 Date: Sat., February 21, 2026  
 Approx. Cost: \$75.00  
 Funding Source: General Fund
- n. Student Trip: Read Across America Field Trip  
 Students: National Honor Society Students & Anthony Beveridge  
 Location: Sligo Elementary School  
 Date: Thurs., March 5, 2026

Approx. Cost: \$75.00  
Funding Source: General Fund

- o. Student Trip: Hike & Nature Journaling  
Students: 9 Outdoor Club Members & Brianna Lauer  
Location: Redbank Rail Trail (Rimersburg start)  
Date: Sat., March 14, 2026 (rain date Sun., March 15, 2026)  
Approx. Cost: \$15.00  
Funding Source: Outdoor Club

**III. 2025-2026 School Calendar Revision (all in favor)**  
Approve the revision to the 2025-2026 school calendar.

**IV. 2026-2027 School Calendar (all in favor)**  
Approve the 2026-2027 school calendar.

UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT  
**BUILDINGS, GROUNDS AND TRANSPORTATION REPORT**

February 19, 2026

**Board Action Requested**

- I. **Facility Grant Resolution (roll call)**  
Approve the resolution authorizing the Administration to apply for the Public School Facility Grant through the PA Department of Community and Economic Development. Total cost to the District is a 25% match to the grant.
- II. **Commitment Letter (roll call)**  
Approve the letter of Commitment of 25% local match for the Public School Facilities Improvement Grant Program.
- III. **Youth Baseball Spring Training Clinic (roll call)**  
Grant permission to the Southern Clarion County Little League to use the Union High School Gym on the following Saturday's for spring training clinic: March 7, March 14, & March 21, 2026. Cost associated will include custodial fees.
- IV. **Youth Baseball & Softball Facility Use (roll call)**  
Grant permission to the Southern Clarion County Little League to use the Sligo Elementary and Union High School baseball & softball fields for practice and games from March 1, 2026-December 1, 2026.
- V. **Substitute Bus/Van Driver (roll call)**  
Approve Jason Kriebel as a substitute bus/van driver, pending receipt of the appropriate paperwork, for Rick Myers Busing.
- VI. **Hunter Safety Course (roll call)**  
Grant permission to Bob Shook to use the Union High School Library on February 24-25, 2026 from 3:00PM to 6:30PM to host a hunter safety course.
- VII. **Union High School Building Use (roll call)**  
Grant permission to the Falcon Knight QB Club to host a Pickleball Tournament at the Union High School on Friday, March 27, 2026.
- VIII. **Disposal of Property (all in favor)**  
Approve the request for disposal of 20 calculus textbooks, pending new textbooks are budgeted to purchase.

**The following topics were brought before the board at the meeting on February 19, 2026, therefore, the following items were added for board action:**

- IX. **Van Costs–Remote Instruction Days**  
Approve to compensate the van contractors at a rate of 78% of their normal daily transportation rate for each day in which Union School District provides a remote instruction day, in which the contractor does not provide services and will not make up the transportation day later in the school year. This is retroactive to the start of the 2025-2026 school year.
- X. **Transportation Costs–2-hour Delay Days**  
Approve to compensate the Clarion County Career Center transportation contractors at a

rate of 78% of their normal daily transportation rate for each day in which Union School District calls a 2-hour delay, in which the contractor does not provide services and will not make up the transportation day later in the school year. This is retroactive to the start of the 2025-2026 school year.

UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT

**ATHLETIC REPORT**

February 19, 2026

**Board Action Requested**

- I. **Jr. High Baseball Cooperative Agreement (roll call)**  
Approve the Jr. High Baseball Cooperative Agreements between the Union School District and the Allegheny-Clarion Valley School District effective 2026-2027 and 2027-2028 school year
- II. **Jr. High Softball Cooperative Agreement (roll call)**  
Approve the Jr. High Softball Cooperative Agreements between the Union School District and the Allegheny-Clarion Valley School District effective 2026-2027 and 2027-2028 school year
- III. **Jr. High Track Cooperative Agreement (roll call)**  
Approve the Jr. High Track Cooperative Agreements between the Union School District and the Allegheny-Clarion Valley School District effective 2026-2027 and 2027-2028 school year
- IV. **Girls Cross Country Cooperative Agreement (roll call)**  
Approve the Girls Cross Country Cooperative Agreements between the Union School District and the Allegheny-Clarion Valley School District effective 2026-2027 and 2027-2028 school year.
- V. **Boys Cross Country Cooperative Agreement (roll call)**  
Approve the Boys Cross Country Cooperative Agreements between the Union School District and the Allegheny-Clarion Valley School District effective 2026-2027 and 2027-2028 school year.
- VI. **5th & 6th Grade Girls Basketball Coach (roll call)**  
Approve Josh Meeker as the 5th & 6th Grade Girls Basketball coach for the 2025-2026 school year at the salary of \$200.00.
- VII. **5th & 6th Grade Girls Basketball Volunteer (all in favor)**  
Approve Vaughn Norbert as a volunteer for 5th & 6th Grade Girls Basketball, pending updated clearances.
- VIII. **Jr. High Baseball Volunteer (all in favor)**  
Approve Dustin Kifer as a volunteer for Jr. High Baseball for the 2025-2026 school year. All clearances are on file.
- IX. **Jr. High Baseball Volunteer (all in favor)**  
Approve Vaughn Norbert as a volunteer for Jr. High Baseball for the 2025-2026 school year, pending updated clearances.
- X. **Jr. High Baseball Volunteer (all in favor)**  
Approve Mike Morris as a volunteer for Jr. High Baseball for the 2025-2026 school year. All clearances are on file.
- XI. **Jr. High Football Volunteer (all in favor)**  
Approve Paul Murray as a Jr. High Football Volunteer for the 2026-2027 school year. All clearances are on file.

- XII. Jr. High Volleyball Volunteer (all in favor)**  
Approve Dustin Kifer as a Jr. High Volleyball Volunteer for the 2025-2026 school year. All clearances are on file.
- XIII. Jr. High Volleyball Volunteer (all in favor)**  
Approve Grace Kindel as a Jr. High Volleyball Volunteer for the 2025-2026 school year. All clearances are on file.
- XIV. Assistant Jr. High Volleyball Coach (roll call)**  
Hire Kelli Kifer as the Assistant Jr. High Volleyball Coach for the 2025-2026 school year at the salary of \$1,179.00. All clearances are on file.
- XV. Assistant Track Coach (roll call)**  
Approve Shanna Tharan as an Assistant Track Coach for the 2025-2026 school year at the salary of \$2,259.00. All clearances are on file.