Unatego Central School
Board Meeting
August 3, 2026

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President Salisbury called the meeting of the Unatego Central School District Board of Education to order at 7:00 p.m. in room #93 at the MS/HS.	Call to Order
Davis, Downey, Johnson, McMichael, Nordberg, O'Hara, Ostrander, and Salisbury answered roll call. Administrative members present: Supt. Dr. David S. Richards, Business Manager Patti Loker, Principals Mike Snider, Katie James, Abby Costello, Director of Instruction Kate Webb and Clerk Nolan. Visitors/Staff: 4	Roll Call
Board President Salisbury led the Flag Salute.	Flag Salute
Motion by Downey, seconded by McMichael, to approve the Re-organizational/ Regular Board Meeting Minutes of July 6, 2026, as presented. Yes-7 No-0. Carried.	7-6-26 ReOrg/Reg Brd Mtg Min
Motion by Johnson, seconded by O'Hara, to adopt the Agenda as presented. Yes-7 No-0. Carried.	Adopt Agenda
Public Comment- None	
Presentations- Administrator's Report- Elementary Principal Mike Snider: • Busy getting everything ready for September. • Interviewing for multiples aides at the elementary and middle school. • Welcome Colleen Jenkins as our new elementary art teacher. • August 28 - UPK and K Meet and Greet at 5:00pm. • August 28 - Back to School Bash at 5:30pm. • Working on elementary schedules.	M. Snider
MS Principal Katie James: • Conducting interviews with Mike Snider for elementary and middle school aides next week. • Scheduling is almost complete. It's been great working with our new middle school Counselor, Shelby Nickerson. She is a great addition to our team. • September 1 - Back-to-School Open House at Middle School along with 6th grade orientation from 6:00-8:00pm.	K. James

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HS Principal Abby Costello: • Working on scheduling. • We added more AIS periods to the schedule this year. Starting this with the BOCES students to see how it goes. • Custodians are busy getting the rooms back together for September. • August 13 & 17 – Regents Review. • August 17 – Varsity Football starts. • August 24 – All other JV & Varsity sports start. • September 1 - Back to School Open House, along with 9th grade orientation from 6:00-8:00pm. • Some of our students are in FFA through BOCES. I have been invited by Emily Anderson, a CTE Science Teacher, to be a guest at the Delaware Couty Fair to show a cow for fun. I plan to participate.	A. Costello
Director of Instruction Kate Webb: • Teachers are working on a lot of Professional Development opportunities this summer. • Working on creating a Literacy Leadership Team. • July 29th & 30th – LINKS. • We will be adopting the LINKS Plan at the September 8th board meeting. • Updating our Mentoring Program Plan using the feedback from the teachers that mentored last year.	K. Webb
Business Manager's Report – Patti Loker: • Working on year-end information for the Auditors. The Audit will be taking place the last week of August. • Setting up all the logins and accounts for Theresa Carlin. • Luci Hopps Cafeteria Manager has been working on the New York State 30% Initiative. This initiative increases the reimbursement that schools receive from the state for using products from NYS. • I reached out to our insurance adjusters regarding the sinkhole in the parking lot today. We will be getting just under $87,000 back from them. • Thank you to the board for your support over the last 10 years.	P. Loker
Superintendent's Report-Dr. David S. Richards: • We need to complete the Superintendents Evaluation. • Discussed with the board the possibility of conducting a merger study with Franklin CSD and what that would look like. It would involve a joint board meeting with both schools and BOCES Superintendent Mike Rullo	Supt. Richards

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in the near future to discuss this. They also discussed bringing in Mr. Rullo to provide information about him doing a superintendent search.

- Updated the board on retirement midway through the 26-27 school year. We will need to talk about conducting a Superintendent search.
- Following discussion, the consensus of the Board was to take a pause on meeting with Franklin about a merger study and to focus on finding a new Superintendent.

Administrative Action

Motion by McMichael, seconded by Downey, to approve the following resolutions 4.1-4.5 & 4.7-4.31 as presented. Yes-7 No-0. Carried.

Monthly Reports

Warrants and Budget Status Reports were given to the Board for information only.

Treasurer's Report

RESOLVED: Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools that this Board does hereby approve the Treasurer's Report as presented.

CSE Recommendations

RESOLVED: Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools that this Board does hereby approve CSE recommendations as presented.

Confirm Tax & Authorize Tax Levy

RESOVED: Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools that this Board does hereby approve the following resolution as presented.

RESOLUTION TO CONFIRM TAX AND AUTHORIZE TAX LEVY

WHEREAS the Board of Education has been authorized by the voters as the Annual School Meeting to raise for the current budget of the 2026-27 school year a sum not to exceed $8,221,771;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the board fixes the equalized tax rates by towns and confirms the extension of the taxes as they appear on the following described tax roll:

Name of Town	Total Assessed Valuations by Towns	Equalized Tax Rate by Towns	Total Tax Levy by Towns

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Franklin	190,777	100.00	2,611.29
Sidney	26,775,536	49.00	747,948.18
Butternuts	2,963,848	69.00	58,794.44
Laurens	950,154	62.50	20,808.62
Oneonta	3,547,918	63.00	77,083.68
Otego	205,982,460	72.00	3,915,917.07
Unadilla	98,077,349	39.50	3,398,607.71
TOTALS	338,488,042		8,221,771

AND BE IT HEREBY DIRECTED THAT the tax warrant of this board, duly signed shall be affixed to the above-described tax rolls authorizing the collection of said taxes to begin 9/1/2026 and end 11/4/2026 giving the tax warrant an effective period of 65 days at the expiration of which time the tax collector shall make an accounting in writing to the board;

AND IT IS FURTHER DIRECTED THAT the delinquent tax penalties shall be fixed as follows:

1st month free period,
2nd month interest of 2 percent added,
3rd month or fraction thereof, interest of 3 percent added.

RESOLVED: Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools that this Board does hereby approve the 2026-2027 District Safety Plan as presented.

RESOLVED: Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools that this Board does hereby approve non-resident tuition student for the 2026-2027 school year as presented.

RESOLVED: Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools that this Board does hereby adopt Policy #8260 Title I Parent and Family Engagement Policy as presented.

RESOLVED: Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools that this Board does hereby approve the 2026-2027 LINKS Team as presented.

District Safety Plan 26-27

Non-Resident Student 26-27

BP#8260 Title I Parent & Family Engagement

LINKS Team 26-27

Create Temp School Business Manager Position

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RESOLVED: Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools that this Board does hereby create a temporary School Business Manager position with the standard 8-hour workday as presented.	Sports Merger 26-27
RESOLVED: Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools that this Board does hereby approve the sports merger between Sidney CSD and Unatego CSD for Modified and Varsity Field Hockey for the 2026-2027 school year as presented.	Prob Appt. – A. Santana, Aide
RESOLVED: Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools that this Board does hereby appoint Anthony Santana to a 52-week probationary appointment as an aide, salary $16.20/pr.hr., effective September 1, 2026, to August 31, 2027 as presented.	Fall Sports Event Workers 26-27
RESOLVED: Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools that this Board does hereby approve event workers for the 2026-2027 fall sports season as presented.	A. Birdsall Trans. Dispatcher 26-27
RESOLVED: Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools that this Board does hereby appoint Amber Birdsall Transportation Dispatcher at a stipend of $2,625 for the 2026-2027 school year.	A. Birdsall Tax Collector 26-27
RESOLVED: Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools that this Board does hereby appoint Amber Birdsall Tax Collector at a stipend of $3,283 for the 2026-2027 school year.	A. Birdsall Central Treas. Student Accts. 26-27
RESOLVED: Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools that this Board does hereby appoint Amber Birdsall Central Treasurer for Student Accounts at a stipend of $2,625 for the 2026-2027 school year.	ASCP Workers 26-27
RESOLVED: Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools that this Board does hereby approve full-time After-School Care Program workers for the 2026-2027 school year as presented.	ASCP Subs 26-27
RESOLVED: Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools that this Board does hereby approve substitutes for the After School Care Program for the 2026-2027 school year as presented.	Prob Appt. – J. Buel, Aide
RESOLVED: Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools that this Board does hereby appoint Jessica Buel to a 52-week probationary appointment as an aide, salary $16.20/pr.hr., effective September 1, 2026, to August 31, 2027 as presented.	Returning Teacher Subs 26-27

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RESOLVED: Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools that this Board does hereby approve returning substitute teachers for the 2026-2027 school year as presented.	CSE/CPSE Committee 26-27
RESOLVED: Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools that this Board does hereby approve CSE/CPSE/504 committees for the 2026-2027 school year as presented.	CSE/CPSE Chairperson Subs 26-27
RESOLVED: Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools that this Board does hereby appoint Jen Potrzeba and Kim Trask as substitute CSE/CPSE/504 Chairpersons for the 2026-2027 school year as presented.	Advisor Student Accts, L. Harvey 26-27
RESOLVED: Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools that this Board does hereby appoint Lori Harvey, Students Accounts Advisor, for the 2026-2027 school year (stipend per teachers' contract).	Approve Teachers for Summer PD Days
RESOLVED: Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools that this Board does hereby approve additional teachers for paid summer professional development days, at the rate of $100.00/day, effective June 29, 2026, as presented.	Prob Appt. – R. Fairgrieve, LTA
RESOLVED: Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools that this Board does hereby appoint Renee Fairgrieve to a three-year probationary appointment as Licensed Teaching Assistant, effective September 1, 2026 and ending August 31, 2029, Step 9, salary per UTA contract as presented. (replaces Katie King)	Mentors 26-27
RESOLVED: Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools that this Board does hereby approve mentors for new teachers for the 2026-2027 school year as presented.	Temp School Business Manager, T. Carlin
RESOLVED: Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools that this Board does hereby appoint Theresa Carlin as Interim School Business Manager as presented.	Prob Appt. – C. Jenkins, Elem Art Teacher
RESOLVED: Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools that this Board does hereby appoint Colleen Jenkins to a three-year probationary appointment in the tenure area of art, effective date September 1, 2026, and ending August 31, 2029, Masters Step 9, salary per UTA contract, as presented. (Replaces Josette Wood)	
This expiration date is tentative and conditional only. Except to the extent required by the applicable provisions of Section 3012 of the Education Law, in	

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order to be granted tenure the teacher must receive composite or overall annual professional performance review ratings pursuant to Section 3012-c and/or 3012-d of the Education Law of either effective or highly effective in at least two (2) of the three (3) preceding years, and if the teacher receives an ineffective composite or overall rating in the final year of the probationary period the teacher shall not be eligible for tenure at that time.	Amend Original Rec for Title I Coordinator 26-27
RESOLVED: Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools that this Board does hereby amend the original recommendation for the Title I Coordinator to be shared between Abby Costello and Kate Webb for the 2026-2027 school year as presented.	Coaching Recommendations 26-27
RESOLVED: Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools that this Board does hereby approve additional coaching positions for the 2026-2027 school year as presented.	
Motion by McMichael, seconded by O'Hara, to approve the following resolution 4.6 as presented. Yes-7 No-0. Carried.	Confirm Tax & Authorize Tax Levy (Tax Warrant)
RESOVED: Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools that this Board does hereby approve the following resolution as presented.	
MOTION CONCERNING TAX WARRANT	
WHEREAS: Chapter 73 of the Laws of 1977, amended Section 1318, subdivision 1 of the Real Property Tax Law; and	
WHEREAS: the unencumbered, unreserved fund balance at the close of the last fiscal year must be applied in determining the amount of the school tax levy except for an amount not to exceed 2.00% of the current school year budget; and	
WHEREAS: this latter amount may be held as surplus funds during the current school year; now therefore	
BE IT ADDITIONALLY RESOLVED AS FOLLOWS:	
To the collector of UNATEGO school district Town(s) of FRANKLIN, SIDNEY, BUTTERNUTS, LAURENS, ONEONTA, OTEGO, UNADILLA County(ies) of DELAWARE & OTSEGO New York State.	
You are hereby commanded:	
To give notice and start collection on September 1, 2026 in accordance with the provisions of Section 1322 of the Real Property Tax Law.	
To give notice that tax collection will end on November 4, 2026.	

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To collect taxes in the total sum of $8,221,771 in the same manner that collectors are authorized to collect town and county taxes in accordance with the provisions of Section 1318 of the Real Property Tax Law. To make no changes or alterations in the tax warrant or the attached tax rolls but shall return the same to the board of education. The board may recall its warrant and tax roll for correction of errors or omissions in accordance with the provisions of Section 1316 of the Real Property Tax Law. To forward by mail to each owner of real property listed on the tax rolls within ten days after the start of collection a statement of taxes due on his property on press-numbered tax bill forms provided by the school district in accordance with the provisions of Section 922 of the Real Property Tax Law. To forward by mail, without interest penalties, to the office of the county treasurer a detailed tax bill of all state land parcels liable for taxes on the school tax rolls in accordance with provisions of Sections 540 and 544 of the Real Property Tax Law. To receive from each of the taxable corporations and natural persons the sums listed on the attached tax rolls without interest penalties when such sums are paid before the end of the first month of the tax collection period. To add two percent interest penalties to all taxes collected during the second month of the tax collection and to add three per cent interest penalties to all taxes collected during any part of the third month of the tax collection period and to account for such sums as income due to the school district. To issue press-numbered receipts only on forms provided by the school district in acknowledgement of receipt of payments of taxes and to retain, preserve and file exact carbon copies of all such receipts issued as required by Section 987 of the Real Property Tax Law. To promptly return the warrant at its expiration and if any taxes on the attached tax rolls shall be unpaid at that time, deliver an accounting thereof on forms showing by town the total assessed valuation, tax rate, the total tax levy, the total amounts remaining uncollected as required by Section 1330 of the Real Property Tax Law. The warrant is issued pursuant to Sections 910, 912 and 914 of the Real Property Tax Law and is delivered in accordance with Sections 1306 and 1318 of this law. It is effective immediately after it is properly signed by a majority of the board of education. The warrant shall expire on the date stated above unless a renewal or extension has been endorsed on the face of this warrant in writing in accordance with Section 1318, subdivision 2 of the Real Property Tax Law. <u>Member</u> <u>Vote</u>	

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Davis-Yes Downey-Yes Johnson-Yes McMichael-Yes Nordberg-Yes O'Hara-Yes Salisbury-Yes Motion Carried. *Public Comment-* None *Round Table Discussion-* -B. Davis & J. Nordberg – The new digital signs look great. A lot of positive feedback from the community. -J. Johnson – Where is the old sign that was outside the MS/HS building? -Supt. Richards explained that it was moved and will be set up outside the main entrance of the MS/HS building. J. Salisbury – Reading a lot about Portrait of a Graduate but is confused by it. The guidance is not clear at this time. C. O'Hara – Attended the Rural Schools Conference in Lake Placid. There were a lot of great speakers this year.	Executive Session
Executive Session: Motion by McMichael, seconded by Johnson, to go into Executive Session at 7:47 p.m. to discuss personnel. Yes-7 No-0. Carried. All board members were present as well as Supt. Richards, High School Principal Abby Costello, and School Attorney Wendy DeWind. Discussion ensued; no action taken. Motion by McMichael, seconded by Downey to leave Executive Session at 8:45 p.m. Yes-7 No-0. Carried.	Adjournment
Adjourn: Motion by McMichael, seconded by O'Hara, to adjourn the meeting at 8:46 p.m. Yes-7 No-0. Carried. _____ David S. Richards, Superintendent of Schools	