

UTICA SHALE ACADEMY
GOVERNING BOARD MEETING MINUTES
2026

JANUARY 6, 2026 – ORGANIZATIONAL BOARD MEETING

CALL TO ORDER:

The Governing Board of the Utica Shale Academy met for an Organizational Board Meeting on the Sixth day of January 2026, and the meeting was called to order at 6:00 P.M.

BOARD MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: Mr. Cory Boyle, Mrs. Alison Jackson, Mr. Tim Miller, and Mr. William Pitts. Also, present was Robert P. Barrett, Treasurer. **ABSENT:** None. Also was William Watson, Director and Dr. Warren Glenn (via phone) from the Ohio Department of Education.

26-001 OATH OF OFFICE

Treasurer Barrett administered the Oath of Office to Mr. Joshua Yeager.

26-002 ELECTION OF BOARD PRESIDENT

Mr. Boyle nominated Mr. Miller as the 2026 Board President. Mr. Boyle moved to close nominations, seconded by Mr. Pitts. Roll Call: Mr. Boyle, yes; Mr. Pitts, yes; Mrs. Jackson, yes; Mr. Yeager, yes; Mr. Miller, yes. Mr. Miller was approved as 2026 President.

26-003 ELECTION OF VICE-PRESIDENT

Mr. Miller nominated Mr. Boyle as the 2026 Board Vice-President. Mr. Miller moved to close nominations, seconded by Mrs. Jackson. Roll Call: Mr. Miller, yes; Mrs. Jackson, yes; Mr.

Boyle, yes; Mr. Yeager, yes; Mr. Pitts, yes. Mr. Boyle was approved as 2026 Vice-President.

26-004 2025 BOARD MEETING DATE, TIME, AND PLACE

It was moved by Mr. Boyle and seconded by Mr. Miller to establish the Board meeting dates as follows:

January 6, 2026
February 3, 2026
March 3, 2026
April 7, 2026

May 5, 2026
June 2, 2026
July 7, 2026
August 4, 2026

September 1, 2026
October 6, 2026
November 3, 2026
December 1, 2026

All meetings will begin at 6:00 PM at the Williams Building 3rd floor conference room. Roll Call: Mr. Boyle, yes; Mr. Miller, yes; Mrs. Jackson, yes; Mr. Pitts, yes; Mr. Yeager, yes. Motion approved.

26-005 ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Mrs. Jackson and seconded by Mr. Boyle to adjourn the organizational meeting at 6:03 P.M. Roll Call: Mrs. Jackson, yes; Mr. Boyle, yes; Mr. Pitts, yes; Mr. Yeager, yes; Mr. Miller, yes. Motion approved.

JANUARY 6, 2026 – REGULAR BOARD MEETING

CALL TO ORDER:

The Governing Board of the Utica Shale Academy met for a Regular Board Meeting on the Sixth day of January 2026, and the meeting was called to order at 6:03 P.M.

BOARD MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: Mr. Cory Boyle, Mrs. Alison Jackson, Mr. Tim Miller, Mr. William Pitts, and Mr. Yeager. Also present was Robert P. Barrett, Treasurer. **ABSENT:** None. Also, in attendance was William Watson, Director and Dr. Warren Glenn (via phone) from the Ohio Department of Education.

26-006 REGULAR MINUTES APPROVED

It was moved by Mr. Pitts and seconded by Mr. Boyle to approve the minutes of the Regular Governing Board Meeting for December 2, 2025. Roll Call: Mr. Pitts, yes; Mr. Boyle, yes; Mrs. Jackson, yes; Mr. Yeager, yes; Mr. Miller, yes. Motion approved.

REPORT FROM THE TREASURER

Robert Barrett gave a brief overview of the financial status of Utica Shale Academy and reported the status of financial cash position to cover December 2025 expenses.

26-007 DECEMBER 2024 FINANCIAL REPORTS APPROVED

It was moved by Mrs. Jackson and seconded by Mr. Boyle to approve the December 2025 Financial Reports as presented by the Treasurer. The Financial Report included the following: Monthly Cash Reconciliation Report, Financial Report (FINSUMM), Check Register

(CHKREG), Cash Flow Statement, and Monthly Cash Balance Comparison Charts. Roll Call: Mrs. Jackson, yes; Mr. Boyle, yes; Mr. Pitts, yes; Mr. Yeager, yes; Mr. Miller, yes. Motion approved.

SPONSOR'S REPORT

- Ethics forms for the Board Members will be distributed soon.
- ODE Contract amendments.
- STAR Testing.
- Need new Board Member's email address.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- No address changes and no expulsions or suspensions.
- 43 students passed the Algebra I testing
- Special Education profile met 7 out of 8 indicators.
- Regional expansion update.
- Capital appropriations for welding lab for Belmont County expansion.

26-008 TRACTOR RENOVATION PURCHASE SERVICE CONTRACT

It was moved by Mr. Boyle and seconded by Mr. Yeager to approve the purchase service contract in the amount of \$3,463.50 with Southern Local Schools for the tractor renovation project to John Wright. Roll Call: Mr. Boyle, yes; Mr. Yeager, yes; Mrs. Jackson, yes; Mr. Pitts, yes; Mr. Miller, yes. Motion approved.

26-009 RESIGNATION

It was moved by Mrs. Jackson and seconded by Mr. Boyle to accept the resignation of Mr. Bobby Westover as vocational teacher effective December 13, 2025. Roll Call: Mrs. Jackson, yes; Mr. Boyle, yes; Mr. Pitts, yes; Mr. Yeager, yes; Mr. Miller, yes. Motion approved.

26-010 WILLIAMS FACILITY PURCHASE SERVICE CONTRACT

It was moved by Mr. Pitts and seconded by Mrs. Jackson to approve the purchase service contract in the amount paid to the recipient at \$8000 with Southern Local Schools for the

Williams Facility to Matt Gates. Note Southern Local covering half the cost. Roll Call: Mr. Pitts, yes; Mrs. Jackson, yes; Mr. Boyle, yes; Mr. Yeager, yes; Mr. Miller, yes. Motion approved.

26-011 SPECIAL EDUCATION PURCHASE SERVICE CONTRACT

It was moved by Mr. Pitts and seconded by Mr. Yeager to approve the purchase service contract in the amount of \$15,000 paid to each employee with Southern Local Schools for the Additional Special Education assignments to maintain MOE within Special Education

Mike Skrinjar

Ashley Canann

Jessie Mahan

Laura Krulik

Mariah Hart

Roll Call: Mr. Pitts, yes; Mr. Yeager, yes; Mr. Boyle, yes; Mrs. Jackson, yes; Mr. Miller, yes. Motion approved.

26-012 CTE - IWIP PURCHASE SERVICE CONTRACT - REAFFIRMED

It was moved by Mr. Boyle and seconded by Mrs. Jackson to reaffirm the action of the Stipend

Compensation Structure for the Industrial Workforce Incentive Program (IWIP) (25-020 STIPEND COMPENSATION STRUCTURE FOR THE INDUSTRIAL WORKFORCE INCENTIVE PROGRAM).

The Industrial Workforce Incentive Program (I W I P) provides additional compensation to eligible staff members based on the number of credentials achieved by students. The stipend structure ensures that participants are incentivized to maximize student certifications while aligning with state reimbursement guidelines.

This opportunity will be bid out, and the maximum number of participants will be limited to seven (7) staff members: 5 Instructor's 2 Administrators

- Full stipend payout will be 50% of the previous year's payout or \$15,000, whichever is the lesser amount.
- Full stipend available for achieving 350 credentials; 50% stipend available for achieving 250 credentials.
- Compensation adjustments may apply based on state reimbursement reductions and overall program performance.

The total stipend payout will be subject to available funding from state reimbursement. Adjustments will be made if reimbursement reductions exceed 50% of the \$1,200 per credential, ensuring the total lump sum does not exceed half the amount reimbursed to the school. (This approval replaces Motion 24-082.)

Roll Call: Mr. Boyle, yes; Mrs. Jackson, yes; Mr. Pitts, yes; Mr. Yeager, yes; Mr. Miller, yes. Motion approved.

26-013 ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Mrs. Jackson and seconded by Mr. Boyle to adjourn the organizational meeting at 6:23 P.M. Roll Call: Mrs. Jackson, yes; Mr. Boyle, yes; Mr. Pitts, yes; Mr. Yeager, yes; Mr. Miller, yes. Motion approved.

FEBRUARY 3, 2026 – REGULAR BOARD MEETING

CALL TO ORDER:

The Governing Board of the Utica Shale Academy met for a Regular Board Meeting on the Third day of February 2026, and the meeting was called to order at 6:00 P.M.

BOARD MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: Mr. Cory Boyle, Mrs. Alison Jackson, Mr. Tim Miller, Mr. William Pitts, and Mr. Joshua Yeager. Also present was Robert P. Barrett, Treasurer. **ABSENT:** None. Also, in attendance was William Watson, Director and Mike Majzun from the Ohio Department of Education.

26-014 REGULAR MINUTES APPROVED

It was moved by Mrs. Jackson and seconded by Mr. Boyle to approve the minutes of the

Organization Meeting for January 6, 2026 and the Regular Governing Board Meeting for January 6, 2026. Roll Call: Mrs. Jackson, yes; Mr. Boyle, yes; Mr. Pitts, yes; Mr. Yeager, yes; Mr. Miller, yes. Motion approved.

REPORT FROM THE TREASURER

Robert Barrett gave a brief overview of the financial status of Utica Shale Academy and reported the status of financial cash position to cover January 2026 expenses.

26-015 JANUARY 2026 FINANCIAL REPORTS APPROVED

It was moved by Mr. Pitts and seconded by Mr. Yeager to approve the January 2026 Financial

Reports as presented by the Treasurer. The Financial Report included the following: Monthly

Cash Reconciliation Report, Financial Report (FINSUMM), Check Register (CHKREG), Cash Flow Statement, and Monthly Cash Balance Comparison Charts. Roll Call: Mr. Pitts, yes; Mr. Yeager, yes; Mr. Boyle, yes; Mrs. Jackson, yes; Mr. Miller, yes. Motion approved.

SPONSOR'S REPORT

- Three educational consultants will visit the Academy.

- Ethic Financial Disclosures reporting for Board members has been suspended.
- AIMS visitation.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- No address changes and no expulsions or suspensions.
- Contacted Rebecca Vouglar from ODE about 17 days of cash for the month of December. Was due to two months payments to Southern Local for contracted services, and corrections to the enrollment and transportation.
- Enrollment /ADM at 139.17.
- One Ohio Grant was applied for.
- Capital appropriations for completion of the indoor welding lab and for Belmont County expansion.

26-016 FY2026 FORECAST - SPRING UPDATE

Moved by Mrs. Jackson and seconded by Mr. Pitts to approve the FY2026 Financial Forecast - Update as presented (Exh. 26-016). Roll Call: Mrs. Jackson, yes; Mr. Pitts, yes; Mr. Boyle, yes; Mr. Yeager, yes; Mr. Miller, yes. Motion approved.

26-017 CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

It was moved by Mr. Boyle and seconded by Mr. Yeager to approve the registration fee of \$100 to the Ohio Association of School Business Officials NE Region Joint Workshop in Rootstown, OH on March 6, 2026. Roll Call: Mr. Boyle, yes; Mr. Yeager, yes; Mrs. Jackson, yes; Mr. Pitts, yes; Mr. Miller, yes. Motion approved.

26-018 RESIGNATION

It was moved by Mrs. Jackson and seconded by Mr. Boyle to accept the resignation of Ms.

Michelle Hart as a Certified Health Worker effective January 23, 2026. The Board and the Academy wish her well in her new position. Roll Call: Mrs. Jackson, yes; Mr. Boyle, yes; Mr. Pitts, yes; Mr. Yeager, yes; Mr. Miller, yes. Motion approved.

26-019 ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Mr. Boyle and seconded by Mrs. Jackson to adjourn the regular meeting at 6:23 P.M. Roll Call: Mr. Boyle, yes; Mrs. Jackson, yes; Mr. Pitts, yes; Mr. Yeager, yes; Mr. Miller, yes. Motion approved.

MARCH 3, 2026 – REGULAR BOARD MEETING

CALL TO ORDER:

The Governing Board of the Utica Shale Academy met for a Regular Board Meeting on the Third day of March 2026, and the meeting was called to order at 6:00 P.M.

BOARD MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:, Mrs. Alison Jackson, Mr. Tim Miller, and Mr. William Pitts. Also present was Robert P. Barrett, Treasurer. **ABSENT:** Mr. Cory Boyle and Mr. Joshua Yeager. Also, in attendance was William Watson, Director and Kammy Lewis from the OSS Ohio Department of Education (via phone).

26-020 REGULAR MINUTES APPROVED

It was moved by Mr. Pitts and seconded by Mrs. Jackson to approve the minutes of the Regular Governing Board Meeting for February 3, 2026. Roll Call: Mr. Pitts, yes; Mrs. Jackson, yes; Mr. Miller, yes. Motion approved.

REPORT FROM THE TREASURER

Robert Barrett gave a brief overview of the financial status of Utica Shale Academy and reported the status of financial cash position to cover February 2026 expenses.

26-021 FEBRUARY 2026 FINANCIAL REPORTS APPROVED

It was moved by Mr. Pitts and seconded by Mrs. Jackson to approve the February 2026

Financial Reports as presented by the Treasurer. The Financial Report included the following: Monthly Cash Reconciliation Report, Financial Report (FINSUMM), Check Register (CHKREG), Cash Flow Statement, and Monthly Cash Balance Comparison Charts. Roll Call: Mr. Pitts, yes; Mrs. Jackson, yes; Mr. Miller, yes. Motion approved.

SPONSOR'S REPORT

- Update to the Board on the sponsor's visit to the Academy today.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- No address changes and no expulsions or suspensions.
- The Academy completed an in-depth review of health and safety policies.
- The continuous partnership with Mahoning County Public Health through the Community Health Workers.

- Momentum is building with PsyCare with our students.
- Applied for a OneOhio grant focusing on drug mitigation.
- STAR testing and end-of-course testing are nearing completion.
- Junior High Phase-out Plan – Starting next school year, the Academy will not be accepting any 7th grade students. The following year, the 8th grade will be formally closed.
- School calendar update.

26-022 REVIEW OF POLICIES - HEALTH AND SAFETY RESOLUTION

It was moved by Mr. Pitts and seconded by Mrs. Jackson to approve the following review of policies covering Health and Safety Resolution:

WHEREAS Utica Shale Academy is a community school in the state of Ohio;

AND WHEREAS the governing authority understands the importance of policy review;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE UTICA SHALE ACADEMY HAS REVIEWED THE HEALTH AND SAFETY POLICIES LISTED BELOW FOR THE 2025-26 SCHOOL YEAR.

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| 1. Allergy/Peanut allergy policy | 10. Dangerous and Recalled Products Policy |
| 2. Anti-bullying and Harassment Policy | 11. Emergency Preparedness, Lockdown and Evacuation Policy |
| 3. Asbestos Management Policy | 12. Emergency Drills Policy or Procedures |
| 4. Asthma Inhaler Authorization Policy (if applicable) | 13. Emergency Management Policy/Plan |
| 5. Automated External Defibrillator Policy (if applicable) | 14. Emergency Removal, suspension or expulsion Policy |
| 6. Bloodborne Pathogens Control Policy | 15. Epinephrine Autoinjector Authorization Policy (if applicable) |
| 7. Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting Policy | 16. Field Trips Policy |
| 8. Control of Communicable and/or Infections Diseases / Chicken Pox Epidemic Policy / Pandemic Policy | 17. Food and Beverage &/or Breakfast & Lunch Policies |
| 9. Corporal Punishment Policy | 18. Handwashing Policy |

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| 19. Head Lice Policy | 31. Eye protection |
| 20. Medication Administration Policy | 32. Harassment intimidation and bullying |
| 21. Missing Children Policy | 33. Special Education |
| 22. Prohibited Weapons Policy | 34. 232 Internet Safety |
| 23. Protective Eyewear Policy | 35. 203.3 Parental Involvement |
| 24. Radon Protocol Policy | 36. 324 Confidentiality |
| 25. Safety Drills and Procedures Policy /
Emergency Procedures Policy | 37. 206 Nondiscriminatory |
| 26. Search and Seizure Policy | 38. 147 Public Records |
| 27. Suspension and Expulsion Policy | 39. 276 PBIS |
| 28. Transportation Policies | 40. 287 Homeless |
| 29. Truancy Policy | 41. 203.4/235 Instruction w/ Sexuality |
| 30. Wellness policy | |

AND;

WHEREAS, Utica Shale Academy is committed to maintaining policies that ensure legal compliance, operational effectiveness, and alignment with applicable federal and state laws and regulations; and

WHEREAS, Dickinson Wright PLLC has provided Utica Shale Academy with a comprehensive policy book designed to support charter school governance, administration, and compliance; and

WHEREAS, The Board of Directors has reviewed and considered the Dickinson Wright policy book and determined that its adoption serves the best interests of the school, its students, staff, and stakeholders;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of Utica Shale Academy hereby **accepts and adopts the Dickinson Wright policy book in its entirety**, without modification, for implementation during the **2025–2026 school year and the 2026– 2027 school year**; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Dickinson Wright policy book shall constitute the official policy framework of Utica Shale Academy for the stated school years, superseding any prior board-adopted policies to the extent of any inconsistency; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Superintendent or designee is authorized and directed to implement, administer, and enforce the adopted policies and to take any actions necessary to ensure compliance with the policy book and applicable law; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board retains the authority to amend, suspend, or replace any policy as required by law or as deemed necessary by the Board during the adoption period.

Roll Call: Mr. Pitts, yes; Mrs. Jackson, yes; Mr. Miller, yes. Motion approved.

26-023 2026/27 SCHOOL CALENDAR

It was moved by Mrs. Jackson and seconded by Mr. Pitts to approve the 2026/27 school calendar as presented (Exh. 26-023). Roll Call: Mrs. Jackson, yes; Mr. Pitts, yes; Mr. Miller, yes. Motion approved.

26-024 CONTRACT WITH MAHONING COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH

It was moved by Mrs. Jackson and seconded by Mr. Pitts to approve the contract with the Mahoning County Public Health for the period of January 1, 2026 through December 31, 2026 for Pathway Community HUB. Roll Call: Mrs. Jackson, yes; Mr. Pitts, yes; Mr. Miller, yes. Motion approved.

26-025 ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Mr. Pitts and seconded by Mrs. Jackson to adjourn the regular meeting at 6:17 P.M. Roll Call: Mr. Pitts, yes; Mrs. Jackson, yes; Mr. Miller, yes. Motion approved.