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 tesing
- 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 Vougler 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.

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

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

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.

APRIL 7, 2026 – REGULAR BOARD MEETING

CALL TO ORDER:

The Governing Board of the Utica Shale Academy met for a Regular Board Meeting on the Seventh day of April 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, Superintendent and Mike Majzun from the OSS Ohio Department of Education.

26-028 REGULAR MINUTES APPROVED

It was moved by Mrs. Jackson and seconded by Mr. Miller to approve the minutes of the Regular Governing Board Meeting for March 3, 2026 and the Special Meeting for March 25, 2026. Roll Call: Mrs. Jackson, yes; Mr. Miller, yes; Mr. Boyle, yes; Mr. Pitts, yes; Mr. Yeager, 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 March 2026 expenses.

26-029 MARCH 2026 FINANCIAL REPORTS APPROVED

It was moved by Mr. Boyle and seconded by Mr. Yeager to approve the March 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. Boyle, yes; Mr. Yeager, yes; Mrs. Jackson, yes; Mr. Pitts, yes; Mr. Miller, yes. Motion approved.

SPONSOR'S REPORT

- Policies that need attention are on tonight's agenda.
- Spring Compliances are completed.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- No address changes and no expulsions or suspensions.
- April 9, 2026 is Career Day
- April 16, 2026 is National Signing Day.

26-030 APPROPRIATION ADDITIONS

It was moved by Mrs. Jackson and seconded by Mr. Yeager to approve the following grants and appropriations:

- AEP Robotics Grant FY26 (019-9926) in the amount of $8,000.00
- State of Ohio Attorney General Safety Grant (019-9126) in the amount of $2,500

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

26-031 ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (AI) USE POLICY

It was moved by Mrs. Jackson and seconded by Mr. Yeager to adopt the Artificial Intelligence (AI) Use Policy as follows:

I. Purpose Statement

Utica Shale Academy establishes this policy to guide the responsible, strategic, and ethical use of artificial intelligence (AI) in both instruction and operations. As a dropout prevention and workforce development institution, the Academy recognizes that AI is not simply a technological tool—it is an emerging workforce competency.

This policy is designed to improve student outcomes, expand credential attainment, and strengthen operational efficiency while maintaining high standards of accountability, data protection, and academic integrity.

II. Definitions

Artificial Intelligence (AI): Machine-based systems that analyze data and generate predictions, recommendations, or outputs to support decision-making.

Generative AI: AI systems capable of producing original content such as text, images, or code based on user input.

AI Tool: Any application or system utilizing AI to generate outputs, automate processes, or enhance decision-making.

III. AI Literacy and Workforce Alignment

Utica Shale Academy will integrate AI literacy into both academic and career-technical programming to ensure students are prepared for a workforce increasingly driven by automation and intelligent systems.

IV. Stakeholder Engagement

The Academy will establish an AI Advisory Workgroup composed of leadership, instructors, and partners to guide implementation.

V. Data Privacy and Security

Utica Shale Academy is committed to strict adherence to all data privacy laws, including FERPA and applicable Ohio regulations.

VI. Procurement and Evaluation of AI Tools

AI procurement will align with existing financial and operational policies ensuring costeffectiveness, accessibility, and alignment with instructional goals.

VII. Ethical Use of AI

AI will be human-centered and support—not replace—student learning and educator effectiveness.

VIII. Acceptable Use

Students and staff must use AI responsibly, with clear expectations set by educators and leadership.

IX. Academic Integrity

Student work must reflect individual understanding. AI use must be transparent and properly cited.

X. Implementation and Continuous Improvement

This policy will be reviewed regularly to ensure alignment with evolving technology and student needs.

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

26-032 PROCUREMENT AND SERVICE OF FOOD PRODUCTS Policy (HB10)

It was moved by Mr. Boyle and seconded by Mr. Pitts to adopt of the following policy:

A RESOLUTION TO ENSURE COMPLIANCE WITH OHIO HOUSE BILL 10
REGARDING THE PROCUREMENT AND SERVICE OF FOOD PRODUCTS

WHEREAS, the Ohio General Assembly enacted House Bill 10, effective March 20, requiring all boards of education of city, exempted village, local, and joint vocational school districts to adopt policies prohibiting the purchase and service of certain food products; and

WHEREAS, House Bill 10 prohibits the purchase and service of food items defined as:

- Misbranded meat products
- Misbranded egg products
- Cultivated protein food products; and

WHEREAS, the law further requires that food vendors and food service management companies contracting with school districts shall not offer or serve such prohibited items; and

WHEREAS, the Ohio Department of Education and Workforce is likewise prohibited from purchasing such items; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education desires to ensure full compliance with state law, protect the integrity of its food service operations, and maintain eligibility for state funding and programs;
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Education of Utica Shale Academy of Ohio that:

1. Policy Adoption
   The Board hereby adopts a policy prohibiting the purchase, procurement, or service of any food items meeting the definitions of:
   - Misbranded meat products
   - Misbranded egg products
   - Cultivated protein food products
2. Vendor Compliance
   All current and future contracts with food vendors and food service management companies shall require compliance with Ohio House Bill 10, including a prohibition on providing or serving restricted food items.
3. Administrative Oversight
   The Superintendent or designee is authorized and directed to:
   - Implement procedures ensuring compliance
   - Review and update vendor contracts as necessary
   - Communicate requirements to all relevant stakeholders
   - Establish monitoring and documentation protocols
4. Effective Date
   This resolution shall take effect on April 7, 2026.

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

26-033 SEIZURE MANAGEMENT AND INDIVIDUALIZED SEIZURE ACTION PLANS POLICY

It was moved by Mrs. Jackson and seconded by Mr. Yeager to adopt the following policy:

A RESOLUTION TO ADOPT POLICY 402.1 – SEIZURE MANAGEMENT AND INDIVIDUALIZED SEIZURE ACTION PLANS IN ACCORDANCE WITH OHIO LAW

WHEREAS, the Board of Education of Utica Shale Academy of Ohio maintains Policy 402 – Use of Medications governing the administration of medications and medical treatments to students; and

WHEREAS, the State of Ohio, through Ohio Revised Code Sections 3313.7117 and 3313.713, requires schools to implement individualized seizure action plans for students with seizure disorders and to provide appropriate staff training; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education recognizes the importance of ensuring the health, safety, and well-being of students with seizure disorders through structured planning, staff preparedness, and compliance with state law; and

WHEREAS, the administration has recommended the adoption of a new subsection, Policy 402.1 – Seizure Management and Individualized Seizure Action Plans, to supplement existing Policy 402 and ensure compliance with these legal requirements;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Education of Utica Shale Academy of Ohio that:

Policy Adoption
The Board hereby adopts Policy 402.1 – Seizure Management and Individualized Seizure Action Plans as an official subsection of Policy 402 – Use of Medications.

Appendix Adoption
The Board further approves the inclusion of the Seizure Action Plan (SAP) as Appendix 402-C, to be used as the standardized form for individualized seizure plans.

Implementation Authority
The Superintendent or designee is authorized and directed to:

Implement Policy 402.1
Ensure the development of individualized seizure action plans for applicable students
Provide and document required staff training
Ensure compliance with all applicable provisions of Ohio law

Integration with Existing Policy

Policy 402.1 shall be incorporated into and operate in conjunction with Policy 402 – Use of Medications.

Effective Date
This resolution and Policy 402.1 shall take effect on April 7, 2026.

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

26-034 CELL PHONE WORKFORCE READINESS POLICY

It was moved by Mr. Boyle and seconded by Mr. Pitts to adopt the following policy**:**

Policy 308A – Cell Phone Workforce Readiness Policy
This policy establishes expectations for student cell phone use aligned with workforce readiness, employability skills, and professional conduct. The policy reflects a continuation of the structured transition model implemented during the 2024–2025 school year and formalizes its use as an ongoing practice beginning in the 2025–2026 school year and beyond.

The policy limits student cell phone use to designated times during the school day and implements a progressive discipline structure designed to mirror workplace expectations and accountability. The purpose of the policy is to reduce distractions, improve student focus, and prepare students for real-world employment environments.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Education of Utica Shale Academy of Ohio that:

The Board hereby approves and adopts Policy 308A – Cell Phone Workforce Readiness Policy as presented.

This policy shall be effective retroactively to July 1, 2025, and shall remain in effect for the 2025–2026 school year and beyond unless amended or repealed by the Board

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

26-035 ACCESS AGREEMENT

It was moved by Mr. Boyle and seconded by Mr. Yeager to approve the agreement for application services (software and services for student and fiscal) for the 2026/27 fiscal year at a cost of $7,500 (Exh. 26-035). Roll Call: Mr. Boyle, yes; Mr. Yeager, yes; Mrs. Jackson, yes; Mr. Pitts, yes; Mr. Miller, yes. Motion approved.

26-036 ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Mrs. Jackson and seconded by Mr. Boyle to adjourn the regular meeting at 6:11 P.M. Roll Call: Mrs. Jackson, yes; Mr. Boyle, yes; Mr. Pitts, yes; Mr. Yeager, yes; Mr. Miller, yes. Motion approved.

MAY 5, 2026 – REGULAR BOARD MEETING

CALL TO ORDER:

The Governing Board of the Utica Shale Academy met for a Regular Board Meeting on the Fifth day of May 2026, and the meeting was called to order at 6:01 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, Superintendent and Cami Lewis from the OSS Ohio Department of Education (via Zoom).

26-037 REGULAR MINUTES APPROVED

It was moved by Mr. Boyle and seconded by Mr. Yeager to approve the minutes of the Regular Governing Board Meeting for April 7, 2026. Roll Call: Mr. Boyle, yes; Mr. Yeager, yes; Mrs. Jackson, yes; Mr. Pitts, 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 April 2026 expenses.

26-038 APRIL 2026 FINANCIAL REPORTS APPROVED

It was moved by Mrs. Jackson and seconded by Mr. Boyle to approve the April 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: Mrs. Jackson, yes; Mr. Boyle, yes; Mr. Pitts, yes; Mr. Yeager, yes; Mr. Miller, yes. Motion approved.

SPONSOR'S REPORT

- Sunshine Law Training.
- Everything is in compliance.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- No address changes and no expulsions or suspensions.
- 151 students enrolled.
- 50 seniors to graduate.
- Facilities update.
- Recruiting.
- Grant – Future Forward Grant.
- Rural Transportation Grant update.
- Discussion on hiring a lobbyist.

26-039 MOVE THE JULY 2026 BOARD MEETING DATE

It was moved by Mrs. Jackson and seconded by Mr. Yeager to move the July 2026 board meeting date to July 6, 2026 at 6:00 PM. Roll Call: Mrs. Jackson, yes; Mr. Yeager, yes; Mr. Boyle, yes; Mr. Pitts, yes; Mr. Miller, yes. Motion approved.

26-040 CLASS OF 2026

It was moved by Mr. Yeager and seconded by Mrs. Jackson to approve the following list of graduates from the Class of 2026:

Oceana Boucher
William McDonagh
Kiera Zema
Zachary Carr
Gunnar Cooper
Elizabeth Dickson
Alivia Evans
Morgan Grimm
Layton Herron
Clyde (Alex) Ketchum
Xzavier Long
Alexa Monigold
Mahlon Paynter
Cheyenne Schultz
Gage Smith
Damian Watkins
Austin Waggoner
Michael Hannum
Kendal Ray
Amir Baker
Breelynn Carrick-Shank
Maddox Dawson
Robert (Dane) Dowling
Jaidin Flowers
Kameron Haines
Caleb Hollingshead
Daniel Leverknight
Wyatt Mangus
Kyleigh Morrison
Anslie Priddy
Mariah Shepherd
Jadyn Snyder
Paul Welsh
Travis Taylor
Trinity McCoy
Brandon Wells
Haden Carr
Jacob Chambers
Alyssa Dexter
Aubri Dozier
Cara Foster
Matthew Hanlon
Tyler Howard
Landon Linville
Skyler Brletich-McAfee
Roman Papic
Dalton Pritt
Damien Sikon
Sebastian Velez
Jayden Shay

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

26-041 PURCHASE SERVICE CONTRACT

It was moved by Mr. Boyle and seconded by Mr. Yeager to approve a purchase service agreement with Southern Local Schools on a five-year employment contract for Laura Krulik, Assistant Superintendent, with an initial annual salary of $116,655 (equal to the final year of her prior contract), with subsequent annual increases equal to the percentage of the prior year's teacher salary increase with Southern Local Schools. Roll Call: Mr. Boyle, yes; Mr. Yeager, yes; Mrs. Jackson, yes; Mr. Pitts, yes; Mr. Miller, yes. Motion approved.

26-042 PURCHASE SERVICE CONTRACT

It was moved by Mr. Boyle and seconded by Mr. Yeager to approve a purchase service agreement with Southern Local Schools on a five-year employment contract for Carter Hill, Dean of Students, with an initial annual salary of $95,950 (equal to the final year of his prior contract), with subsequent annual increases equal to the percentage of the prior year's teacher salary increase with Southern Local Schools. Roll Call: Mr. Boyle, yes; Mr. Yeager, yes; Mrs. Jackson, yes; Mr. Pitts, yes; Mr. Miller, yes. Motion approved.

26-043 PURCHASE SERVICE CONTRACT

It was moved by Mr. Boyle and seconded by Mrs. Jackson to approve a purchase service agreement with Southern Local Schools for teaching contracts for the following staff with Southern Local Schools, compensated in accordance with the SLTA progression scale and the applicable rate of pay.

Matt Gates	Nick Woods
John Wright	Dennis Bowers
Mike Skrinjar	Jessie Mahan
Mariah Hart	Ashley Canaan
George Whittaker	

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

26-044 ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Mrs. Jackson and seconded by Mr. Yeager to adjourn the regular meeting at 6:32 P.M. Roll Call: Mrs. Jackson, yes; Mr. Yeager, yes; Mr. Boyle, yes; Mr. Pitts, yes; Mr. Miller, yes. Motion approved.

JUNE 2, 2026 – REGULAR BOARD MEETING

CALL TO ORDER:

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

BOARD MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: Mr. Cory Boyle, Mr. Tim Miller, Mr. William Pitts, and Mr. Joshua Yeager. Also present was Robert P. Barrett, Treasurer. **ABSENT**: Mrs. Alison Jackson. Also, in attendance was William Watson, Superintendent, Laura Krulik, Assistant Director, and Mike Majzun from the OSS Ohio Department of Education.

26-045 REGULAR MINUTES APPROVED

It was moved by Mr. Yeager and seconded by Mr. Boyle to approve the minutes of the Regular Governing Board Meeting for May 5, 2026. Roll Call: Mr. Yeager, yes; Mr. Boyle, yes; Mr. Pitts, 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 May 2026 expenses.

26-046 MAY 2026 FINANCIAL REPORTS APPROVED

It was moved by Mr. Pitts and seconded by Mr. Yeager to approve the May 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; Mr. Miller, yes. Motion approved.

SPONSOR'S REPORT

- One Needs Grant completed.
- AI Policy completed.
- Need Absent Policy approval by August 1, 2026.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- Graduated 50 traditional students and 1 22+ student.
- 11 new enrollments since last board meeting. Summer recruitment remains a major priority.
- Advertising through targeted advertising (especially billboards) in East Liverpool and Wellsville areas. Continue evaluating how aggressively recruitment from Social Media, Community events, facility tours, and Fair participation.
- Grants:
    - One Needs Grant should be concluded soon. ○ Future Forward Grant is moving forward.
        - Equipment/Install costs for lifts and related items are high. Approximately $25,000.
    - AmeriCorps Grant was not awarded.
- Facilities:
    - Williams Building roof delayed due to rain. Completion date is the end of June.
    - Building teardown across the street should be completed by the end of June.
    - Abandoned rail bridge, still working with Norfolk Southern Railroad to respond.
- Skid steer is in for repairs.
- NC3 certifications have been printed and organized. Students earned 740 certifications this year.
- Credit card discussion.

26-047 PROPERTY, FLEET, & LIABILITY INSURANCE

It was moved by Mr. Boyle and seconded by Mr. Yeager to approve the Property, Fleet, and Liability Insurance proposal from School of Ohio Risk Sharing Authority for fiscal year 2027 in the amount of $18,929. The premium represents a decrease over last fiscal year due to valuation inspection. Roll Call: Mr. Boyle, yes; Mr. Yeager, yes; Mr. Pitts, yes; Mr. Miller, yes. Motion approved.

26-048 FY2026 FINAL BUDGET

It was moved by Mr. Boyle and seconded by Mr. Pitts to approve the final budget for Fiscal Year 2026 as presented.

Fund	Amount
General Fund (#001)	3,013,214.66
Capital Projects (#003)	785,713.80

Local Grants (#019)	104,412.20
Student Wellness (#467)	685.10
School Safety Grant (#499)	31,990.74
Rural Transportation Grant (#499)	450,000.00
IDEA-B (#516)	34,241.53
Title I - School Improvement (#572)	58,037.26
McKinney-Vento Homeless Grant (#572)	11,015.47
Title IV-A (#584)	10,228.02
Title II-A (#590)	6,876.16
Other Federal Grants (#599)	115,893.38
TOTAL	**$4,622,308.32**

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

26-049 FY2027 ASKING BUDGET

It was moved by Mr. Yeager and seconded by Mr. Boyle to approve the asking budget for Fiscal Year 2027 as presented below.

Fund	Amount
General Fund (#001)	2,880,436.00
Local Grants (#019)	16,200.00
School Safety Grant (#499)	2,500.00
Rural Transportation Grant (#499)	450,000.00
IDEA-B (#516)	34,698.00
Title I - School Improvement (#572)	57,737.00
McKinney-Vento Homeless Grant (#572)	11,561.00
Title IV-A (#584)	10,000.00
Title II-A (#590)	5,000.00
Other Federal Grants (#599)	16,703.00
COPS Grant (#599)	30,944.00
AWE Project Phase II (#599)	125,000.00
TOTAL	**$3,640,779.00**

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

26-050 POLICY 204.16 REVISION

It was moved by Mr. Yeager and seconded by Mr. Boyle to adopt revised Policy 204.16, Cybersecurity Program and Cyber Incident Response, and replace Appendix 204.16-A with the revised Cybersecurity Program and Cyber Threat Incident Response Plan, in order to comply with Ohio Revised Code § 9.64 and related cybersecurity, reporting, ransomware, training, recovery, audit, and public-records requirements. Roll Call: Mr. Yeager, yes; Mr. Boyle, yes; Mr. Pitts, yes; Mr. Miller, yes. Motion approved.

26-051 TRANSFER OF FUNDS

It was moved by Mr. Pitts and seconded by Mr. Yeager to approve a transfer of funds of $13,463.67 from the General Fund to the COPS Grant (#599) to close the fiscal year. Roll Call: Mr. Pitts, yes; Mr. Yeager, yes; Mr. Boyle, yes; Mr. Miller, yes. Motion approved.

26-052 UTILITIES & TELECOMMUNICATION AUDIT

It was moved by Mr. Yeager and seconded by Mr. Boyle to approve a contract with Troy & Banks to provide an audit of the utilities and telecommunications invoices. This audit is a free service because of the Academy's members in TIPS. Troy & Banks will receive 33% of the amount saved for 12 months. Roll Call: Mr. Yeager, yes; Mr. Boyle, yes; Mr. Pitts, yes; Mr. Miller, yes. Motion approved.

26-053 STAFFING

It was moved by Mr. Yeager and seconded by Mr. Pitts to approve a one-year contract with Southern Local for Purchase services for the following employees:

Kayla Terdina
Skyler Lasure
Jocelyn Reed
Liz McKinnon,
Logan Krulik

Roll Call: Mr. Yeager, yes; Mr. Pitts, yes; Mr. Boyle, abstain; Mr. Miller, yes. Motion approved by a vote of 3-0-1.

26-054 PROJECT INSPIRE GRANT

It was moved by Mr. Pitts and seconded by Mr. Boyle to adopt the following resolution:

A RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FOR THE UTICA SHALE ACADEMY PEER INITIATIVE (PREVENTION, EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT, AND RESILIENCY) AND APPLICATION TO THE APPALACHIAN REGIONAL COMMISSION INSPIRE INITIATIVE

WHEREAS, the Utica Shale Academy Board of Education is committed to providing a unique and vigorous learning environment through a specialized academic program that responds to employers' and industries' current, emerging, and changing workforce needs through business and school partnerships; and

WHEREAS, Appalachian communities throughout Columbiana, Belmont, Carroll, Jefferson, Harrison, Guernsey and Mahoning Counties continue to experience workforce shortages, economic challenges, behavioral health concerns, and substance use disorder (SUD) risk factors that negatively impact educational attainment, workforce participation, and long-term economic prosperity; and

WHEREAS, Utica Shale Academy has successfully implemented a holistic educational model that integrates dropout prevention and recovery, workforce credentialing, prevention programming, mental health supports, career readiness, and employer engagement to improve outcomes for at-risk youth; and

WHEREAS, the PEER Initiative (Prevention, Education, Employment, and Resiliency) will expand and replicate this proven model by strengthening workforce pathways, increasing access to evidence-based prevention programming, expanding behavioral health and wraparound services, and connecting students to industry-recognized credential opportunities and employment in high-demand occupations; and

WHEREAS, the PEER Initiative will strengthen regional partnerships among educational institutions, workforce development organizations, employers, behavioral health providers, economic development organizations, and community-based organizations to build a sustainable workforce and recovery ecosystem; and

WHEREAS, the Appalachian Regional Commission's INSPIRE Initiative supports projects that address workforce gaps and economic challenges associated with substance use disorder through workforce development, job training, recovery ecosystem development, employer engagement, and wraparound support services; and

WHEREAS, the Utica Shale Academy Board of Education recognizes the importance of expanding opportunities for Appalachian youth to obtain educational success, workforce credentials, meaningful employment, and long-term economic self-sufficiency;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Education of the Utica Shale Academy that:

1. The Board fully supports the Utica Shale Academy PEER Initiative and its efforts to improve educational attainment, workforce readiness, substance use prevention, and employment outcomes for Appalachian youth.
2. The Board supports the submission of an application to the Appalachian Regional Commission's FY 2026 INSPIRE Initiative seeking funding to implement the PEER Initiative.
3. The Board authorizes the Superintendent and Treasurer, or their designees, to execute all documents, agreements, certifications, and assurances necessary to apply for and administer grant funding associated with the PEER Initiative.
4. The Board commits to supporting project implementation through organizational leadership, program oversight, community partnerships, and the utilization of available resources necessary to ensure successful project outcomes.
5. The Board finds that the PEER Initiative advances the Academy's mission, strengthens regional workforce development efforts, supports recovery ecosystem development, and contributes to the long-term economic vitality of Appalachian Ohio.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

Adopted this 2nd day of June, 2026.

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

26-055 ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Mr. Boyle and seconded by Mr. Yeager to adjourn the regular meeting at 6:25 P.M.
Roll Call: Mr. Boyle, yes; Mr. Yeager, yes; Mr. Pitts, yes; Mr. Miller, yes. Motion approved.