

Board Meeting Superintendent's Report

August 18, 2026

TUPS Board of Education



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*The mission of the Township of Union Public Schools (TUPS) is to
empower and inspire Every Student, Every Day.*

Opening of Schools Information



Tuesday, September 1, 2026

TUPS Convocation

Wednesday, September 2, 2026

TUPS Professional Development Day

Thursday, September 3, 2026

TUPS Students First Day (Early Dismissal for Students)

Friday, September 4, 2026

TUPS Students Second Day (Early Dismissal for Students)

Monday, September 7, 2026

Labor Day - School is Closed

Tuesday, September 8, 2026

1st Full Day for TUPS Students

2026-2027 TUPS Open House Dates & Times



Battle Hill	Wednesday, September 9, 2026 at 6:00 pm
Burnet	Thursday, September 17, 2026 at 6:00 pm
Connecticut Farms	Wednesday, September 30, 2026 at 6:00 pm
TUPS PreK	Thursday, October 1, 2026 at 6:00 pm
Hannah Caldwell	Thursday, September 10, 2026 at 6:00 pm
Jefferson	Thursday, October 8, 2026 at 6:00 pm
Kawameeh	Wednesday, September 16, 2026 at 6:00 pm
Livingston	Monday, September 21, 2026 at 6:00 pm
Union High	Thursday, September 24, 2026 at 6:00 pm
Washington	Wednesday, September 23, 2026 at 6:00 pm

2026-2027 TUPS School Orientations



TUPS PreK	Tuesday, September 1, 2026 at 1:00 pm for PreK Students
Battle Hill	Tuesday, September 1, 2026 at 11:00 am for Grade K & New Students
Connecticut Farms	Tuesday, September 1, 2026 at 1:45 pm for Grade K & New Students
Hannah Caldwell	Thursday, August 27, 2026 at 10:00 am for Grade K & New Students
Jefferson	Tuesday, September 1, 2026 at 11:30 am for Grade K to 2 Students
Jefferson	Tuesday, September 1, 2026 at 12:30 am for Grade 3 to 5 Students
Livingston	Tuesday, September 1, 2026 at 1:00 pm for Grade K & New Students
Washington	Tuesday, September 1, 2026 at 1:30 pm for Grade K & New Students
Burnet	Thursday, August 27, 2026 at 10:00 am for 6th grade students
Kawameeh	Thursday, August 27, 2026 at 10:00 am for 6th grade students
Union High	Thursday, August 27, 2026 at 8:00 am to 11:45 am for 9th grade students
Union High	Thursday, August 27, 2026 at 12:30 pm for New 10th, 11th, & 12th grader student
Union High	Monday, August 24, 2026 at 6:00 pm UHS Parent Meet & Greet UHS Library
TUPS Teaching & Learning Presentation Wednesday, August 26, 2026 at 6:30 pm - DMK Theater	

Resolution Highlight



E-10 Secure Docs

Making secure district communications more accessible, efficient, and family friendly.

- Key Features: Secure Document Delivery
- Automatic PDF Splitting: Separates large files by student ID.
- Flexible Delivery: Send immediately, schedule, or save as a draft.
- Multilingual Communication: Notifications can be delivered in families' preferred languages through ParentSquare.
- Multi Channel Delivery: Email, text, and app notifications based on parent preferences.
- Secure Access: Password protected with Touch ID and Face ID support.
- Signature Collection: Require and track parent signatures.
- Delivery Tracking: See who received, viewed, signed, or did not receive documents.
- Reporting & Mail Backup: Export reports and download undelivered documents for mailing.

E-11 Attendance Plus

- Attendance Plus helps schools proactively improve student attendance by identifying trends and students who may need additional support.
- It strengthens family engagement with timely attendance notifications and multilingual communication in families' preferred languages, helping schools connect with families more effectively.

Resolution Highlight



E-2 Student Safety Data System Report (SSDS) Formally Violence and Vandalism Report (for reporting period two January 1, 2026 to June 30, 2026)

2025-26 School Year

School Name	Incidents*	Other Incidents Leading to Removal	Restraint/Seclusion	HIB Alleged	HIB Trainings	HIB Programs
050-Union High School	165	784	0	0	14	10
060-Burnet Middle School	55	144	0	1	10	24
070-Kawameeh Middle School	22	0	0	4	11	14
080-Battle Hill Elementary	3	0	0	0	11	21
083-Hannah Caldwell Elementary	4	0	0	3	10	19
085-Jefferson Elementary	2	0	0	4	12	24
090-Connecticut Farms Elementary	0	0	0	5	15	36
100-Franklin Elementary	0	2	1	1	11	9
130-Livingston Elementary	0	0	0	1	15	33
140-Washington Elementary	0	8	0	0	26	66
District-Wide					3	0
* Violence, Vandalism, Substances, Weapons and HIB Confirmed						

F-15 Additional Professional Services - Spiezle Architect to include the additional programming, conceptual, and ischemic design at Union High School.

Every Minute Matters - Policy & Regulations 5516

POL-1a & REG1a

TUPS Bell to Bell Initiative



Expectations

Beginning in September 2026, personal internet enabled devices, including cell phones, smartwatches, and tablets, will remain put away from the first bell to the last bell in accordance with New Jersey law.



Protect Instructional Time

Every minute of learning is valuable. Reducing personal device use helps students stay engaged and focused.



Support Student Wellness

Creates a healthier school environment by reducing distractions and limiting unnecessary screen time during the school day. Encourages face to face conversations, collaboration, and stronger relationships with peers and staff.



Families Stay Connected

Our 6th-12th grade parents and guardians can message their student(s) using ParentSquare and the students can respond using StudentSquare on their chromebooks.

[2026 Guidance for Schools on Student Use of Internet-Enabled Devices](#)

[NJ State Law](#)

[Link for Regulation 5516](#)

[Link for Policy 5516](#)

E-Bike New Law

Township of Union Public Schools

Office of the Assistant Superintendent of Business Operations, Marissa McKenzie

Dear Township of Union School Community,

New Jersey's e-bike laws have recently changed, and we want to share this important information with our families and students. These rules were created to improve safety, increase accountability, and make sure riders understand their responsibilities when operating e-bikes.

Under current New Jersey law, **riders must be at least 15 years old to operate an e-bike**. Riders must have either a valid driver's license or an e-bike license, and all e-bikes must be registered with the New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission (NJMVC). In addition, **helmets are required for all riders**. Certain motorized bicycles also require insurance coverage.

Please keep in mind that New Jersey now treats e-bike use more like other motor vehicle activity in several important ways. Riders should make sure their bike is properly registered, carry the required documentation, and follow all traffic laws and local rules. Families should also confirm that the type of e-bike being used is being operated in compliance with the law.

We encourage all students and parents to review these requirements carefully and to speak with each other about safe and lawful e-bike use. Understanding the rules is an important step in helping keep our community safe.

Thank you for your attention to this matter and for your continued support in promoting student safety.

Sincerely,
Marissa McKenzie
Assistant Superintendent of Business Operations



IT'S ALL ABOUT U

New Jersey E-Bike FAQ

What is an e-bike?

The term "e-bike" commonly refers to both low-speed electric bicycles and motorized bicycles, as defined by N.J.S.A.39:1-1.

Low-Speed Electric Bicycles - These are pedal-assisted bicycles with a helper motor that only assists while pedaling up to 20 mph.

Motorized Bicycle/Moped - a pedal bicycle that is equipped with:

- A helper motor characterized in that either the maximum piston displacement is less than 50 cc, or the helper motor is rated at no more than 1.5 brake horsepower.
- An electric motor that can provide assistance when the rider is pedaling or that, through the use of a throttle, can be used to exclusively propel the bicycle to a speed of not more than 15 mph.
- A helper motor that is powered by an electric drive motor that provides assistance when the rider is pedaling and has a maximum speed between 21 mph and 28 mph on a flat surface
- An electric motor that is capable of propelling the bicycle in excess of 15 mph through the use of a throttle with a maximum motor-powered speed of no more than 28 mph on a flat surface

What are New Jersey's new e-bike rules?

New Jersey now requires e-bike riders to be at least 15 years old, to have either a valid driver's license or an e-bike license, and to register qualifying e-bikes with the New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission (NJMVC). Helmets are required for all riders, and insurance is required for motorized bicycles.

How do families know whether an e-bike qualifies?

Families should check the bike's classification, speed and motor type before use. The state distinguishes between low-speed electric bicycles and motorized bicycles, and the requirements are different for each.

Important Reminder

Families are encouraged to review current [NJMVC guidance](#) before allowing a student to ride an e-bike.

New E-bike Requirements Effective July 2026

This page is intended for New Jersey Residents

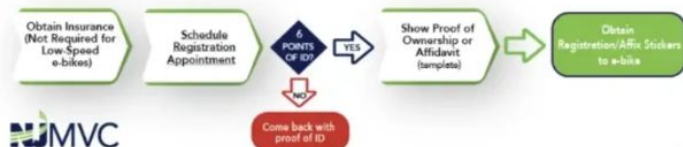


Step 1: Getting your license – Required only for the ages 15-16 or if you do not have an NJ driver license

If you have a suspended or revoked driver license you are not eligible for an e-bike license



Step 2: Register your e-bike/moped



10/26

High Impact Tutoring

High Impact AM Program

- October through May, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday
- 1 hour before school
- Invitation only for Tier 3 students in ELA and/or Math
- 3:1 student to teacher ratio for highly targeted support
- Available to students in Grades 3 through 5 at all elementary schools
- Classes offered based on staffing and student registration



High Impact Virtual PM Program

- October through May, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday
- 30 minute virtual sessions
- Invitation only for Tier 3 students in Grades 3 through 8, with an emphasis on Grades 3 and 4
- Maximum program capacity of 200 students
- Students will have three progress checkpoints
- They may exit the program when demonstrated progress is achieved
- Program vendor is expected to be Board approved this month following the RFP process

Attendance Improvement System - CARE TEAM



Chronic Absenteeism dropped 21.2% from 2024-25 to 2025-26

Biggest Drops

Union High School
Kawameeh Middle School
Washington Elementary School
Hannah Caldwell Elementary School

CARE Team System

Meeting with families to support the root cause of absenteeism in schools.

NJ News Channel 12 story

<https://newjersey.news12.com/task-force-to-take-on-chronic-absenteeism-in-new-jersey-schools>

Additional Update from 7/21 Facilities Update

Burnet: Cafeteria dishwasher removed; FRP installed; grease interceptor pending. Cafeteria: Serving line moved from Franklin to Connecticut Farms

Hannah Caldwell: Playground still being worked on

Franklin: Radiator covers rebuilt/painted; bathrooms completed. Replacing wood around sink in classroom. Powerwashing, cleaning and painting

Washington: Room 205 floor replacement.

UHS: Steam leaks rectified while boilers are down.

Kawameeh: Steam gate valve replacement.

Franklin/Jefferson: Bathrooms completed; new gates installed.

Other: Landscaping Updates throughout the district more in progress



Washington Floor



UHS Room D229



Landscaping

Harassment, Intimidation, & Bullying (HIB)



Incidents to Affirm

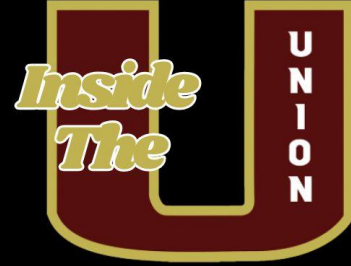
Period June 17th to July 21st

Met the Criteria - 0

Did Not Meet Criteria - UHS 1

Inconclusive - BMS 1

Harassment, Intimidation, & Bullying (HIB)



Incidents to Report

Period July 22nd to August 18th

Met the Criteria - None to Report -

Unfounded - None to Report -

Inconclusive -None to Report -