

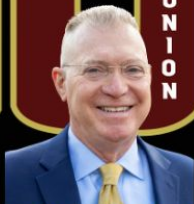
# Board Meeting Superintendent's Report

July 21, 2026

## TUPS Board of Education



Kimberly Scott-Hayden  
President



Michael Cohan  
Vice President



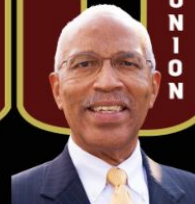
Dixiana Carbonell



Elsie Conteh-Mackey



Guida Faria



Ronnie McDowell



Nancy Minneci



Gregory Nasta



Chastity Santana

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

# TUPS Summer Programs

## ESEA Summer Scholar Programs

July 6th to July 30th

Monday-Thursday

8:30 am-12:30 pm

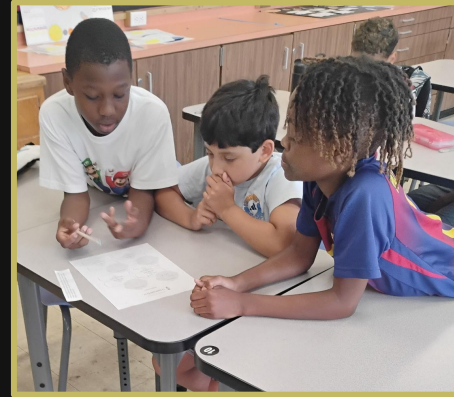
Number of students enrolled as of 7/2026: **300**

Burnet, Jefferson, Connecticut Farms/Franklin, Hannah Caldwell

The ESEA Summer Scholar Programs provide students with an opportunity to participate in hands-on and project-based learning activities in ELA, Math and STEM.

- Pre and post assessments are administered.
- Curriculum and intervention is aligned with the district needs.

In addition, other enrichment opportunities are scheduled at each site such as Liberty Science Center virtual STEM labs, SEL activities, physical education enrichment etc.



# TUPS Summer Programs

## 21st Century Community Learning Center

Summer STEM Academy

July 6th to July 30th Monday-Thursday

8:30 am-1:30 pm

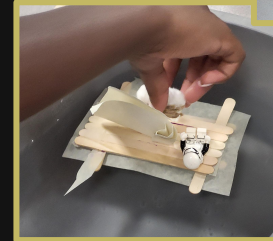
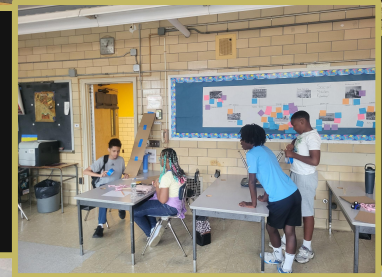
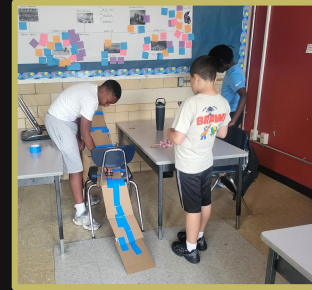
Number of students enrolled as of 7/2026: **70**

Located at Kawameeh (open to BMS & KMS Students)

The Summer STEM Academy focuses on a variety of hands-on STEM related enrichment opportunities such as 3D printing, Coding, Virtual Labs, Sphero Robotics and more. In partnership with Liberty Science Center, students will have an opportunity to participate in a project-based Forensics Program. In addition, educational class trips are coordinated to Liberty House and Liberty Science Center.

\*Students receive a hot meal at all programs daily through an additional grant we received working with Pomptonian.

\*All programs have an on-site coordinator and nurse.





# Facilities Update

- **Burnet** - Cafeteria Dishwasher & New Grease Trap and New Floor Plumbing, Removal of Exhaust Hood, Exit 9 Concrete Landing
- **Franklin**- Power Poles down, Serving Lines & Re-Establish, Staircase Lights and Ceiling Tiles, All Bathrooms Renovated to PreK
- **Hannah Caldwell**- Playground, Sound System in Cafeteria
- **UHS**- Water Main Break, UHS D229, Steam Repair, Principal's Office New Intercom Line to Library, Balcony AC Installation
- **Jefferson**- Bathrooms for Kindergarten, Painting
- **Washington**- Leak in Library, Emergency Shut Off to the Domestic Water Heater
- **Connecticut Farms**- Stage Hardwood Floor Repairs, Changed Electrical Panel in Closet
- **Other**- BOE Boiler Room Valve Replace, Grounds Dept. Shed Roof, Water Meter Fixed, Emergency Switch on Both Boilers at BOE Office, BOE Roof Drain Repair



Hannah Caldwell  
Playground



Roof of shed for  
Grounds Dept.



Dishwasher to be  
removed at Burnet



Water Main Break at UHS



Franklin Hallways



# Every Minute Matters

## 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.



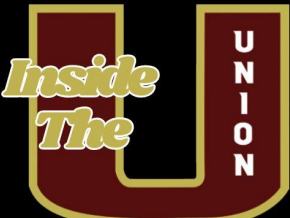
### Support Student Wellness

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.



# TUPS Attendance Initiative

Update for June 2026 Average K-12th was 89.37%

## Attendance Award

FOR THE HIGHEST PERCENTAGE OF STUDENTS ATTENDING FOR THE MONTH OF JUNE, WITH A

**94.71%**

**4th Graders at  
Battle Hill Elementary**

**We Are Proud of U!**



June 2026



**TUPS**  
TOWNSHIP OF UNION PUBLIC SCHOOLS

### Attendance Award

FOR THE HIGHEST PERCENTAGE OF STUDENTS ATTENDING FOR THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER WITH A

**98.839%**

**the 5<sup>th</sup> graders at Kawamuch**

**We Are Proud of U!**



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TOWNSHIP OF UNION PUBLIC SCHOOLS

### Attendance Award

FOR THE HIGHEST PERCENTAGE OF STUDENTS ATTENDING FOR THE MONTH OF OCTOBER WITH A

**96.61%**

**the 1<sup>st</sup> Graders at  
Connecticut Farms**

**We Are Proud of U!**



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TOWNSHIP OF UNION PUBLIC SCHOOLS

### Attendance Award

FOR THE HIGHEST PERCENTAGE OF STUDENTS ATTENDING FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER WITH A

**97.834%**

**the 5<sup>th</sup> graders at Kawamuch**

**We Are Proud of U!**



**TUPS**  
TOWNSHIP OF UNION PUBLIC SCHOOLS

### Attendance Award

FOR THE HIGHEST PERCENTAGE OF STUDENTS ATTENDING FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER WITH A

**95.293%**

**the 3<sup>rd</sup> Graders at  
Connecticut Farms**

**We Are Proud of U!**



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TOWNSHIP OF UNION PUBLIC SCHOOLS

### Attendance Award

FOR THE HIGHEST PERCENTAGE OF STUDENTS ATTENDING FOR THE MONTH OF JANUARY WITH A

**97.24%**

**the 7<sup>th</sup> graders at Kawamuch**

**We Are Proud of U!**



**TUPS**  
TOWNSHIP OF UNION PUBLIC SCHOOLS

### Attendance Award

FOR THE HIGHEST PERCENTAGE OF STUDENTS ATTENDING FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY WITH A

**95.96%**

**The 3<sup>rd</sup> Graders at  
Hannah Caldwell**

**We Are Proud of U!**



**TUPS**  
TOWNSHIP OF UNION PUBLIC SCHOOLS

### Attendance Award

FOR THE HIGHEST PERCENTAGE OF STUDENTS ATTENDING FOR THE MONTH OF MARCH WITH A

**96.97%**

**The 4<sup>th</sup> Graders at  
Hannah Caldwell**

**We Are Proud of U!**



**TUPS**  
TOWNSHIP OF UNION PUBLIC SCHOOLS

### Attendance Award

FOR THE HIGHEST PERCENTAGE OF STUDENTS ATTENDING FOR THE MONTH OF APRIL WITH A

**96.873%**

**The 3<sup>rd</sup> Graders at  
FRANKLIN SCHOOL**

**We Are Proud of U!**



**TUPS**  
TOWNSHIP OF UNION PUBLIC SCHOOLS

# 2025–2026 Student Attendance Highlights

**District Wide Chronic Absenteeism** reduced chronic absenteeism by **21.1%** in one year, reflecting the success of the district's attendance initiatives, family engagement efforts, and commitment to ensuring students are in school every day.

## Top Elementary Schools by Grade

- Franklin Grade 4 • 95.590%
- Washington Grade 4 • 95.467%
- Battle Hill Grade 4 • 95.413%

### Key Takeaway

Grade 4 was the district's strongest elementary grade, with four schools exceeding 95.4% attendance.

## Highest Attending Grade by School

Union HS: Grade 9 (93.808%)  
Burnet: Grade 6 (93.932%)  
Kawameeh: Grade 7 (95.736%)  
Jefferson: Grade 5 (95.056%)  
Battle Hill: Grade 4 (95.413%)  
Connecticut Farms: Grade 3 (95.085%)  
Franklin: Grade 4 (95.590%)  
Hannah Caldwell: Grade 4 (95.609%)  
Livingston: Grade 2 (94.289%)  
Washington: Grade 4 (95.467%)



# Harassment, Intimidation, & Bullying (HIB)



## Incidents to Affirm

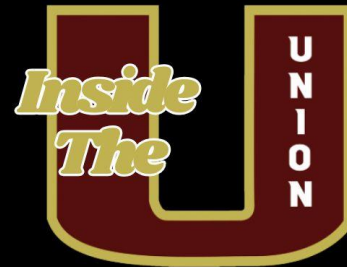
Period June 10th to June 16th

Met the Criteria - UHS 1 KMS 1 BMS 2

Unfounded - UHS 1

Inconclusive - 0

# Harassment, Intimidation, & Bullying (HIB)



## Incidents to Report

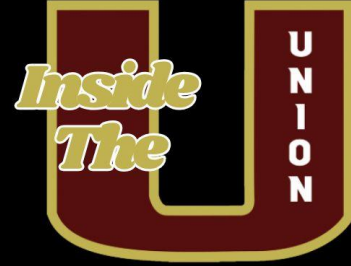
Period June 17th to June 21st

Met the Criteria -

Unfounded - UHS 1

Inconclusive - BMS 1

# Harassment, Intimidation, & Bullying (HIB)



HIB Bi-Annual Report  
January - June 2026, Reporting Period 2

Bi-Annual HIB Report Period 2 Jan - June 2026

# HIB Bi-Annual Report January - June 2026 Reporting Period 2 Township of Union School District

- Total Completed Reports: 64
- Status of investigations:
  - o Founded (met the criteria for HIB): 34
  - o Unfounded/Inconclusive: 30

| <u>School</u>        | <u>Founded</u><br>HIB | <u>Unfounded/</u><br>Inconclusive | <u>Total</u> |
|----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------|
| Battle Hill          | 0                     | 1                                 | 1            |
| Burnet               | 15                    | 2                                 | 17           |
| Connecticut<br>Farms | 0                     | 3                                 | 3            |
| Franklin             | 0                     | 3                                 | 3            |
| Hannah Caldwell      | 4                     | 1                                 | 5            |
| Jefferson            | 1                     | 3                                 | 4            |
| Kawameeh             | 5                     | 2                                 | 7            |
| Livingston           | 0                     | 1                                 | 1            |
| Washington           | 0                     | 0                                 | 0            |
| UHS                  | 9                     | 14                                | 23           |
| Totals               | <b>34</b>             | <b>30</b>                         | <b>64</b>    |

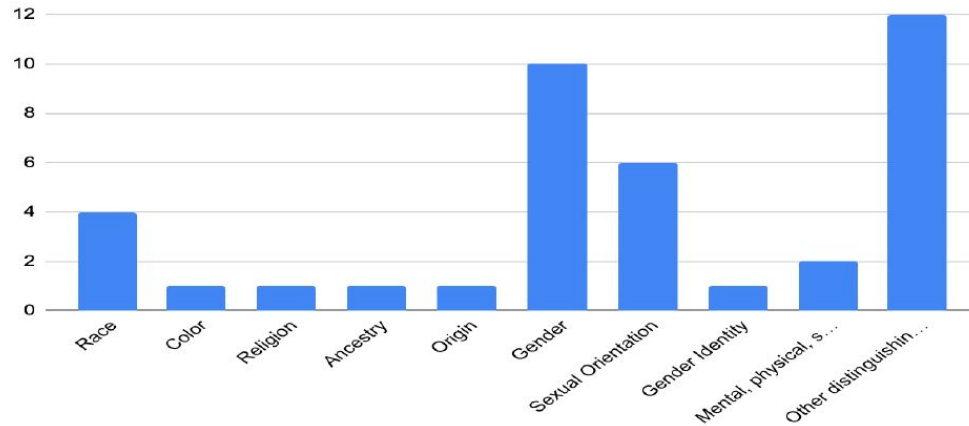


Principal Determinations for the year:

|         |        |         |        |        |
|---------|--------|---------|--------|--------|
| UHS: 10 | KMS: 3 | BH: 1   | FES: 0 | LES: 1 |
| BMS: 3  | JES: 9 | CFES: 0 | HC: 1  | WES: 1 |

- Nature of **Founded HIB** based on protected categories:  
 \*some cases meet criteria for more than one category

|          |   |                    |    |                                         |    |
|----------|---|--------------------|----|-----------------------------------------|----|
| Race     | 4 | Origin             | 1  | Gender Identity                         | 1  |
| Color    | 1 | Gender             | 10 | Mental, physical, or sensory disability | 2  |
| Religion | 1 | Sexual Orientation | 6  | Other distinguishing characteristics    | 17 |
| Ancestry | 1 |                    |    |                                         |    |



• Type and Nature of Support Services and/or Discipline Imposed

|                       | HIB | Non | Total |                          | HIB | Non | Total |
|-----------------------|-----|-----|-------|--------------------------|-----|-----|-------|
| Change of Environment | 9   | 4   | 13    | Out-of-School Suspension | 8   | 5   | 13    |
| Counseling Services   | 33  | 30  | 63    | Parent Conference        | 8   | 6   | 14    |
| Detention             | 7   | 4   | 11    | Police notification      | 0   | 0   | 0     |
| Educated              | 19  | 14  | 33    | Warning                  | 0   | 0   | 0     |
| Group Counseling      | 10  | 1   | 11    | Monitored                | 16  | 9   | 25    |
| In-School Suspension  | 5   | 1   | 6     | Other                    | 2   | 3   | 5     |
| Mediated              | 15  | 2   | 17    |                          |     |     |       |

### List of Anti-Bullying Specialists by building

|                                  |                                           |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|
| Tara Colandrea: Burnet           | Kim Marano: Washington                    |
| Fatima DeCorte: Jefferson        | Gihann Abreu, Connecticut Farms           |
| Jill Hall/ Ingrid Soares: UHS    | Leane Robson/ Nicolette Milne, Livingston |
| Sharondra Walton: Franklin       | Erin Jackson: Battle Hill                 |
| Janette Tramuta, Hannah Caldwell | Madeline Yatsko, Kawameeh                 |

## Programs: Districtwide & Building Based:

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>Assemblies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• UHS: Teen Truth: Assembly 1/14, Leadership Summit, follow up initiatives and staff reflection session</li> <li>• PowerBack: Relationship safety and partner violence</li> <li>• "Don't Get Vaped In": Prevention Links</li> <li>• KMS: "TruthSpeaks365" 4/15, Let's Stop People Pleasing and Protect your Peace</li> <li>• BH: Pushcart Players 4/26</li> <li>• CF: BMX Choices Assembly 3/27</li> <li>• CF: The Game Show Assembly: 4/28</li> <li>• WES: Superhero Assembly 2/20</li> <li>• NJSLA Kick Off events</li> <li>• WES: Brain Show 5/29</li> </ul> | <p>Student and Parent Supports:</p> <p>Small groups:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Social skills</li> <li>• Grief</li> <li>• Self-management/regulation</li> <li>• Self-esteem</li> <li>• Anti-bullying</li> <li>• Mindfulness/meditation</li> <li>• Lunch Bunch Small Group</li> <li>• Family Changes</li> <li>• Substance related small groups</li> <li>• Conflict Resolution</li> </ul> <p>☞Parent/Family Communications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Newsletters/Chat with the Counselor topics/social media and school messenger notifications</li> <li>• Parent Lounge development with Google Sites</li> <li>• Counselor's Corner digital resources</li> <li>• **Middle School Survey 6/11</li> </ul> |
| <p>Integration into classrooms:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Monthly Advisory/Classroom/Homeroom lessons</li> <li>• Elementary monthly: HIB, SEL, Social skills, mindfulness, calming/coping techniques, upstander, gratitude,</li> <li>• Daily Announcements/Quote of the Day</li> <li>• Health Class integration/SAC KMS &amp; BMS through Prevention Links</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | <p>Programming/resources:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• "ALL IN UHS" student focus group</li> <li>• Mental Hop:UHS targets 9th grade program, leadership, mental health</li> <li>• Counselor Google Classroom activities</li> <li>• School Counseling PLCs</li> <li>• Morning Meeting Slides</li> <li>• Spirit Weeks</li> <li>• Union County GSA, BMS and KMS with activities, meetings and events</li> <li>• SEL Rooms established</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |

District Wide Events:

- Words Matter Week: 3/1-3/7
- School Counseling Week: 2/2-2/6
- No Name Calling Week: 1/20-1/23
- Child Abuse Prevention programs
- Random Acts of Kindness Week: 2/15-2/21
- The Great Kindness Challenge: 1/26-1/30
- Autism Awareness Week: 4/6-4/10
- National SEL day: 3/2
- Mental Health Awareness Month: May
- FES: Abracabully: The I.C.A.R.E Program

Building Activities:

- UHS: Appreciation Station building wide
- UHS: Caring Contact table, 988 crisis hotline
- Student Recognition Programs
- (Blue Knight Nickels, PBSIS various schools, Washington Wages, BMS School Store & Newspaper, BMS Bucks, Battle Hill Bucks, NEW: KMS AURA
- Student/Leader of the Month, Spirit weeks, Pride Awards)
- Peer leadership: KMS, WES
- Friends of Rachel Club: KMS (Kindness Chain Challenge)
- BMS: PBIS Store, March Madness, GSA
- KMS: March Madness (basketball and Volleyball events)
- CF: Girls on the Run Program
- JES: Caught being a Leader, Leader of the Month
- FR: RCA House System
- Career Day/Fair/Exploration (multiple schools)



## HIB Bi-Annual Report

### Trainings Districtwide/ Building Based

- **Trainings**

- School Safety/Climate Team Meetings: per school, dates from ABS
- DCP & P Training mandated Reporters, all school counselors
- HIBster platform updates: 2/3/26
- HIB Specialist Training: 5/13/26
- Union County Anti-Bullying Coordinator Meeting: 5/6/26

- **School Safety/Culture and Climate Committee Meetings per individual school**

- Mandated by the HIB Anti-Bullying Code
- ABS have the specific dates for Reporting Period 2 meetings

- **Professional Development Opportunities:**

- NJSCA Conference: 4/17/26
- LinkIt Training: 3/10
- Use of SILAS platform for SEL resources
- Counseling PLCs (all levels)
- PBIS Committee planning meetings to formulate school-wide positive behavior supports (taking place in PBIS schools)
- NJ State Bar Association: Role of the School Climate Team, Trauma Sensitive Schools, Elementary Conflict Resolution, Restorative Justice, Elementary Peer Mediation
- Behavioral Threat Assessment Trainings
- Mental Health of Teenage Girls Webinar: 4/15/26