# UNITED TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 30

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**
**January 12, 2026**

**Superintendent**

Dr. Jay Morrow

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At its meeting on Monday, January 12, 2026, the United Township High School Board of Education accepted the resignation with the intent to retire from Superintendent Dr. Jay Morrow, with the retirement date of June 30, 2027. At the same meeting, the Board of Education also approved current Principal Matt Wright as the next superintendent, effective July 1, 2027. Mr. Wright will continue as Principal until the retirement of Dr. Morrow, and the next 18 months will be used to help ease the transition of leadership.

Dr. Morrow has spent his entire educational career at UTHS, starting in 1994 as a business teacher. During his time at UT, he also coached basketball, football, bass fishing, and served as a sponsor for the Letterman's Club and INTERACT Club. His administrative career began as a Division Chair, followed by assistant principal, then assistant superintendent of business. He was named superintendent in late 2006 and assumed this role on January 1, 2007. At the time of his retirement, Dr. Morrow will have served 20.5 years as superintendent. He is the second-longest serving superintendent in UTHS history, behind Lee O. Dawson, who served from 1929 until 1960.

Dr. Morrow shared, "It has been a professional honor and privilege to serve the United Township community. In my years as superintendent, the BOE has been so supportive and kept its focus on providing students with the best possible education. Our administrative teams, past and present, are a group of consummate professionals; our teachers are fantastic, our staff's commitment to our students is beyond reproach, and the community support of UTHS is tremendous. UT has been a wonderful place to have a fulfilling career, and the larger UT community is a great place to live and raise a family."

Dr. Morrow also added, "Most importantly, I would like to thank my family for all of their support over the years, my wife, Wendy, and our sons, Matthew, Joshua, and Joseph, my parents, and my in-laws."

Matt Wright has served as Principal since July 2017, guiding the district through a major facility expansion in 2019, and the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic. Before his role as Principal, he served as an administrator and head boys' basketball coach at East Peoria Community High School, in East Peoria, Illinois. Prior to his role there, he taught math and coached in the Morton Unit School District, in Morton, Illinois. Mr. Wright is married, has three children, and resides in East Moline.

Mr. Wright stated, “It is a tremendous honor and privilege to be named the Superintendent of UTHS starting in the 2027-28 school year. I look forward to continuing to serve the district as Principal for the next year and a half while also having the opportunity to transition with Dr. Morrow. I want to thank Dr. Morrow for his leadership and guidance these last 9 years. I would also like to thank the UTHS Board of Education, administrative team, faculty, and staff, for their unparalleled skill and expertise. They have made my time here extremely enjoyable and fulfilling. I appreciate their willingness to keep kids at the center of our decision-making. Our staff, students, and community are second to none and I look forward to continuing to serve them for years to come. I also want to thank my family for all they do to support me and the UTHS community.”

Board President, Dr. Giovanna Davila stated, “Dr. Morrow has made a significant impact at UTHS through his unwavering commitment to achieving the best possible outcomes for students and the district. He consistently demonstrates dedication and support for teachers, staff, and employees. With his financial expertise, he has maintained the district's strong fiscal stability, even during years of reduced state funding. We wish Dr. Morrow well in his retirement and will sincerely miss his leadership. Nonetheless, there remains important work to be done, and Dr. Morrow will continue his efforts in support of the district while also preparing Mr. Wright for his upcoming role as superintendent.”

Dr. Davila has served on the UTHS school board since April 2017, just before Mr. Wright started in his role as principal. Davila states “The UTHS school board selected Mr. Wright as the most suitable successor due to his strong work ethic, determination, and dedication to the UTHS community throughout his tenure. Mr. Wright is committed to excellence for both students and staff, and we are pleased to support him as the next superintendent of UTHS. Over the past nine years on the school board, I have observed Mr. Wright grow from a novice principal into an exceptional leader and active community member. As a parent of two UTHS graduates, I have seen his outstanding leadership firsthand, both as a board member and parent.”

For additional comments from Dr. Morrow, please e-mail jmorrow@uths.net or call 309-752-1611. For Mr. Wright, please e-mail mwright@uths.net, or call 309-752-1633.

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