# SUSQUEHANNA TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT

Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17110

May 17, 2021 Monday Evening

**CALL TO ORDER** 

At 7:19 p.m. the May 17, 2021 meeting of the Susquehanna Township Board of

School Directors was called to order by President Jesse Rawls, Sr.

SCHOOL BOARD
MEMBERS PRESENT

Ms. Josie Byzek, Mr. Scott W. Campbell, Mr. John F. Dietrich,

Ms. Julieann Newill, Mr. Jesse Rawls, Sr., President, Mr. Majid Ali, Mr. Jesse G. Gantt

SCHOOL BOARD

Mrs. Ilecia C. Voughs,

MEMBERS PRESENT VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS Ms. Zoe Jackson, Student Representative, Miss Paige Mullen, Student Representative

DISTRICT OFFICE PRESENT

Mr. Olswen Anderson, Jr., Mr. Justin Green, Mr. Mark Holman, Dr. Richard Kaskey, Dr. Douglas L. Nyce, Ms. Ann-Marie Rathmell, Dr. Tamara Willis, Superintendent,

Mr. Vince Champion, Esq., for the District Solicitor

**ABSENT** 

Dr. Michael Cohen

**EXECUTIVE SESSION** 

The President announced that executive session was held on May 10<sup>th</sup> and immediately prior to the meeting for the purpose of personnel matters.

REPORTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ms. Zoe Jackson, Student Representative and Miss Paige Mullen, Student Representative, presented an outstanding student report via Power Point. It included news about events and activities occurring in all of the district's four schools. Ethan Sneed was given special mention as he will be joining outstanding middle school students from across the nation in a STEM program this summer at St. Johns University in New York. They noted that he was nominated by STMS teachers for the honor. They noted that STHS spring sports are coming to an end, with the STHS E-Sports Team moving into the playoffs undefeated. They noted that photos of the prom may be seen on PennLive. (Power Point attached to BoardDocs)

Mr. Dwayne DeFoor, Alumni Association President, reported on the many activities of the Association including supporting Teacher Appreciation Week, and donating butterfly seed packets to STMS for distribution to students. He noted that the Building Champions Field House Campaign is becoming more active again, with a reconvening of the committee, a donation mailer, and decisions around targeted donor requests. He noted that upcoming events include the Spring Fest this Saturday with music, flowers, food trucks, 29 vendors and crafters. He noted that several alumni are vendors. Mr. DeFoor also reminded the board of the upcoming Susquehanna Invitation Golf Tournament on Friday, June 18th. Finally, he noted some alumni achievements including Ben Dupree '10, who is releasing his second album as Benny Hondo, Tracey Heather Strain '78, co-director of the PBS documentary American Oz released April 19th on the American Experience, Ann Staley '64, participated in a virtual reading of her book of poetry, Fire in the Desert, Clee Tilman '97, who recently publishing a new book, The Lab, and posts a weekly podcast, and Ben Moser '14, named to the National Football Foundation Honor Society. (report attached to BoardDocs)

Mr. Dwayne DeFoor, Board Member, reported on the many activities of the HANNA Foundation, especially the organization of the HANNA Pantry. He noted that the number of HANNA Packs coming through the pantry has been steadily increasing to 116 in April. He also noted that TH Elementary and SL / AC Primary will join the Communities in Schools Program in the coming school year thanks for the efforts of the Foundation. Mr. DeFoor noted that 315 families, representing 1293 individuals, have been served by the HANNA Pantry. He noted that a volunteer appreciation event was recently held, with Tom Lapkowicz '97 being named Volunteer of the Year. He thanked Dr. Willis, Sangeeta Balani, Cara Klinger and Meghan Ragni, STSD Staff, for volunteering in April. He noted that the Foundation would love to have more volunteers! He concluded by noting that the HANNA Pantry is a finalist for the Central Pennsylvania Business Journal's Nonprofit Innovation Awards. He noted that winners would be announced on May 20<sup>th</sup>. (report attached to BoardDocs)

Ms. Voughs, CAIU Representative, reminded members to complete the ballot online by June 11<sup>th</sup>.

**Mr. Dietrich, DCTS Representative,** reminded members to complete the ballot in their red folder and leave it there to be collected.

**Dr. Kaskey, Assistant Superintendent**, reported that he is holding the fort in Dr. Willis's absence. He thanked the students for the phenomenal job their did in their presentation, noting that he especially enjoyed hearing about the events at TH Elementary and SL / AC Primary, including the video for rising second graders. Dr. Kaskey reported that the prom was a wonderful occasion for which he thanked the STHS administration, teachers, staff, ST Public Safety Officers, and everyone who made that a special night for our students. He also thanked the vendors at the prom and recognized the student performers as also doing a phenomenal job. Dr. Kaskey noted that tomorrow a learning option selection survey for 2021-2022 will be going at to learners at 3 p.m. He noted that there will be three learning model options for next years students, but that only parents who respond will have the virtual option available to them. He noted that the default option will be AIS (Always In Person) for next school year.

Mr. Todd Kinter, Manager of the Giant Grocery Store on Linglestown Road, was welcomed. He presented a check in the amount of \$23,125 to Mr. Anderson on behalf of the STSD for the Giant Feeding School Kids Program. The Board and Administration were most appreciative of the gift.

# II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA ITEMS FOR MAY 17, 2021

**MOTION TO APPROVE** 

**2.A.** Moved by Mr. Dietrich, seconded by Ms. Byzek, to approve the meeting agenda for May 17, 2021.

Motion passed 8-0, 0 abstentions, 1 absent

2.B. Board Member Comments

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Ms. Newill asked to share some of her thoughts on the Logo/Mascot topic. She noted that the purpose of the committee was to develop: 1. A mission statement for a district mascot, 2. To share personal connections and experiences, 3. To listen to perspectives, truths and experiences of others (for and against a change) and 4. To make a recommendation about the future of our mascot.

She noted that during the first meeting on October 16, 2020, the committee members determined what a "mascot" is: a person or thing that is supposed to bring good luck or that is used to symbolize an event or organization. She noted that the definition of logo was also discussed: an identifying symbol; an identifying statement. She noted that when discussing what our mission statement would be, the committee came up with several key words: spirit, unity, identity, history, diversity and community. She noted that using those key words, the committee developed a series of mission statements for the mascot: Diversity is our strength. We will be inclusive and strive to unify our community. We will identify a mascot that encompasses the spirit of the community, history and values. A mascot is designed to maximize school spirit and unity and represent the history and identity of our community. A group's identity unifies and gives pride to the community, while also respecting the history and diversity of the community. Respects diverse and historically proud community. Identification with the institution. Not to offend any party.

Ms. Newill continued, stating that as we went through this process, we learned that our mission statement does not align with our mascot. Ms. Newill then included some historical notes. She stated that although we do not have an official date of when the 'Indian' logo was used for our school district, we learned that an 'Indian' picture was printed in the 1936 yearbook (per a committee member). She stated that in 1939, the Susquehanna 'Indians' basketball team was formed (per a committee members). She noted that guest speakers included the Rhoades family, members of the Cherokee Tribe.

She noted that during the second meeting which was held on December 11, 2020, the committee briefly recapped the first meeting and then heard from some student representatives. She noted that they said that the committee must listen first and learn. She noted that they also stated that we must educate our students on indigenous people, changing revamping and educating in order to minimize bias and maximize education. She noted that during this meeting the committee discussed how we can honor the Susquehannock Indians. She noted that the committee discussed educating stakeholders and bringing the school board up to speed with what was learned. Ms. Newill reported that one of the committee members shared their thoughts that we should never use the 'Indian' name as a derogatory term, that the Indian statue represents hard work and that a high school class raised money to pay for the artwork, that "Indian" is not derogatory, but is a reminder of or in memory of the Susquehannock tribe. She noted that another committee member shared that they had spoken with many alumni from 1970 through 2020 and that most had said that we should keep the current logo, that the mascot is a part of the community and that it should be kept as a way to educate students and the

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community. She reported that another committee member stated that their children are part Native American and that there are some Native Americans who are not upset over the use of the 'Indian" names. She reported that this member continued by stating that the STSD is one of the 15 most diverse school districts int eh country, that keeping the 'Indian' name shows diversity of the community and that removing the mascot removes the history of our area, and suggested that the mascot be used to create a space for learning with involvement from students, community and local tribes. She reported that the recommendations for the next steps were to revamp, change and educate, with he committee developing a leadership model which would determine and balance student and other stakeholder needs.

Ms. Newill continued by noting that during the third meeting held on January 25, 2021, the committee reviewed feedback from the members of the committee. She noted that she was not at this meeting due to another commitment. She noted that reports from the meeting included concern that both sides had not been heard, that members anticipated hearing a case for keeping the Mascot as opposed to hearing again from the Rhoades family, that members wished to hear an opposing perspective, hearing from Native Americans who are in favor of keeping the mascot, that the district needs to be on the right side of history. She noted that reports of the meeting also included suggestions around how student representative may be supported in the education of the entire student body. She noted that a suggestion was that a survey should be made of all students, teachers and parents. She noted that a suggestion was made to retain the school colors and that a timeline was developed to spend the remainder of the school year in going through the process, documenting and having a recommendation to the board by the end of the year, with a phase in of new branding in the 2021-2022 school year, with completion in June of 2022.

Ms. Newill continued by noting that at the April 6, 2021 board meeting in which Dr. Willis discussed the survey results regarding the school's logo/mascot, board members questioned the survey results which showed in favor of keeping the 'Indian' name but changing the mascot. She noted that she does not recall the board instructing the committee to get rid of the 'Indian" name, but that a suggestion to use the 'Red-Tailed Hawk' was brought forward, and that the board did not object to the suggestion of changing the mascot. She noted that at this same meeting a motion was made to move this topic back to the committee to create a new process to select a new logo/mascot/name that engages all stakeholders in the process. She noted that over the past few weeks there has been disagreement over what this motion meant. She insisted that the motion focused on a new process. She suggested that the board emend the motion from the April 6, 2021 meeting to the following:

"Refer Item 11.C. back to the committee with the request that the committee continue their work with a new focus to guide development for a new name/logo/mascot and provide the new said name/logo/mascot or options thereof, to the administration such that the administration is prepared to make a recommendation to the board."

Ms. Newill concluded with closing thoughts. She stated that the press release which was read at one of the board meetings recently was a surprise to her. She stated that she did not know that the board or the committee made that decision to retire the logo/mascot/name. She stated that, personally, she has not determined whether or not we should change the logo/mascot/name at this point. She stated that she believes we still have some work to do to make that determination. She thanked the board for allowing her to express her concerns.

Mr. Gantt thanked Ms. Newill for sharing. He suggested some points of clarification were needed including the fact that a lot of the conversation around support for change was left out. He noted that Ms. Newill missed the committee meeting prior to the April 6th board meeting. He suggested that the Indian name was recognized by the committee as offensive, but the committee recommended it not be changed. Mr. Gantt suggested that at the April 6th meeting the motion was made to move the recommendation back to the committee for a new mascot, name and logo. He noted that it was his motion and that it was made after a long period of talking about my rationale for the change. He noted that he left the meeting very proud of taking decisive action on a conversation that we've had for a year now. He apologized for any confusion. He noted that, clearly, he made a good faith and earnest attempt to make himself perfectly clear. Mr. Gantt concluded by reminding the board that at the April 6<sup>th</sup> meeting a motion was made, seconded, discussed and passed 7-1-1, with administration taking action reconvening the committee which then made a recommendation to make a public statement. He noted that the board then met again, the public statement was read, no opposition was voiced, no motion to reconsider, amend or take action on that motion was made. He noted that we are six weeks after that, stating that in his understanding the time has elapsed to amend. He stated that the district has taken administrative action, announcing our intention to retire the mascot logo and name. Mr. Gantt reminded the board that we have made a promise to the Native American community and if we were to rescind that promise, that we have taken an oath of office and are an arm of the US government. He reminded the board of the history of promises made to Native Americans and promises not kept by the US government. He suggested it would be out of order and morally wrong to go back on the promise.

**Mr. Dietrich** noted that he would respond to this topic later in the agenda.

**Mr. Rawls, Sr.** recognized Mike Ferguson, former President of the Susquehanna Township Board of Education, who was present at the meeting.

# III. ELECTION OF SECRETARY

### **MOTION TO APPROVE**

**3.A.** Moved by Ms. Byzek, seconded by Mr. Dietrich, to approve Item 3.A. The motion passed 8-0, 0 abstentions, 1 absent.

**3.A.** Motion to reappoint Ms. Julieann Newill as School Board Secretary to a four-year term in accordance with Section 404 of PA School Code of 1949.

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Section 404. Districts Second, Third and Fourth Class Permanent Organization; Election of Officers.--In each school district of the second, third and fourth class, the school directors shall effect a permanent organization by electing, during the first week of December, from their members, a president and vice-president, each to serve for one year, and shall annually, during the month of May, elect a treasurer to serve for one year, beginning the first day of July following such election, and shall, during the month of May, one thousand nine hundred and fifty-three, and every four years thereafter, elect a secretary for a term of four years, beginning the first day of July following such election. The treasurer may be any corporation duly qualified and legally authorized to transact a fiduciary business in the Commonwealth. Vacancies in the office of secretary shall be filled for the unexpired term. In school districts of the second class the secretary and treasurer shall not be members of the board. In districts of the third and fourth class they may be members of the board. The same person shall not hold at the same time more than one of the offices of president, vice-president, secretary or treasurer of any board of school directors.

No superintendent, assistant superintendent, supervising principal, or teacher shall serve, either temporarily or permanently, as an officer of the school board by which he is employed.

**RECESS** 

Mr. Rawls, Sr., President, called a three-minute recess of the meeting for personal needs at 8:04 p.m.

The meeting resumed at 8:07 p.m.

IV. HEARING OF THE PUBLIC

**SPEAKER** 

David Mabry stated, as a follow up to last meeting's item on "High School Transcripts in Customized Learning Environment", that when the Board takes up this topic again, it would be helpful to understand if other districts that have implemented the Mass Customized Learning model have also needed to address the high school transcripts issue, and if so, how it was done, or if not, why it was that district did not need to make a similar change that the STSD is contemplating. He stated that perhaps consideration of high school transcripts should be included in the work scope of Item 10.E. on tonight's meeting agenda. He thanked the board for their consideration.

**SPEAKER** 

**LeKross Ortiz,** of Lancaster, asked to speak. There was disagreement among the board members regarding whether non-township residents were permitted to speak.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION** 

The board recessed into Executive Session at 8:11 p.m. The board reconvened at 8:34 p.m.

**PRESIDENT** 

**Mr. Rawls, Sr.** announced that Latiss Lacross would be invited to speak at the next board meeting as a guest presenter.

**SPEAKER** 

**Kevin Stevens** began by turning over all the name plates of the board members, after asking if it was their name. He then proceeded to label them the Dilly Community. He

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stated hello Dilly Community and told them that is who they are now. He introduced himself and noted that he is voicing his opinions, throughs and feelings regarding the overall image of the STHS. He stated that he is indigenous, a community member and that his voice matters. He stated that within the current progress that has been made and deliberation to change the offensive and racist mascot, that it reminds him of 1778-1871 when the US signed and broke 368 treaties with indigenous groups. He listed the Treaty of the Delaware's, the Treaty of Chattanooga, the Treaty of Fort Wayne and the Andrew Jackson Indian Removal Action of 1830 as just a few examples. He asked the board to consider what it feels like to have someone call them a name that isn't their name, the Dilly Community, for example. He asked what it is to be seen as a disenfranchised group of people, to be a group who would say not to changing something that hurts another disenfranchised community. He stated that you're all named Dilly and asked how that feels to them, to be given a name that is not your name. He stated that he gives them this microphone for your braveness and courage, that this is the Dilly microphone. He addressed Mr. Campbell specifically and asked how it feels when someone says "No, I will give the voice and choice for you." He stated that he does not want them to lift their nameplates, but to think hard on any upcoming decisions regarding the STSD mascot.

**SPEAKER** 

Mike Ferguson began by stating Dilly, Dilly, I don't know what that meant. He stated that he sat with Mr. Rawls, Sr. on the board. He thanked the board and superintendent for the opportunity to speak. He stated that it was a trying year for his daughter who wanted to be in school in person, but he stated that he believed that the year couldn't have been done better. He addressed Mr. Gantt specifically and noted that he heard you speak. He also addressed Ms. Newill specifically and noted that he heard her speak and that he has a friend on the committee. He noted that his recollections of the committee's deliberations reflect Ms. Newill's account. He suggested that a decision was made prior to the process being undertaken regarding the action of April 6th. He suggested that the name Indian be kept, but the logo and mascot changed was the decision of the committee. He suggested that we dishonor our history, and the Class of 1984 who put the statue in the lobby. He stated that when he went to STHS he didn't do things that were dishonorable. He stated that substance matters and the best I can call you is friend. He asserted that the brave in the lobby of STHS represents honor and friendship. He noted that if you could build a canoe out of a piece of birch wood and float it in the Susquehanna, you could get an A in Physics class when he attended STHS. He suggested this was one way that Native Americans were honored. He noted that no minutes have been accepted from April 6th, that the minutes have not been approved. He noted that the minutes for the 19th are on the agenda. He noted that he is a process person, but that the vote on the committee doesn't seem to matter. He stated that he is not proud of this process, that it involved a select few. He addressed Mr. Rawls, Sr. specifically and suggested that Mr. Rawls said he was proud of the process. Mr. Ferguson stated that he is not proud of the process. He stated that we should be honorable as people. He asked what the purpose of the committee is if the committee takes community input, but then just says no. He noted that democracy is messy, that we change things all the time, that it took 58 years to change Plessy vs. Ferguson to Brown vs. the Board of Education of Topeka Kansas. He asserted that

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board members were put here as elected representatives of the community and that they should take a broader survey of the community. He asserted that if the community comes out and says get rid of the Indian, then get rid of the Indian. He noted that everyone's opinions matter and that the board should do the right thing and involve the community. He jokingly suggested that we could begin by getting everyone to say "Progress" right.

### V. PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION

# **PRESENTATION**

**5.A.** Mr. Oslwen C. Anderson, Jr., Business Manager, presented STSD Phase II Capital Improvement Projects including Bid Results & Next Steps. (attached to BoardDocs)

8:55pm Mr. Rawls, Sr. left the meeting. 8:58 pm Mr. Rawls, Sr. returned to the meeting.

# **PRESENTATION**

**5.B.** Mr. Oslwen C. Anderson, Jr., Business Manager, presented STSD 2021-2022 Fiscal Year Proposed Final General Fund Budget. (attached to BoardDocs)

# **MOTION TO APPROVE**

5.C. Moved by Mr. Gantt, seconded by Ms. Byzek, to approve Item 5.C.

# **MOTION TO POSTPONE**

**5.C.** Moved by Mr. Dietrich, seconded by Mr. Ali, to table Item 5.C. until the June 7<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Susquehanna Township Board of Education.

# **ROLL CALL VOTE:**

Aye:

Ms. Byzek, Mr. Dietrich, Mrs. Voughs, Mr. Gantt,

Mr. Campbell, Ms. Newill, Mr. Rawls, Sr., Mr. Ali

Nay:

None.

Abstain:

None.

Absent:

Dr. Cohen

# Motion passed 8-0, 0 abstentions, 1 absent

**5.C.** The School Board would like to take action in order to reaffirm its determination from the April 6, 2021 board meeting in which there was a motion to no longer utilize the "Indian" name, symbol, and other nomenclature to describe the school district mascot and to further resubmit the matter for determination of a new logo, mascot, and name to the Mascot/Logo Committee.

# VI. MINUTES

# MOTION TO APPROVE

**6.A.** Moved by Mr. Dietrich, seconded by Ms. Byzek, to approve Item 6.A. Motion passed 8-0, 0 abstentions, 1 absent

**6.A.** Approve the Minutes of the April 19, 2021, Board Meeting (attached to BoardDocs)

# VII. PROGRAM

None.

VIII. PERSONNEL

# **MOTION TO APPROVE**

**8.A.B.C.D.E.F.** Moved by Mr. Dietrich, seconded by Ms. Byzek, to approve Items 8.A.B.C.D.E.F.

Motion passed 8-0, 0 abstentions, 1 absent

# FOR THE RECORD

Mr. Dietrich thanked Mrs. Crystal Bowman for her 16 years of service to the STSD.

- **8.A.1** Approve the resignation of Abrielle Rohrbach as Night Custodian at the Susquehanna Township High School, effective May 3, 2021.
- **8.A.2.** Approve the resignation of Brinda Basnet as Part-Time Food Service Worker at the Sara Lindemuth / Anna Carter Primary School, effective May 3, 2021.
- **8.B.** Approve the retirement of Crystal Bowman as Assistant III at the Susquehanna Township Middle School, effective June 11, 2021. Ms. Bowman has been with the District since 2005.
- **8.C.** Approve the transfer of Randi Olly as Main Office Secretary at the Susquehanna Township Middle School to Coordinator of Special Education/Student Services at the Susquehanna Township School District Office Building at a rate of \$20.77 per hour (Tier 1-1), effective May 10, 2021. Ms. Olley will be replacing Diane Gilbert.
- **8.D.** Approve Caitlyn Padgett as Emotional Support Special Education Teacher at the Susquehanna Township Middle School at a salary of \$49,241.00 (B, Step 1), effective August 18, 2021. Ms. Padgett will be replacing Korinne Kauffman.
- **8.E.1.** Approve the employment as Madison Sanchez as Part-Time Food Service Worker at the Susquehanna Township Middle School at a rate of \$12.00 per hour, effective August 19, 2021. Ms. Sanchez will be replacing Michele Hammond.
- **8.E.2.** Approve Enighenja Okengo as Main Office Secretary at the Susquehanna Township Middle School at a rate of \$17.23 per hour (Tier 2-1), effective May 24, 2021. Ms. Okengo will be replacing Randi Olley.
- **8.F.1.** Approve the following teachers for the 2021 Summer Semester at the Susquehanna Township School District, at a rate of \$38.00 per hour.

Name	Level	Name	Level	
Emily Eckert	K-2	Kaitlyn Dobyns	6-8	
Lauren Good	K-2	Colleen Dougherty	6-8	
Judy Hodgson	K-2	Patty Frye	6-8	

Lola Itzhaki	K-2	Crystal Hoel	6-8
Bobbie Mellott	K-2	Andrew Locust	6-8
Elizabeth Miller	K-2	Traci McAloose	6-8
Jo Ellen Showers	K-2	Rachel Rhoads	6-8
Jennifer Strohm	K-2	Kiva Sutton	6-8
Carissa VanDyck	K-2	Mark Billante	9-12
Allison Wire	K-2	Christina Darden	9-12
Caroline Daly	3-5 & 6-8	Marypat Evans	9-12
Mary Girven	3-5	Toni Gockley	9-12
Troy Krall	3-5	Marybeth Graham	9-12
Makenzie Lynn	3-5	Brennan Long	9-12
Jamie McNeal-Early	3-5	Juma Maser	9-12
Brandon Popp	3-5	Doug Nyce (MS Teacher)	9-12
Emilee Truitt	3-5	William Papalardo	9-12
Elaine Malloy	3-5	Michele Stoneking	9-12
Emily Fiebig	3-5	Amy Vaughn	9-12

**8.F.2.** Approve the following Academic Team Leads for the 2021-2022 school year.

Department:	Stipend	Name
9-12 Math	\$1,500.00	Michele Stoneking
9-12 Science	\$1,500.00	Robert McDonald
9-12 English/Language Arts	\$1,500.00	Christine Rose-Brooks
9-12 Social Studies	\$1,500.00	Brandy Brant
6-8 Math	\$1,500.00	Jillian Fletcher
6-8 Science	\$1,500.00	Laura O'Neill
6-8 English/Language Arts	\$1,500.00	Jolene Connelly
6-8 Social Studies	\$1,500.00	Matthew Scharadin
6-8 Technology	\$1,500.00	Trevar Scheuch
6-8 Related Arts	\$1,500.00	Patty Frye
K-12 Empower	\$1,500.00	Trevar Scheuch
3-5 Math	\$1,500.00	Brandon Popp
3-5 Science	\$1,500.00	Emilee Truitt
3-5 English/Language Arts	\$1,500.00	Jacquelin Palmeri
3-5 Social Studies	\$1,500.00	Tamaura Woodson
K-2 Math	\$1,500.00	Allison Morris
K-2 Science	\$1,500.00	Elizabeth Miller
K-2 English/Language Arts	\$1,500.00	Hannah Sprenkle
K-2 Social Studies	\$1,500.00	Ashia Philippe
K-12 Autism Support	\$1,500.00	Kaitlyn Veronikis

K-12 Art	\$1,500.00 Wendy Sweigart
K-12 Health & PE/FCS	\$1,500.00 William Pappalardo
K-12 Bus Ed, Tech Ed, Careers	\$1,500.00 Elena Charles
K-12 Library Media/Technology	\$1,500.00 Mia Gray
K-12 Counseling/Psychology	\$1,500.00 Jill Debroisse
K-12 Nursing Services	\$1,500.00 Jennifer Halfond
K-12 World Language (Modern)	\$1,500.00 Kerry Snell
K-5 Special Education	\$1,500.00 Amanda Mucci
6-8 Special Education	\$1,500.00 Dana Conrad
9-12 Special Education	\$1,500.00 Joan Tracy

**8.F.3.** Approve the following Secondary ESY Teachers at a rate of \$38.00 per hour for the 2020-2021 school year:

Caitlin Uffelman Jessica Dullen Amanda Tuthill Christina Darden Margaret Baum

**8.F.4.** Approve the following Secondary ESY Paraprofessionals at their current hourly rate for the 2020-2021 school year:

Morgan McKinney Brenda McClain Yolanda Stanton

**8.F.5.** Approve the following Elementary ESY Teachers at a rate of \$38.00 per hour for the 2020-2021 school year:

Kimarie Brown Rebecca Zeigler Terry Fisher Kaitlyn Veronikis Kathleen Zehner

**8.F.6.** Approve the following Elementary ESY Paraprofessionals at their current hourly rate for the 2020-2021 school year:

Candace Reinbold Amanda Confer Nate Gadsden Lalita Bajgai Krystol Rucker

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**8.F.7.** Approve the following Elementary Summer Semester ELL Teacher at a rate of \$38.00 per hour for the 2020-2021 school year:

Lora Millar

### IX. FINANCES

# MOTION TO APPROVE

**9.A.B.C.D.E.F.G.** Moved by Mr. Dietrich, seconded by Ms. Byzek, to approve Items 9.A.B.C.D.E.F.G.

Motion passed 8-0, 0 abstentions, 1 absent

- **9.A.** Approve the payment of Activity Fund bills from the First National Bank Activity Fund Checking, as listed on the Computer Check Summary, totaling \$2,749.50. (attached to BoardDocs)
- **9.B.** Approve the payment of Capital Reserve PSDLAF checking bill from the Capital Reserve PSDLAF Checking, as listed on the Computer Check Summary, totaling \$4,560.00. (attached to BoardDocs)
- **9.C.** Approve the General Fund Cash Balance of \$8,358,642.19. (attached to BoardDocs)
- **9.D.** Approve the payment of First National General Fund Checking bills from the First National General Fund Checking, as listed on the Computer Check Summary, totaling \$1,116,212.23. (attached to BoardDocs)
- **9.E.** Approve the payment of Food Service bills from the Food Service Checking, as listed on the Computer Check Summary, totaling \$49,981.10. (attached to BoardDocs)
- **9.F.** Approve the Food Service Condensed Cash Balance of \$376,801.26. (attached to BoardDocs)
- **9.G.** Approve the following Personal Tax Refund:

Taxpayer Name: Hadassah Feinberg

Bill #: 4107 Year: 2020

Refund Amount: \$274.40

Reason: Hadassah Feinberg was disabled in 2020; paid the taxes in error.

# MOTION TO APPROVE

9.H. Moved by Mr. Dietrich, seconded by Ms. Byzek, to approve Item 9.H.

# **ROLL CALL VOTE:**

Aye:

Ms. Byzek, Mr. Dietrich, Mrs. Voughs, Mr. Rawls, Sr.

Nay:

Mr. Campbell, Ms. Newill, Mr. Ali, Mr. Gantt

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Abstain:

None.

Absent:

Dr. Cohen

# Motion failed 4-4, 0 abstentions, 1 absent

# **MOTION TO RECONSIDER**

**9.H.** Moved by Mr. Dietrich, seconded by Ms. Byzek, to reconsider Item 9.H.

# **ROLL CALL VOTE:**

Aye:

Ms. Byzek, Mr. Dietrich, Mrs. Voughs, Mr. Gantt,

Mr. Rawls, Sr.

Nay:

Mr. Campbell, Ms. Newill, Mr. Ali

Abstain:

None.

Absent:

Dr. Cohen

# Motion passed 5-3, 0 abstentions, 1 absent

# **MOTION TO APPROVE**

9.H. Moved by Mr. Dietrich, seconded by Ms. Byzek, to approve Item 9.H.

# **ROLL CALL VOTE:**

Aye:

Ms. Byzek, Mr. Dietrich, Mrs. Voughs, Mr. Gantt,

Mr. Rawls, Sr.

Nay:

Mr. Campbell, Ms. Newill, Mr. Ali

Abstain:

None.

Absent:

Dr. Cohen

# Motion passed 5-3, 0 abstentions, 1 absent

**9.H.** Approve the 2021-2022 Fiscal Year Proposed Final General Fund Budget inclusive of a 2.85% real estate tax increase with expenditures totaling \$57,603,599; revenues \$57,603,599 and a zero dollar \$0 use fund balance.

# X. CONTRACTS

# **MOTION TO APPROVE**

10.A.B.C. Moved by Mr. Dietrich, seconded by Ms. Byzek, to approve Items 10.A.B.C.

# **ROLL CALL VOTE:**

Aye:

Ms. Byzek, Mr. Dietrich, Mrs. Voughs, Mr. Gantt,

Mr. Campbell, Ms. Newill, Mr. Ali, Mr. Rawls, Sr.

Nay:

None.

Abstain:

None.

Absent:

Dr. Cohen

# Motion passed 8-0, 0 abstentions, 1 absent

**10.A.** Approve the CAIU Agreement for School-Based Access Programming for the 2021-2022 school year to provide support for Medical Access Billing. (attached to BoardDocs)

May 17, 2021 Monday Evening

**10.B.** Approve the 2020-2021 Capital Area Intermediate Unit Special Education Services Agreement. (attached to BoardDocs)

**10.C.** Approve the contract for the 2021-2022 School Year between STSD and Franklin & Marshall College / Pennsylvania College Advising Corps. The Susquehanna Township School District has had a partnership with Franklin & Marshall College since the 2016-2017 school year. (attached to BoardDocs)

# **MOTION TO TABLE**

**10.D.** Moved by Mr. Dietrich, seconded by Ms. Byzek, to table Item 10.D.

# **ROLL CALL VOTE:**

Aye:

Ms. Byzek, Mr. Dietrich, Mrs. Voughs, Mr. Gantt,

Mr. Campbell, Ms. Newill, Mr. Ali, Mr. Rawls, Sr.

Nay:

None.

Abstain:

None.

Absent:

Dr. Cohen

# Motion passed 8-0, 0 abstentions, 1 absent

**10.D.** Approve the agreement with 21st CentEd to purchase licenses for STEM courses in students in grades 1-8 as a part of the District's College and Career readiness initiative. ESSERS II (Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Releif) Grant funding will be used to finance these services. (attached to BoardDocs)

# **MOTION TO APPROVE**

**10.E.F.G.H.** Moved by Mr. Dietrich, seconded by Ms. Byzek, to approve Items 10.E.F.G.H.

Motion passed 8-0, 0 abstentions, 1 absent

**10.E.** Approve the Consulting Agreement between STSD and Lisa Royek for the 2021-2022 School Year. (attached to BoardDocs)

**10.F.** Approve the Administration's recommendation to reject Susquehanna Township School District Phase II Capital Improvement Projects base and alternate bids, as reflected below and attached:

# East Coast Contracting, Inc.

Contract # 1 – High School General Construction – Alterations & Additions - \$698,400

Schauer Electric, Inc.

Contract # 4 – High School Electrical Construction – Alterations & Additions - \$750,250

East Coast Contracting, Inc.

Contract # 1 – Middle School General Construction – Alterations - \$487,500 Schauer Electric, Inc.

Contract # 4 – Middle School Electrical Construction – Alterations - \$498,000 **East Contracting, Inc.** 

May 17, 2021 Monday Evening

Contract # 1 – SL/AC Primary School – Alterations - \$35,000 Schauer Electric, Inc.
Contract # 4 – SL/AC Primary School – Alterations - \$99,000 Schauer Electric, Inc.
Contract # 5 – Site Improvements - \$649,000

Total Phase II Capital Improvement Projects Public Bid Total - \$3,217,150

Note: An explanation of bid rejection recommendation will be provided via a brief presentation and PowerPoint attachment per the Presentations and Discussions section of the agenda.

**10.G.** Authorize the Administration and Architect, El & Associates, to proceed with the re-bid and release of the project for re-bidding the Phase II STSD Capital Improvement Project as reflected below:

- 1. Alterations and additions to Susquehanna Township High School
- 2. Alterations to Susquehanna Township Middle School
- 3. Alterations to Sara Lindemuth / Anna Carter Primary School
- 4. Site Improvements at five District Facilities

**10.H.** Authorize the Administration and Architect, EI & Associates, to proceed with the project for the state contract purchase order to Pittsburgh Stage and Lighting for the High School and Middle School Auditorium Stage curtains tracks and theater lighting as previously approved and amended to include minor general electrical work.

Note: The district conducted extensive meetings with internal and external stakeholders (staff, architects, contractors, etc.) in establishing the scope of work relating to stage rigging and lighting. Proceeding with this work now as opposed to postponing it until next summer will ideally improve on the 2021-2022 school year environment for theatrical performances. The agreement to perform this work via state contract was previously presented to the board of school directors and approved with the exception of minor electrical work that will occur in relation to this segment of the overall auditoriums projects.

**DISCUSSION** 

**10.I.** Discuss the agreement between Susquehanna Township School District and Merakey Behavioral Health to provide psychiatric services for students. (attached to BoardDocs)

DISCUSSION

**10.J.1.** Discuss the Agreement with New Story to provide Extended School Year (ESY) services for student 2020-21/007 for the summer of the 2020-2021 school year as discussed in executive session.

# SUSQUEHANNA TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT

Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17110

May 17, 2021 Monday Evening

**DISCUSSION** 10.J.2. Discuss the Agreement with New Story to provide Extended School Year (ESY)

services for student 2020-21/008 for the summer of the 2020-2021 school year as

discussed in executive session.

**DISCUSSION** 10.J.3. Discuss the Agreement with New Story to provide Extended School Year (ESY)

services for student 2020-21/009 for the summer of the 2020-2021 school year as

discussed in executive session.

**DISCUSSION** 10.K. Discuss the Agreement with Urban Schools Human Capital Academy to review

the academic schedule to ensure that staff usage is maximized and sustainable.

(attached to BoardDocs)

**DISCUSSION** 10.L. Discuss the MOU between HANNA Education Foundation and Susquehanna

Township School District regarding the operation of the food pantry program at the

district's high school facility as outlined in the MOU. (attached to BoardDocs)

XI. POLICY

MOTION TO APPROVE 11.A.B.C.D.E.F. Moved by Mr. Dietrich, seconded by Ms. Byzek, to approve Items

11.A.B.C.D.E.F.

FRIENDLY AMENDMENT Mr. Rawls, Sr. suggested the removal of Item 11.F. from the motion

Mr. Dietrich and Ms. Byzek concurred.

MOTION TO APPROVE 11.A.B.C.D.E. Moved by Mr. Dietrich, seconded by Ms. Byzek, to approve Items

11.A.B.C.D.E.

Motion passed 8-0, 0 abstentions, 1 absent

11.A. Approve the revision of Policy 103: Discrimination/Title IX Sexual Harassment

Affecting Students. (attached to BoardDocs)

11.B. Approve the revision of Revised Policy 247: Hazing. (attached to BoardDocs)

**11.C.** Approve the revision of Policy 249: Bullying/Cyberbullying. (attached to

BoardDocs)

11.D. Approve the revision of Policy 252: Dating Violence. (attached to BoardDocs)

11.E. Approve the revision of Policy 317.1: Educator Misconduct. (attached to

BoardDocs)

MOTION TO APPROVE 11.F. Moved by Mr. Dietrich, seconded by Ms. Byzek, to approve Item 11.F.

**ROLL CALL VOTE:** 

Aye:

Mr. Campbell, Ms. Newill, Mr. Ali, Ms. Byzek,

Mr. Dietrich

May 17, 2021 Monday Evening

Nay:

Mrs. Voughs, Mr. Gantt, Mr. Rawls, Sr.

Abstain:

None.

Absent:

Dr. Cohen

# Motion passed 5-3, 0 abstentions, 1 absent

**11.F.** Approve the adoption of Policy 218.3: Discipline of Student Convicted/Adjudicated of Sexual Assault. (attached to BoardDocs)

### FOR THE RECORD

Ms. Byzek noted, regarding the last meeting, that when she was being screamed at, yelled at, put down and called names, having her words twisted backwards and forwards and every which way, so that she didn't know what's up and what's down, that she then can't think clearly and certainly can't feel clearly. She stated that she was called names and her views were misrepresented at the last meeting, and that's just simply a fact. She stated that when Mr. Campbell raises his voice and shouts people down, it shuts down deliberation as members then cannot think clearly or feel clearly, and our words become distorted.

# XII. OTHER

# **MOTION TO APPROVE**

**12.A.** Moved by Mr. Dietrich, seconded by Ms. Byzek, to approve Item 12.A. Motion passed 8-0, 0 abstentions, 1 absent

**12.A.** Approve the District's Updated Health and Safety Plan. (attached to BoardDocs)

# **XIII. NEW BUSINESS**

**Mr. Dietrich** encouraged administration to have a conversation, managed by Mr. Holman, about the implementation of the policy listed in Item 11.F.

Ms. Voughs noted that in two or three Policy Committee and Discipline Committee meetings the focus was on this policy. She expressed hope that as many board members attend future discussion as is possible. She stated that she doesn't know what the answers is, but that the way this policy reads around the discipline piece is not good for our district. She stated that she believes that we can come up with an answer that is the best for all the students in our district.

Mr. Rawls, Sr. recommended that the District Solicitor be a part of these discussions.

# XIV. ADJOURNMENT

# MOTION TO ADJOURN

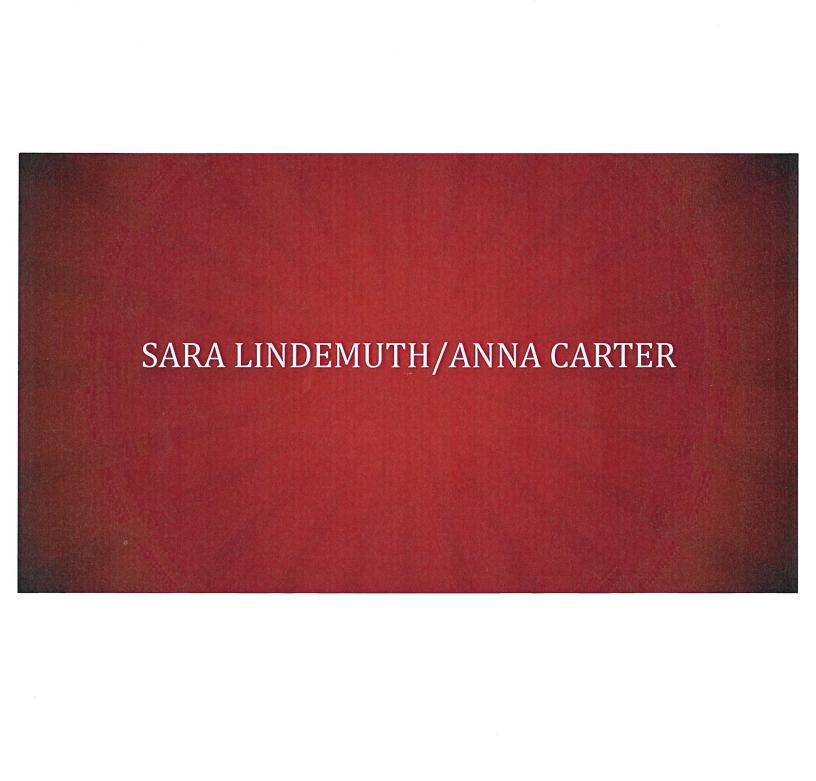
**14.A.** Moved by Mr. Dietrich, seconded by Ms. Byzek, to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed: 8-0, 0 abstentions, 1 absent

May 17, 2021 Monday Evening

Meeting adjourned at 10:28 p.m.

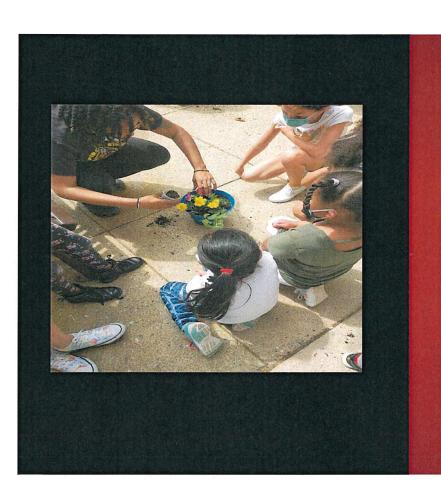
Julieann Newill Board Secretary

# STUDENT REPORT May 17



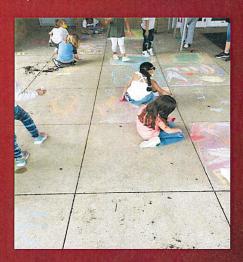
# EXCITING NEWS FOR NEXT SCHOOL YEAR!

- Sara Lindemuth Anna Carter was approved by the Pennsylvania Department of Education to use RTI, a system that identifies students that are falling behind and catches them up by providing more support and targeted teaching, for SLD (Specific Learning Disability) Determination starting next school year.
- This required a very intricate application process, and the approval is a very big deal! The work needed for the process was completed by the SL/AC MTSS team!



# STUDENT OF THE MONTH

The most recent Student of the Month activity included planting fresh flowers, and sidewalk art!



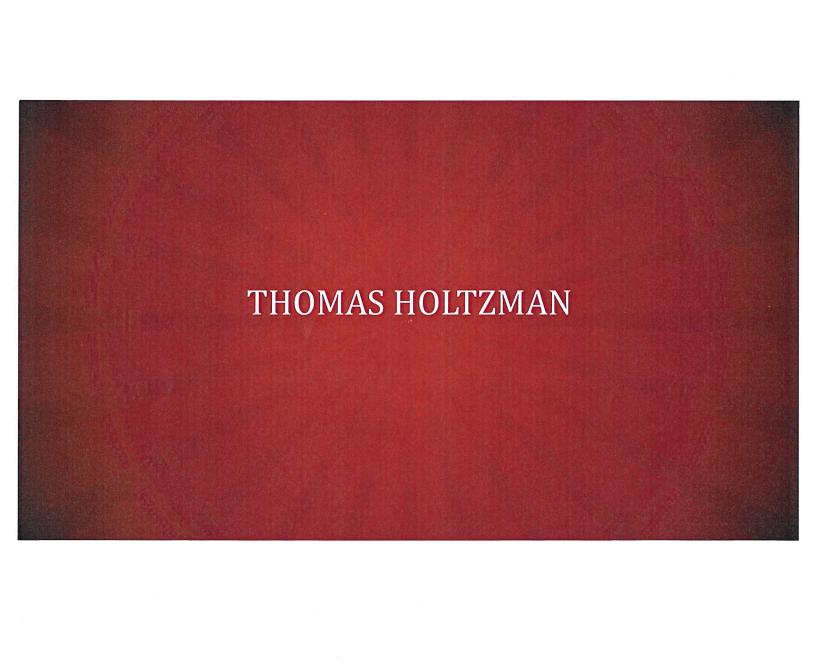
Sara Lindemuth Anna Carter Counselor Ms. Debroisse and the Thomas Holtzman "Colony Builders" created a school tour video for rising 2<sup>nd</sup> grade students to watch in class, since there won't be a move up day/visit.

Colony Builders are the student leaders and ambassadors for SL/AC!

Zoe Cobb
Liam Wenrich
Jariyah Kenney
Quinn Fabian
Moheet Pokhrel
Londyn Miller
Vann Hanrahan
Arabella DeJesus
Jayla Cooper
Megan Blanar

# **COLONY BUILDERS**





# PSSAS AND PBIS REWARDS

During PSSA testing weeks, Thomas Holtzman is running an incentive planned with the PBIS team and PTO.

Two weeks ago, Holtzman hosted a PSSA spirit dress up week. Reverse Roles (where teachers dressed as students/students dressed as teachers), Wacky day, Hat day, Color wars, and School Spirit day!

Learners are able to earn Hoot Bucks as they participate in positive behavior according to the PBIS SOAR matrix. Those Hoot Bucks can be entered to win raffle baskets!





# STUDENT SHOUTOUT

This summer, Ethan Sneed will join outstanding middle school students from across the nation to take part in a career-oriented development experience with the National Youth Leadership Form (NYLF) STEM Program at ST. Johns University in New York. NYLF STEM is an Envision family of programs, encouraging students to explore their interests outside of the classroom.

Ethan was nominated to attend the forum by Susquehanna Township Middle School. Ethan has participated in the student government, been a student ambassador, and volunteered with the Joshua Group. With dreams of becoming a Civil Engineer, or a Forensics Detective, Ethan is looking forward to gaining the hands-on experience the forum provides.

Two new episodes of the Middle School's podcast are available, one of which features Dr. Willis! They discussed the pandemic's effect on the district, as well as the MCL program.

The episode before that discussed videogames; How they've changed over time, as well as their positive impact on the life skills of the player! The podcast can be found under the Activities tab on the middle school website.

# STMS PODCAST



# **STMS Podcast**

Trevar Scheuch

A bi-weekly podcast featuring news and notes from Susquehanna Township Middle School. Learners, teachers, administrators and community members share their thoughts and feelings on various topics.





More

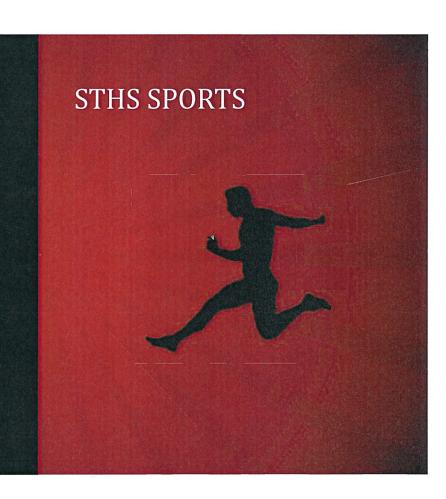
# SUSQUEHANNA TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL

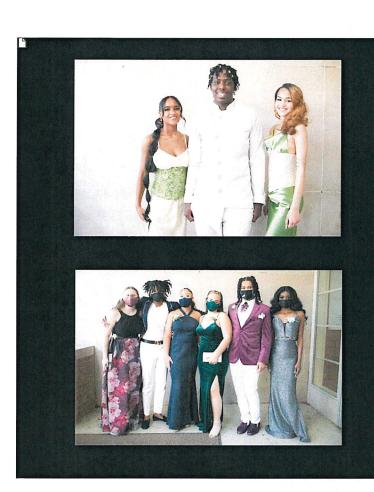
After finishing an undefeated season in their league, the STHS E-Sports teams moves into playoffs to fight for the championship.

Baseball wrapped up their season on Thursday in a home game against Palmyra!

Softball finished their season strong with a home win against Hershey on Tuesday!

Track and Field athletes represented Susquehanna Township at the Mid-Penn Championships this Saturday, and are hoping to hear back soon about advancements to Districts!



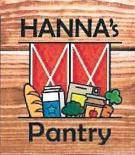


# **PROM**

Prom was held at the High School this Saturday, May 15 with a red carpet arrival inside the school. Attendees then moved to the football stadium for festivities.

Students wore masks to attend the dance and were given permission to remove them for photographs. More photos are available on PennLive!





# stribution

**APRIL 2021** 

Served This Month

Served Since July\*

**CHILDREN** 0-17

5,206

**ADULTS** 17-59

5,753

**SENIORS** 60+

1,615

12,574

\*Fiscal year is July 2020-June 2021

**HOURS LOGGED** BY VOLUNTEERS THIS MONTH

315

**FAMILY FOOD** DISTRIBUTIONS THIS MONTH

**FAMILY FOOD** DISTRIBUTIONS SINCE JULY\*

Providing nutritious food & essential items to our Susquehanna Township neighbors since 2019

HANNA's Pantry is a member agency of the Central Pennsylvania Food Bank & administered by the HANNA Foundation, in partnership with Susquehanna Township School District.

HANNAFOUNDATION.ORG (7 (6) (7 (6)





# Susquehanna Township School Board HANNA Foundation Report for May 17, 2021

# I. Communities In Schools (CIS)

HANNA Packs through HANNA's Pantry addresses food insecurities in case-managed CIS students. The site
coordinator sends HANNA Packs home with students each weekend.

Month	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Packs	14	33	112	116								

# II. HANNA's Pantry

# Distribution

- Served 315 families, or nearly 1,300 individuals at April distributions
- Supported STSD ARA Lunch Distributions, STHS & STMS Lifeskills classrooms
- Open next on May 22, 10am-12pm
- Member Participation Trend

Month	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Families	306	304	361	315								
Individuals	1,240	1,266	1,484	1,293								

### Volunteers

- Held a Volunteer Recognition event on April 18. Tom Lapkowicz (STHS '97) named Volunteer of the Year.
- Thank you to STSD staff for volunteering in April: Dr. Willis, Sangeeta Balani, Cara Klinger, and Meghan Ragni
- Looking for new volunteers
  - Must become a STSD District volunteer. See hannafoundation.org for details
  - Opportunities 2nd & 4th Saturdays: 7:30am, 9:30am, and 11:30am. Other times throughout the week.

# III. News

HANNA's Pantry is a Finalist in the Central Pennsylvania Business Journal's Nonprofit Innovation Awards.
 Winners announced this Thursday, May 20 followed by next week's Virtual Awards ceremony.

# IV. Support the Foundation

- Donate by check to P.O. Box 60023, Harrisburg, PA 17106
- Follow us: FaceBook | Twitter | Instagram | LinkedIn
- Support Us: <u>AmazonSmile</u>
- Attend an Event
  - i. Susquehanna Invitational Charity Golf Tournament Partnership with Susquehanna Township Alumni Association
    - 1. Friday, June 18, 11:30 am at Sunset Golf Course
    - 2. https://www.sthsalumniassociation.com/susquehanna-invitational

# School Board Report - May 17, 2021

# **Around the School District**

- Teacher & Staff Appreciation Week gift bags
- Middle School Butterfly Seed Pods

# **Building Champions Field House Campaign**

- Project Overview & Donation Self Mailer completed
- Targeted Donor Outreach
- Stakeholder Meetings
- https://www.sthsalumniassociation.com/about





# **Events**

# **SpringFest**

- Vendors/Crafters/Food Trucks/Children's
   Books/Flowers/Music (Delonne Wilbourn\* & Ben Dupree\*)
- Saturday, May 22, 2021
- 11:00 am to 4:00 pm

717Tacos

- 3500 Elmerton Avenue
- https://www.sthsalumniassociation.com/springfest2021
   (Overflow parking at Ridgeway Community Church)

Artisan Pizza
Bricker's Famous Fries
Chef de Crêpe
Mad Dash Grilled Cheese
PA Farm Show Milkshakes
Shredderrz

B & R Woodshop
Barshell Designs
Behm's Signs and Designs
Cakes and Sweets by Linda
Creekwood Candle
Donna's Gift Baskets & Things
Elizabeth Henrys
Extraordinary Homemades
& Lil Creek Creations
Flavor 76\*

Leslie's Wreaths and Thing
Magic Expoxy Dream Girl\*
Moss Lane Soaps
Nancy Valdez Designs
Paparazzi Jewelry
Pete and Lucy by Summer
Stepler's Magnetics & Creat
Tastefully Simple
Thats My Robot
You Lite Up My Life

\* = alumni

Gems by Meg **Gnomes for Homes** K and K Kreations **Knockout Rarity Nails** Knothole Woods KP's Green Cleaning Leibe Krafted Designs Leslie's Wreaths and Things Magic Expoxy Dream Girl\* Moss Lane Soaps Nancy Valdez Designs Paparazzi Jewelry Stepler's Magnetics & Creations Tastefully Simple Thats My Robot You Lite Up My Life

# Susquehanna Invitational

Partnership with HANNA Foundation

- Friday, June 18, 2021
- Sunset Golf Course
- 11:30 am Registration / 12:30 pm Scramble
- https://www.sthsalumniassociation.com/susquehan na-invitational
- 5:00 pm Dinner and Awards with Prizes/Live Auction
   Chris "Handles" Franklin Auction Emcee





# Join the Association!

- Alumni Lifetime Membership: \$15.00.
- Non-Alumni (Associate) Lifetime Membership: \$20.00
- Include Name, Maiden Name (if applicable), Telephone, Email, and Graduation Year
- Make check payable to STHS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
- Send to P.O. Box 61474, HARRISURG, PA 17106-1474

# Giving

- Online: PayPal Giving <a href="https://www.paypal.com/fundraiser/charity/1325412">https://www.paypal.com/fundraiser/charity/1325412</a>
- Shop: Amazon Smile <a href="https://smile.amazon.com/ch/46-2979340">https://smile.amazon.com/ch/46-2979340</a>
- Check: Scholarship Fund, Memorial Gardens, Student Opportunity Fund, Field House Campaign, Operating
  - Make check payable to STHS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
  - Send to P.O. Box 61474, HARRISURG, PA 17106-1474