

CALL TO ORDER At 7:07 p.m., the August 2, 2021, meeting of the Susquehanna Township Board of School Directors was called to order by President Jesse Rawls, Sr.

SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT Mr. Majid Ali, Dr. Diana Brown, Mr. Jesse Rawls, Mr. John F. Dietrich, Ms. Josie Byzek, Ms. Julieann Newill

SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS Mr. Scott W. Campbell

DISTRICT OFFICE PRESENT Mr. Vince Champion, Esq., District Solicitor, Mr. Oslwen Anderson, Jr., Dr. Richard Kaskey, Mr. Mark Holman, Dr. Tamara Willis, Superintendent, Mrs. Franka Maerz, Ms. Ann-Marie Rathmell, Mr. Justin Green

ABSENT Dr. Michael Cohen, Mr. Jesse Gantt

EXECUTIVE SESSION The President announced that executive session was held immediately prior to the meeting for the purpose of personnel and litigation matters. An executive session was also held on July 26, 2021 for board appointments and on July 29, 2021 for litigation.

REPORTS/ ANNOUNCEMENTS **Mr. Rawls** welcomed Dr. Brown as our newest Board Member (she was sworn in prior to meeting).

Mr. Dietrich, Facilities, commented on the roofing field projects being almost done. Field is done and the track is in processing of being finished. The work is outstanding. Mr. Anderson reported that they are working on the timeline for bidding on the spring and summer 2022 projects (phase 2).

Mr. Rawls suggested having all the committee meetings held virtually so all can attend.

Dr. Willis, Superintendent, commented that the Administration is continuing to prepare for the return of staff and students on August 30, 2021. Teachers return for in-service on August 24th. On July 28, 2021, Moody's Investors Service removed the District's negative financial rating. They issued the District a AA2 rating which is among the best and highest rating available. She said she is very pleased and thanked the Board for getting behind this Administration especially when we have had to make some tough financial decisions, it is a great partnership. Our School District was featured in a panel discussion by Ed Week as a result of our All Remote Access (ARA) technology. HP sent a team to the district to record a video. She thanked all of the administrators and the board for approving the purchase of the technology.

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA ITEMS FOR AUGUST 2, 2021

MOTION TO APPROVE

2.A. Moved by Ms. Byzek, seconded by Mr. Ali, to approve the meeting agenda for August 2, 2021.
Motion passed 7-0, 0 abstentions, 2 absent

2.B. Board Member Comments

SPEAKER

Mr. Rawls said “kudos” to the administration for the AA2 rating. He stated he feels that the Business Manager is the most important job in a school district besides the Superintendent, he does a wonderful job and is “tight with the dollar”. He also welcomed Dr. Brown to the board.

Ms. Byzek echoed the “kudos”. In addition to HP recognizing the district, Microsoft has as well. Our district is nationally recognized for being “cutting edge”.

Mr. Rawls reported that he had the opportunity to view the ARA technology and was impressed. He commented that we were the first in the country to use this technology.

III. PRESENTATIONS AND DISCUSSIONS

PRESENTATION

3.A. Kristi Prime, Middle School Principal, and Trevar Scheuch, Middle School Teacher, presented on Nearpod. (attached to BoardDocs)

PRESENTATION

3.B. Dr. Richard Kaskey, Assistant Superintendent of Pupil Services presented on Comply. (attached to BoardDocs)

PRESENTATION

3.C. Takia Colston-Krow, Coordinator of Safety and Security, and Mrs. Jennifer Halfond, School Nurse, presented the district’s Health and Safety Plan (attached to BoardDocs)

IV. HEARING OF THE PUBLIC

SPEAKER

Ms. Lisa Marie Bruschi submitted an electronic comment. She wants to know why the tax year exemption is aligned with the previous year. She stated that she has been unemployed without any income since 12/20 and she is unable to pay and support the district’s needs in 2021.

V. MINUTES

MOTION TO APPROVE

5.A.B. Moved by Mr. Dietrich, seconded by Mr. Ali to approve items 5.A.B.
Motion passed 7-0, 0 abstentions, 2 absent

5.A. Approve the Minutes of the June 7, 2021, Board Meeting.

5.B. Approve the Minutes of the July 12, 2021, Board Meeting.

VI. PROGRAM

MOTION TO APPROVE

6.A.B. Moved by Mr. Dietrich, seconded by Ms. Byzek, to approve Items 6.A.B.
Motion passed 7-0, 0 abstentions, 2 absent

6.A. Approve the creation of a Garden Club at the Susquehanna Township Middle School as described below.

Students will learn how to maintain a basic vegetable garden and will collaborate with others in the design of educational spaces to be used as alternative classrooms. Additionally, learners will collaborate on a design for a social and emotional learning space by way of a reflecting pond.

6.B. Administration recommends approval of the following textbook for High School Health:

Title: Comprehensive Health 2021
Vendor: Goodheart Willcox
ISBN: 978-164564-4118-160, 978-1-64564-422-4

VII. PERSONNEL

MOTION TO APPROVE

7.A.B.C.D.E.F.G.H. Moved by Mr. Dietrich, seconded by Ms. Byzek, to approve Items 7.A.B.C.D.E.F.G.H.
Motion passed 7-0, 0 abstentions, 2 absent

7.A. 1. Approve the resignation of Charles Henderson as Part-Time Food Service Worker at the Susquehanna Township Middle School effective July 29, 2021.

7.A. 2. Approve the resignation of Kayla Brathwaite as Head Field Hockey Coach at the Susquehanna Township Middle School, effective July 8, 2021.

7.A. 3. Approve the resignation of Nate Gadsden as Assistant III at the Thomas W. Holtzman, Jr. Elementary School, effective August 10, 2021.

7.A.4. Approve the resignation of Jacquelin Palmeri as 5th Grade Teacher at the Thomas W. Holtzman, Jr. Elementary School, effective August 23, 2021 July 27, 2021. Ms. Palmeri will be held 60 days or until a replacement is found, whichever occurs first.

7.A.5. Approve the resignation of Doug Shenk as Head Cross Country Coach at the Susquehanna Township Middle School, effective July 27, 2021.

7.A.6 Approve the resignation of Eileen O'Dwyer as Learning Support Teacher at the Thomas W. Holtzman, Jr. Elementary School, effective July 28, 2021. Ms. O'Dwyer will be held 60 days or until a replacement is found, whichever occurs first.

7.A.7. Approve the resignation of Dana Conrad as Learning Support Teacher (Math) at the Susquehanna Township Middle School, effective July 21, 2021. Ms. Conrad will be held 60 days or until a replacement is found, whichever occurs first.

7.A.8. Approve the resignation of Travis Leaman as Emotional Support Teacher at the Thomas W. Holtzman, Jr. Elementary School, effective July 30, 2021. ~~Mr. Leaman will be held 60 days or until a replacement is found, whichever occurs first.~~

7.A.9. Approve the resignation of Katie Burton as Social Studies Teacher at the Susquehanna Township Middle School, effective July 26, 2021. Ms. Burton will be held 60 days or until a replacement is found, whichever occurs first.

7.A.10. Approve the resignation of Emily Pavalonis as LRN at the Sara Lindemuth/Anna Carter Primary and Thomas W. Holtzman, Jr. Elementary School, effective August 16, 2021.

7.A.11. Approve the resignation of Emerson Lloyd as Assistant III at the Susquehanna Township Middle School, effective August 2, 2021

7.B. Approve the retirement of Rose Marie Salpino as Instructional Assistant II at the Sara Lindemuth / Anna Carter Primary School, effective August 5, 2021. Ms. Salpino has been with the district since 2000.

7.C.1. Approve the transfer of Brenda McClain from Assistant III at the Susquehanna Township Middle School to Assistant III at the Susquehanna Township High School, effective August 1, 2021. Ms. McClain will be following her student.

7.C.2. Approve the transfer of Paul Hood from Assistant III at the Susquehanna Township Middle School to Assistant III at the Susquehanna Township High School, effective August 1, 2021. Mr. Hood will be following his student.

7.C.3. Approve the transfer of Shelia Pressley from Part-Time Food Service Worker at the Susquehanna Township High School to Night Custodian at the Sara Lindemuth/Anna Carter Primary School at a rate of \$13.50 per hour plus \$0.45 per hour shift differential, effective August 2, 2021. Ms. Pressley will be replacing Chris Seigle

7.D. Approve the creation of a Temporary Act 93 position, Language Needs Assessment Coordinator. (job description attached)

7.E. Approve the temporary transfer of Sangeeta Balani as Assistant III (STESPA) at the Sara Lindemuth/Anna Carter Primary School to temporary Language Needs

Assessment Coordinator (Act 93) for the Susquehanna Township School District at a salary of \$44,000.00 (prorated), effective August 2, 2021 – July 31, 2022.

7.F. Amend the employment of Jillian Vanak as Certified School Nurse at the Susquehanna Township Middle School at a salary of \$50,129.00 (B, Step1), from effective August 18, 2021 to effective July 20, 2021. Ms. Vanak will be replacing Rachel Sider.

7.G. Approve Tiana Washington as Part-Time Food Service Worker at the Susquehanna Township High School at a rate of \$12.00 per hour, effective August 19, 2021. Ms. Washington will be replacing Sharon Sheppard.

7.H.1. Rescind Amy Burghdorf as Chorus Director at the Susquehanna Township High School at a stipend of \$2,345.00 for the 2021-2022 school year.

7.H.2. Approve Katherine Sabol as Assistant Marching Band Director at the Susquehanna Township at a stipend of \$3,650.00 for the 2021-2022 school year.

7.H.3. Approve the payment of 47 sick days at \$75.00 a day for a total of \$3,525.00 for Judith Sosik per STEA contract.

7.H.4. Approve the payment of 3.5 personal days at \$75.00 a day for a total of \$262.50, 50 sick days at \$37.50 a day for a total of \$1,875.00 and 32 sick days at \$45.00 a day for a total of \$1,440.00 for Amy Burghdorf per STEA contract.

7.H.5. Approve the payment of 90.5 sick days at \$94.35 a day for a total of \$8,538.67 for Rose Marie Salpino.

7.H.6. Approve the payment of 2 sick days at \$101.19 a day for a total of \$202.38 for Crystal Bowman.

7.H.7. Approve the payment of 4 sick days at \$75.00 a day for a total of \$300.00 for John Frantz.

7.H.8. Approve the payment of 5 personal days at \$150.00 a day for a total of \$750.00 for Megan Gower.

7.H.9. Approve the payment of 1 personal day at \$150.00 a day for a total of \$150.00 for Brett D. Smith.

7.H.10. Rescind Dana Conrad as 6-8 Special Education Academic Team Lead at a stipend of \$1,500.00 for the 2021-2022 school year.

7.H.11. Approve Lora Millar as 6-8 Special Education Academic Team Lead at a stipend of \$1,500.00 for the 2021-2022 school year.

7.H.12. Approve Mark Kothe as Summer Band Instructor at the Susquehanna Township High School at a rate of \$30.02 per hour for the 2021-2022 school year.

VIII. FINANCES

MOTION TO APPROVE

8.A.B.C. Moved by Mr. Dietrich, seconded by Ms. Byzek, to approve Items 8.A.B.C. Motion passed 8-0, 0 abstentions, 1 absent

8.A. 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 \$2,839,163.51.

8.B. Approve the payment of Capital Reserve PSDLAF checking bills from the Capital Reserve PSDLAF Checking, as listed on the Computer Check Summary, totaling \$232,102.65.

8.C.1. Approve the following Personal Tax Refunds:

Taxpayer Name: Bi Tamang
Bill #: 7235
Year: 2020
Refund Amount: \$283.50

Reason: Bi Tamang made a duplicate payment in error.

8.C.2. Approve the following Personal Tax Refund:

Taxpayer Name: Madhu Acharya
Bill #: 1506
Year: 2019
Refund Amount: \$270.00

Bill #: 17604
Year: 2020
Refund Amount: \$270.00

Total amount of refund: \$540.00

Reason: Madhu Acharya made less than \$5,000.00 in 2019 and 2020; paid the taxes in error.

8.C.3. Approve the following Personal Tax Refund:

Taxpayer Name: Thomas Nichter, Sr.
Bill #: 16777
Year: 2020

Refund Amount: \$264.60

Reason: Thomas Nichter, Sr. made less than \$5,000.00 in 2020.

IX. CONTRACTS

MOTION TO APPROVE

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

Motion passed 7-0, 0 abstentions, 2 absent

9.A. Approve the agreement with Nearpod to provide a digital learning platform for Susquehanna Township School District.

Nearpod is a digital learning platform that makes every lesson engaging for students no matter if they are always in school (AIS) or all-remote access (ARA). Teachers can create collaborative, engaging lessons that students can actively participate in both synchronously and asynchronously. These lessons are like a PowerPoint slideshow, but each slide has interactive, dynamic content that requires student participation and active engagement. Teachers design and create lessons in the Nearpod platform and then students join those lessons via a single sign on (SSO) using their Microsoft Office 365 account. This SSO allows teachers to monitor who has joined their lesson and who has not. The SSO also provides teachers data on students by name and student ID number.

9.B. Approve the renewal of the agreement with Edulink Inc. for COMPLY compliance software. This software enhances the district's capacity to track and manage employee fulfillment of district requisites, state mandates for training and reporting, and other important compliance items. This agreement automatically renews unless terminated by either party.

9.C. 1. Approve the agreement with New Story to provide services for student 2021-22/008 for the 2021-2022 school year as discussed in executive session.

9.C.2. Approve the agreement with New Story to provide services for student 2021-22/009 for the 2021-2022 school year as discussed in executive session.

9.D. Approve the Memorandum of Understanding for the 2021-2022 school year for the CAIU #15 Title III Consortium.

9.E. Approve the Memorandum of Agreement with Communities In Schools of Pennsylvania (CISPA) to provide a community liaison for the Susquehanna Township Middle School, Thomas Holtzman Elementary School and Sara Lindemuth / Anna Carter Primary School for the 2021-2022 school year.

9.F. Retroactively approve the amended 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. The amended agreement reflects a change in location where services were provided.

DISCUSSION 9.G. 1. Discuss the agreement with The Vista School to provide services for student 2021-22/005 for the 2021-2022 school year as discussed in executive session.

DISCUSSION 9.G.2. Discuss the agreement with The Vista School to provide services for student 2021-22/006 for the 2021-2022 school year as discussed in executive session.

DISCUSSION 9.G.3. Discuss the agreement with The Vista School to provide services for student 2021-22/007 for the 2021-2022 school year as discussed in executive session.

DISCUSSION 9.H. Discuss the 2021-2022 School Year Agreement for Participation in Child Nutrition Programs between the Capital Area Intermediate Unit and Susquehanna Township School District – CAIU # 115-00-000-0 and STSD # 115-22-830-3.

Note: This Agreement documents the sponsor’s (CAIU’s) commitment to administer the Household Meal Benefits Applications and processing for Free & Reduced Price Meals/Snacks/Milk Program for STSD students attending the CAIU Classroom locations at Hill Top Academy and District Classroom locations at Susquehanna Township School District.

DISCUSSION 9.I. Discuss the 2021-2022 School Year Agreement for Participation in Child Nutrition Programs between the Dauphin County Technical School (DCTS) and Susquehanna Township School District – DCTS # 115-22-160-7 and STSD # 115-22-830-3.

Note: This Agreement documents the sponsor’s (DCTS’s) commitment to administer the Household Meal Benefits Applications and processing for Free & Reduced Price Meals/Snacks/Milk Program for STSD students attending the DCTS.

DISCUSSION 9.J. Discuss the Professional Services Agreement between STSD and Ginny Lays, Resource Development Consultant for the 2021-2022 School Year.

X. POLICY

MOTION TO APPROVE 10.A. Moved by Mr. Dietrich, seconded by Mr. Ali to approve Items 10.A. Motion passed 7-0, 0 abstentions, 2 absent

10.A. Adopt Board Policy 200: School Wellness

NOTE: The policy was listed in the subject line on the agenda. The correct policy number is Policy 246. The correct policy was attached to BoardDocs.

XI. OTHER

MOTION TO APPROVE

11.A. Moved by Mr. Dietrich, seconded by Mr. Ali, to approve Item 11.A.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Aye: Mr. Campbell, Mr. Dietrich, Ms. Newill, Dr. Brown,
Mr. Ali, Mr. Rawls
Nay: Ms. Byzek
Abstain: None
Absent: None

Motion passed 6-1, 0 abstentions, 0 absent

11.A. Accept the resignation of Jesse Gantt from the Susquehanna Township Board of Directors effective July 23, 2021.

MOTION TO APPROVE

11.B.C. Moved by Mr. Dietrich, seconded by Mr. Ali, to approve Items 11.B.C.
Motion passed 7-0, 0 abstentions, 2 absent

11.B. Appoint a representative for the Capital Area Intermediate Unit (CAIU) to fulfill the unexpired term of Illecia Voughs, July 23, 2021 to June 30, 2022.

11.C. Approve the disposal / sale of obsolete Susquehanna Township School District Textbooks as recommended by district administration to the local textbook vendor, Keystone Book Rescue as reflected below:

Middle School

Quantity for Disposal = 1,792
Quantity of Monetary Value = 1,075
Purchase \$ Value = \$591.25

Note: STSD periodically disposes of obsolete textbooks with local textbook vendors. All books presented for disposal must be approved by administration at both the building and district office level.

MOTION TO RESCIND

11.B. Moved by Mr. Dietrich, seconded by Ms. Byzek to rescind item 11.B.
Motion passed 7-0, 0 abstentions, 2 absent

MOTION TO APPROVE

11.D. Moved by Mr. Dietrich, seconded by Mr. Ali, to approve Item 11.D

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Aye: Ms. Byzek, Ms. Newill, Mr. Rawls, Mr. Ali
Nay: Mr. Campbell, Mr. Dietrich, Dr. Brown
Abstain: None

Absent: None

Motion passed 4-3, 0 abstentions, 2 absent

11.D. Approve the District's Updated Health and Safety Plan as attached.

XII. NEW BUSINESS

The board has a vacancy to fill. The next board meeting will be August 16, 2021. Executive session will start at 5:30 pm with interviews for the vacancy starting at 6:30. The board meeting will start at 7:00 pm with an executive session immediately after the meeting. Applications will be due August 11, 2021 by 12:00 pm (noon).

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Moved by Mr. Dietrich, seconded by Ms. Byzek, to adjourn the meeting.
Motion passed: 7-0, 0 abstentions, 2 absent

Meeting adjourned at 8:43 p.m.



Julieann Newill
Board Secretary