

CALL TO ORDER	At 7:00 p.m., the November 15, 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, Mr. Scott Campbell, Dr. Michael Cohen, Mr. Terry Heller, Ms. Julieann Newill, Mr. Jesse Rawls, Sr. Paige Mullen (Senior Student Representative) Ava Waters (Junior Student Representative)
SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS	None
DISTRICT OFFICE PRESENT	Mr. Oslwen Anderson, Jr., Dr. Richard Kaskey, Mr. Mark Holman, Dr. Tamara Willis Ms. Ann-Marie Rathmell, Mr. Justin Green, Mr. Jonathan Bishop, Mr. Vince Champion, Esq., District Solicitor
ABSENT	Ms. Josie Byzek, Mr. John Dietrich, Dr. Diana Brown
EXECUTIVE SESSION	The President announced that executive session was held immediately prior to the meeting for the purpose of personnel.
INTRODUCTIONS/ GUEST PRESENTATIONS	Dr. Willis and the board recognized the 2021 Field Hockey Team for their outstanding season. Dr. Willis read a letter from Representative Sue Helm congratulating the team and wishing them luck on their upcoming state playoff matches. (see attached) Coach Erica Dickerson spoke on the team's accomplishments during the season. Certificates were presented for players who were chosen to represent District 3 in the All-Stars.
REPORTS/ ANNOUNCEMENTS	<p>Paige Mullen, Student Representative, and Ava Waters, Student Representative, submitted a report detailing activities in each of the district's schools. (attached to BoardDocs)</p> <p>Mr. Jesse Rawls, Sr., DCTS JOC Member, shared that one of STSD's students was recognized as Outstanding Student at DCTS. He also shared that DCTS is in need of a machine shop instructor.</p> <p>Mr. Scott Campbell, CAIU Representative, reported the executive director's contract was renewed for 5 years.</p> <p>Dr. Tamara Willis, Superintendent, reported that Sara Lindemuth/ Anna Carter Primary School was recognized by the Pennsylvania PBIS Implementor's forum. They were also approved to use their MTSS model to identify students with specific learning disabilities. She noted that she has presented to all students at the high</p>

school the history of the district and township and students were able to cast their vote and submit feedback for the new mascot. She is also preparing a video for the alumni to view and submit their feedback.

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA ITEMS FOR NOVEMBER 15, 2021

MOTION TO APPROVE

2.A. Moved by Mr. Heller, seconded by Mr. Ali, to approve the meeting agenda for November 15, 2021.

Motion passed 6-0, 0 abstentions, 3 absent

2.B. Board Member Comments

SPEAKER

Mr. Scott Campbell, noted for the record that the Dauphin County Technical School will present their school play, Clue, this weekend. Susquehanna Township students are in the play.

Miss Paige Mullen, Student Representative, noted that the High School Drama Club will present a play written by Mr. Hood on Friday and Saturday.

Mr. Jesse Rawls, Jr., Board President, thanked Mr. Terry Heller for his service on the board.

III. HEARING OF THE PUBLIC

FOR THE RECORD

Ms. Newill read the following statement:

The board provides for an opportunity to hear from the public. During this section of the meeting any resident and tax payer may address the Board on any items with the law in the Board Policies and Procedures. The purpose of this section of the meeting is to be heard and as such the board will not engage in a dialogue, but will listen to your concerns and follow up with directly or through assigned administration as appropriate.

Please begin your public comment by stating your full name and address. Each member of the public may speak for a maximum of 3 minutes. At the end of 3 minutes, your time will expire. Speakers may comment only once during each meeting.

Any comments to the board must be directed to the board president and not individual board members or administrators. Concerns, related to specific Schools, or buildings should first be addressed at the school level, and follow the chain of command before coming to the board. Any comments that are considered disruptive, obscene, abusive, slanderous, or defamatory will either be interrupted or terminated. No complaints may be made against specific employees, community

members, or board members. Private information related to any student is prohibited.

**SPEAKER
FOR THE RECORD**

Joseph Robison, Jr. addressed the board and read the following:

With the passage of the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act of 2021 Dauphin County, the City of Harrisburg, and the Harrisburg School District have been allocated unprecedented sums of money in response to the COVID pandemic, particularly its disparate impact on communities of color. This is in addition to the millions previously received through the CARES Act Emergency Relief. All of this funding is a direct result of the strong turnout of Black and Latino voters.

The American Rescue Equity Team led by African American men in Dauphin County is seeking to ensure that the funding received by the County, and all its associated municipalities and school districts is distributed equitably among organizations and non-profits with a demonstrated capacity to deliver services to our communities.

Also, we are calling for a County-wide Disparity Study to be conducted. Any municipality or school district receiving ARP funding with at least 25% of its population and/or service area identified as minority or non-white by the 2020 Census, must complete a Disparity Study. Certainly, this applies to the County and several of its municipalities and school districts.

A Disparity Study is an evaluation of the participation by black and brown businesses in contracting---compared to the availability of black and brown businesses in the marketplace.

Based upon our past experiences we could justifiably insist that a designated percentage of municipal awards for construction, professional services, and goods and support services should be distributed to businesses of color. However, because of Supreme Court case law, specifically City of Richmond v. J.A. Crosson Co (1989), the Court ruled that such a designation without proving the disparity would be unconstitutional.

So, we are advocating for disparity studies that will document any evidence of historical inequity and provide justification for any targeted remediation. A Disparity Study led at the County level would begin the systemic change needed for fair and equal access to public funding. We solicit your support. Thank you.

SPEAKER

Stephanie Teitelbaum (online submission), expressed gratitude and support of the administration's decision to close Thomas Holtzman Jr. Elementary School due to increase number of Covid cases and is grateful that the health and safety of students, staff and faculty remained paramount. She also encouraged board members to not act hastily in decisions regarding masking but to study data and consult with experts.

SPEAKER

Hilary Holmes (online submission), is following up on her previous concerns with customized learning. She believes an independent analyst should be hired by the school board to collect data and evaluate the success of the customized learning program in the district.

IV. PRESENTATIONS AND DISCUSSIONS

None

V. MINUTES

None

VI. PROGRAM

MOTION TO APPROVE

6.A. Moved by Dr. Cohen, seconded by Mr. Heller to approve item 2.A.
Motion passed 6-0, 0 abstentions, 3 absent

Discuss the creation of a chapter of the National English Honors Society at Susquehanna Township High School.

Establishing a chapter of the National English Honors Society at STHS would connect our school with a national network of English teachers and students who share a special interest in language, literature, and writing, By connecting STHS English Honor Society to a national level, students will have access to a variety of scholarships and awards along with a heightened knowledge of different aspects of the English subject. Teachers can connect with students and fellow teachers on a more connected and inspiring level.

INFORMATIONAL

6.B. The district is partnering with United Disabilities Services (UDS), to bring Ruby, a therapy dog, to the Sara Lindemuth/Anna Carter Primary School to support primary learners. Attached are the procedural guidelines for the service animal's use, care and supervision while in district facilities. Also included in the guidelines are provisions for ensuring that the needs of learners with allergies are addressed.

VII. PERSONNEL

MOTION TO APPROVE

7.A.B.C.D. Moved by Mr. Ali seconded by Dr. Cohen to approve Items 7.A.B.C.D.
Motion passed 6-0, 0 abstentions, 3 absent

FOR THE RECORD

Dr. Tamara Willis and the Board acknowledged the retirement of Jill Douglass and thanked her for her service in the district.

- 7.A.1.** Approve the resignation of Samara Young as 5th Grade Teacher at the Thomas W. Holtzman, Jr. Elementary School, effective October 29, 2021.
- 7.A.2.** Approve the resignation of Rachelle O'Brien as Varsity Assistant Softball Coach at the Susquehanna Township High School, effective November 7, 2021.
- 7.A.3.** Approve the resignation of Suzanne Delaney as Math Teacher at the Susquehanna Township Middle School, effective November 1, 2021. Ms. Delaney will be held 60 days or until a replacement is found, whichever occurs first.
- 7.A.4.** Approve the resignation of Kaila Mitchell as School Counselor at the Susquehanna Township High School, effective December 22, 2021.
- 7.B.** Approve the retirement of Jill Douglass as Food Service Manager at the Sara Lindemuth/Anna Carter Primary School, effective January 2, 2022. Ms. Douglass has been with the District since 1991.
- 7.C. 1.** Approve Kristian Hennick as 4th Grade Teacher at the Thomas W. Holtzman, Jr. Elementary School at a salary of \$53,274.00 (M, Step 1), pro-rated, effective November 18, 2021. Ms. Hennick will be replacing Sabrina Morrissette.
- 7.C.2.** Approve Megan Jacobs as 3rd Grade Teacher at the Thomas W. Holtzman, Jr. Elementary School at a salary of \$50,129.00 (B, Step 1), pro-rated, effective November 18, 2021. Ms. Jacobs will be replacing Samara Young.
- 7.D. 1.** Approve Lindsey Hemmann as Musical Director at the Susquehanna Township Middle School at a stipend of \$1,250.00 for the 2021-2022 school year.
- 7.D.2.** Approve Doug Nyce as Orchestra Director at the Susquehanna Township Middle School at a stipend of \$450.00 for the 2021-2022 school year.
- 7.D.3.** Approve Doug Nyce as Chorus Director at the Susquehanna Township Middle School at a stipend of \$800.00 for the 2021-2022 school year.
- 7.D.4.** Approve Toni Gockley as AAP Facilitator at the Susquehanna Township High School at a rate of \$31.00 per hour for the 2021-2022 school year.
- 7.D.5.** Approve Aleisha Buchanan as Co-Yearbook Advisor at the Susquehanna Township Middle School at a stipend of \$890.00 for the 2021-2022 school year.
- 7.D.6.** Approve Nancy Hatfield as Co-Yearbook Advisor at the Susquehanna Township Middle School at a stipend of \$890.00 for the 2021-2022 school year.
- 7.D.7.** Approve Crystal Hoel as Detention Monitor at the Susquehanna Township Middle School at a rate of \$29.00 per hour for the 2021-2022 school year.

VIII. FINANCES

MOTION TO APPROVE

8.A.B.C.D.E.F. Moved by Mr. Ali, seconded by Dr. Cohen to approve Items 8.A.B.C.D.E.F
Motion passed 6-0, 0 abstentions, 3 absent

8.A. Approve the payment of Activity Fund bill from the First National Bank Activity Fund Checking, as listed on the Computer Check Summary, totaling \$75.00.

8.B. Approve the payment of Capital Reserve PSDLAF Checkiing bills from the Capital Reserve PSDLAF Checking, as listed on the Computer Check Summary, totaling \$208,216.00.

8.C. 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 \$1,085,091.11.

8.D. Approve the payment of Food Service bills from the Food Service Checking, as listed on the Computer Check Summary, totaling \$3,013.82.

8.E. Approve the Food Service Condensed Cash Balance of \$398,179.13.

8.F. Approve the General Fund Cash Balance of \$23,396,235.61.

IX. CONTRACTS

MOTION TO APPROVE

9.A.B. Moved by Mr. Ali, seconded by Dr. Cohen to approve Items 9.A.B.
Motion passed 6-0, 0 abstentions, 3 absent

DISCUSSION

Mr. Campbell inquired as to the cost of item 9.B. Dr. Willis confirmed that the Caring Foundation provides services at no cost to the district.

9.A. Approve the Memorandum of Understanding between Dauphin County Technical School (DCTS) and Susquehanna Township School District for implementation of special education services for students attending DCTS.

9.B. Approve agreements with Caring Foundation to provide both virtual and school-based peer support groups for grieving students at Susquehanna Township High School.

DISCUSSION

9.C. Discuss the agreement with Community Services Group (CSG) to provide psychotherapy services to learners in both the elementary and secondary schools.

Mr. Campbell inquired as to the cost of item 9.C. Mrs. Carrie Martin confirmed that there is no cost to the district. Services are billed to student's insurance.

X. POLICY

MOTION TO APPROVE

10.A. Moved by Mr. Heller, seconded by Mr. Ali, to approve Item 10.A.
Motion passed 6-0, 0 abstentions, 3 absent

10.A. Approve the retirement of 4 digit polices which are outdated or redundant.
The list of policies is attached.

XI. OTHER

None

XII. NEW BUSINESS

None

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Moved by Mr. Ali, seconded by Dr. Cohen, to adjourn the meeting.
Motion passed: 6-0, 0 abstentions, 3 absent

Meeting adjourned at 7:42 p.m.



Julieann Newill
Board Secretary