

CALL TO ORDER At 6:03 p.m., the December 16, 2021, Special Meeting of the Susquehanna Township Board of School Directors was called to order by President John F. Dietrich.

SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT Mr. Majid Ali, Mr. Scott Campbell, Dr. Michael Cohen, Mr. Jesse Rawls, Sr., John F. Dietrich, Julieann Newill, Mr. Keita Kalonji Johnson, Esq., Ms. Rebecca McCullough, Esq.

SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS Mr. Majid Ali (joined in person at 6:22 pm), Dr. Michael Cohen

DISTRICT OFFICE PRESENT Dr. Tamara Willis, Ms. Ann-Marie Rathmell, Mr. Justin Green, Mr. Jonathan Bishop, Mr. Vince Champion, Esq., District Solicitor

ABSENT None

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA ITEMS FOR DECEMBER 16, 2021

MOTION TO APPROVE 2.A. Moved by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Mr. Rawls, to approve the meeting agenda for December 16, 2021 as amended.
Amendment: move Item 4.A. prior to the Hearing of the Public.
Motion passed 7-1(Rawls), 0 abstentions, 0 absent

4A. School Board Candidate Interviews

MOTION TO APPROVE Moved by Ms. Newill, seconded by Mr. Johnson to consider Jordan Krause based on his documentation in lieu of an in-person interview. Candidate was unable to attend due to a family emergency.
Motion passed 7-1(Rawls), 0 abstentions, 0 absent

1. Jordan Krause – not in attendance
2. Kimberly Early
3. Tony Sangrey
4. Steve Neidlinger
5. Terry Heller

The board took a short recess from 7:07 pm-7:15 pm.

6. Tameka Hatcher

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** **Clifton Edwards** addressed the board with his thoughts on the candidates for the board vacancy. He hopes the new board members are familiar with the District's Strategic Plan
- SPEAKER** **Joseph Robinson** addressed the board with his thoughts on the candidates and his support of Tameka Hatcher. He hopes the board knows which candidate(s) are aware of the issues affecting our district.
- SPEAKER** **Thanayi Ruth** spoke about her son's struggles in school and feels that the district needs teachers and board members who understand what is needed in the school district.
- SPEAKER** **Wendy Jackson-Dowe** thanked Ms. Newill for reading the rules for public comment and hopes board members follow these same rules in their interactions. She asked the board to be objective when they assess the candidates and follow the Democratic process. She would like to know what the district's plan is to recruit more teachers of color. She would like clarity on the expulsion process for students.
- FOR THE RECORD** **Mr. Dietrich and Dr. Willis** commented on the data for expulsions and the District's plans to recruit teachers of color. Both are things the district monitors. A presentation will be made at a future meeting.

Mr. Ali asked if there is a statewide database that provides information on student discipline.

Mr. Champion (District Solicitor) relayed that taxpayers can submit a Right to Know Request with the state if the information is not available on the state's website.

IV. OTHER

4.B. Appointment of Board Member

MOTION TO NOMINATE

Mr. Rawls nominated Tameka Hatcher to fill the board vacancy.

Ms. Newill nominated Terry Heller to fill the board vacancy.

Miss McCullough nominatesd Terry Heller to fill the board vacancy.

Mr. Johnson nominated Kimberly Early to fill the board vacancy.

Mr. Campbell nominated Terry Heller to fill the board vacancy.

Mr. Ali nominated Kimberly Early to fill the board vacancy.

Dr. Cohen abstains.

MOTION TO CLOSE NOMINATIONS

Moved by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Mr. Ali to close nominations for Board Member.
Motion passed: 8-0, 0 abstentions, 1 vacancy

DISCUSSION

Mr. Johnson commented that the process is difficult and all candidates qualifications were stellar.

Mr. Dietrich encouraged candidates who wish to run in the general election to contact current board members to see what the process is like.

Mr. Ali commented that all candidates did an excellent job.

Mr. Rawls commented on the interview process and voting. He feels we had great candidates tonight.

Mr. Dietrich responded to Mr. Rawls comments and the election process and thanked the candidates for their commitment to the district.

APPOINTMENT OF NEW BOARD MEMBER

Mr. Terry Heller was declared new board member 5-3, 0 abstentions, 0 absent, 1 Vacancy.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

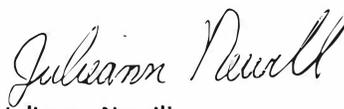
Heller:	Mr. Campbell, Ms. McCullough, Dr. Cohen, Ms. Newill, Mr. Dietrich
Early:	Mr. Johnson, Mr. Ali, Mr. Rawls
Hatcher:	None
Abstain:	None
Absent:	None
Vacancy:	1

V. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Moved by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Mr. Ali, to adjourn the meeting.
Motion passed: 8-0, 0 abstentions, 1 absent

Meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.


Julieann Newill
Board Secretary