SUSQUEHANNA TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT

Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17110

April 19, 2022 **Tuesday Evening**

CALL TO ORDER At 7:15 p.m., the April 19, 2022, meeting of the Susquehanna Township Board of

School Directors was called to order by President John F. Dietrich.

SCHOOL BOARD Mr. Jesse Rawls, Sr., Mr. Terry Heller, Dr. Michael Cohen, Ms. Julieann Newill

MEMBERS PRESENT Mr. Keita Kalonji Johnson, Esq., Miss. Rebecca McCullough, Esq., Mr. John F. Dietrich

SCHOOL BOARD Mr. Scott Campbell **MEMBERS PRESENT**

ABSENT Mr. Majid Ali

VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS

DISTRICT OFFICE Mr. Mark Holman, Dr. Tamara Willis, Dr. Richard Kaskey, Ms. Ann-Marie Rathmell,

PRESENT Mr. Justin Green, Mr. Vince Champion, Esq., District Solicitor

ABSENT Mr. Oslwen Anderson, Jr.

EXECUTIVE SESSION The President announced that executive session was held immediately prior to the

meeting for the purpose of personnel, real estate, and student matters.

INTRODUCTIONS/ Paul Mancia, Managing Director of Laurel Life, provided an overview of the trauma

GUEST PRESENTATIONS informed K-5 classroom. (attached to BoardDocs)

REPORTS/ Legislative Updates/PSBA: Mr. Johnson shared that the there are two new federal **ANNOUNCEMENTS** grant program for schools. The Biden administration has announced a \$500 million grant program to be administered by the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) for energy improvements at public school facilities. Additionally, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in conjunction with the DOE has launched a Clean School

> Susquehanna Township High School Alumni Association: Mr. Dwayne DeFoor provided an overview of recent and upcoming events. In conjunction with various community partners, a Candy Scramble was held on April 2nd at Roscoe Warner Field. The Capital Region Literacy Council was present and provided books children who attended. The YMCA Youth and Government Model Convention will be held at the Capital this week. STSD has 4 Freshmen students who will attend this year. Mr. Joe Zisman, President of Renewal by Anderson of Central PA, graciously sponsored the STSD students. Upcoming events include Spring Fest on May 7, 2022, and the Susquehanna Invitational Golf Tournament on June 24, 2022. (attached to

Bus Program. Information on both programs can be found on the PSBA website.

BoardDocs)

Hanna Education Foundation: Mr. Dwayne DeFoor shared highlights from the Foundation. Mr. John Fabian, Foundation President, joined Dr. Willis and Carrie Martin at the AASA, Power of Partnerships Summit in Chicago. The Foundation also partnered with the Alumni Association and the Capital Region Literacy Council to host the Candy Scramble on April 2, 2022. The Foundation had the opportunity to tour the Mid West Food Bank. They will also be sponsoring the Summer Camp at Home series again this summer. Mr. DeFoor provided an update on the growing number of families HANNA's Pantry is serving. They need volunteers and will hold an orientation on April 29, 2022 @ 6:30 pm for anyone interested.

Dauphin County Technical School (DCTS): Mr. Jesse Rawls shared that the budget was passed and reminded members to fill out their ballots and return to Ms. Rathmell.

Capital Area Intermediate Unit (CAIU): Mr. John Dietrich reminded members to fill out their ballots and return to Ms. Rathmell.

Susquehanna Township Board of Commissioners: Mr. John Dietrich shared information from Mr. Tom Pyne. He thanked the district for the use of Roscoe Warner field for the Candy Scramble and for use of district facilities to hold their meetings while their building has been undergoing renovations.

Dr. Tamara Willis, Superintendent, shared that John Fabian, Carrie Martin and Miriam Krause joined her at the AASA Power of Partnerships Summit in Chicago. They will be looking at ways to make our afterschool and summer programing more engaging through community partnerships. She also shared that 3 of our high school juniors will be attending the Rotary Youth Leadership Awards at Messiah University in June. The Rotary Club of Susquehanna and the Colonial Park Rotary Club will share the cost of the students to attend. The high school musical production team will present Seussical on April 29, 30 and May 1, 2022. Tickets are \$10 and information can be found on the district website.

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA ITEMS FOR APRIL 19, 2022

MOTION TO APPROVE

2.A. Moved by Mr. Rawls, seconded by Mr. Johnson to approve the meeting agenda for April 19, 2022.

Motion passed 8-0, 0 abstentions, 1 absent

2.B. Board Member Comments

SPEAKER

Mr. Rawls, Sr. would like to see discipline records and demographic data for the following years: 1989, 1999, 2010 and 2020. He would like to see these compiled and presented at the end of the school year.

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III. HEARING OF THE PUBLIC

SPEAKER

Ms. Tia Lavender addressed the board with concerns that her son has experienced bullying and cyberbullying at the high school.

Dr. Willis and administration will address the situation.

SPEAKER

Mr. Rawls, Sr. referenced his previous suggestion of returning to a format where the first meeting of the month is a "true" workshop meeting, and the second meeting of the month is a voting meeting. He also suggested that the board provide an opportunity for the public to engage in conversation with the board during the Workshop Meeting.

IV. PRESENTATIONS AND DISCUSSIONS

PRESENTATION

None

V. MINUTES

MOTION TO APPROVE

5.A Moved by Mr. Rawls, seconded by Mr. Johnson, to approve Items 5.A. Motion passed 8-0, 0 abstentions, 1 absent

5.A. Approve the Minutes of the April 4, 2022, Board Meeting.

VI. PROGRAM

None

VII. PERSONNEL

MOTION TO APPROVE

7.A.B.C.D.E.F.G. Moved by Mr. Rawls, seconded by Mr. Johnson, to approve Items **7.A.B.C.D.F.G.**

Motion passed 8-0, 0 abstentions, 1 absent

SPEAKER

Dr. Tamara Willis thanked the retirees for their years of service.

7.A.1. Approve the retirement of Kathy Brillant as Accounts Payable/Tax Clerk at the Susquehanna Township School District, effective May 12, 2022. Ms. Brillant has been with the District since 2008.

7.A.2. Approve the retirement of Jeanette Echols as Assistant III/PCA- Life Skills at the Susquehanna Township High School, effective June 9, 2022. Ms. Echols has been with the District since 2009.

- **7.B.** Approve the resignation of Chanel Hueitt as Assistant III Emotional Support at the Thomas W. Holtzman, Jr. Elementary School, effective March 28, 2022.
- **7.C.** Approve the transfer of Glenn Zimmerman as Supervisor of Buildings and Grounds (Act 93) at the Susquehanna Township School District to Mid-Shift Custodian (Teamsters) at the Sara Lindemuth/Anna Carter Primary School at a rate of \$15.14 per hour, effective April 11, 2022. Mr. Zimmerman will be replacing Steve Lowe.
- **7.D. 1.** Approve the transfer of John Concepcion as Night Custodian at the Sara Lindemuth/Anna Carter Primary School to Night Custodian at the Thomas W. Holtzman, Jr. Elementary School, effective April 15, 2022. Mr. Concepcion will be replacing Frank Fant.
- **7.D.2.** Approve the transfer of Rob Stroble as Maintenance Technician at the Susquehanna Township School District to Head Custodian at the Susquehanna Township High School at a rate of \$16.11 per hour, effective April 19, 2022. Mr. Stroble will be going back to his previous position that was not filled.
- **7.D.3.** Approve the transfer of Joffre McNeil as Night Custodian at the Susquehanna Township High School to Night Custodian at the Sara Lindemuth/Anna Carter Primary School, effective April 11, 2022. Mr. McNeil will be replacing Carole Hill.
- **7.E.** Approve James Chambers as Night Custodian at the Sara Lindemuth/Anna Carter Primary School at a rate of \$13.50 per hour plus \$0.45 shift differential, effective date to be determined. Mr. Chambers will be replacing John Concepcion.
- **7.F.1.** Approve the following Summer Semester/ESY Nurses for the 2021-2022 school year at a rate of \$38.00 per hour:

Jennifer Halfond	Cindy Gold
Jullian Vanak	Deborah Bennett

- **7.F.2**. Retroactively approve Doug Nyce as Jazz Band Advisor at the Susquehanna Township Middle School at a stipend of \$1,200.00 for the 2020-2021 school year.
- **7.F.3.** Approve Doug Nyce as Jazz Band Advisor at the Susquehanna Township Middle School at a stipend of \$1,200.00 for the 2021-2022 school year.
- **7.G.** Approve the current list of Active STS Guest Teachers for the 21-22 school year.

VIII. FINANCES

MOTION TO APPROVE

8.A.B.C.D.E.F.G. Moved by Mr. Rawls, seconded by Mr. Johnson, to approve Items 8.A.B.C.D.E.F.G.

Motion passed 8-0, 0 abstentions, 1 absent

- **8.A.** Approve the payment of Activity Fund bills from the First National Bank Activity Fund Checking, as listed on the Computer Check Summary, totaling \$2,007.42.
- **8.B.** Approve the payment of Capital Reserve PSDLAF checking bill from the Capital Reserve PSDLAF Checking, as listed on the Computer Check Summary, totaling \$28,212.70.
- **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 \$1,478,604.51.
- **8.D.** Approve the payment of Food Service bills from the Food Service Checking, as listed on the Computer Check Summary, totaling \$3,262.98.
- **8.E.** Approve the Food Service Cash Balance of \$764,300.26.
- **8.F.** Approve the General Fund Cash Balance of \$13,888,830.73.
- **8.G.** Approve the Capital Area Intermediate Unit (CAIU # 15) Operating Budget for the 22-23 Fiscal Year.

Note: The 22-23 FY CAIU Budget is reflective of an overall decrease of 3.93% when compared to the previous year. The district's required contribution to the budget has essentially remained at last year's level.

IX. CONTRACTS

MOTION TO APPROVE

9.A.B.C.E.F. Moved by Mr. Rawls, seconded by Dr. Cohen to approve Items 9.A.B.C.D.E.F.

Motion passed 7-1(Campbell), 0 abstentions, 1 absent

9.A. Approve the district's extension of its current contract with Boyer & Ritter, LLC. as its local auditors for fiscal years ending June 30, 2022, through June 30, 2025 (4 yrs.).

Note: The Administration is recommending a 4-year extension with the district's local auditors Boyer & Ritter, LLC. During the time that Boyer & Ritter has served in this

capacity the district's Business Office has eliminated several annual findings and most recently received an audit report for the year June 30, 2021, noting no audit findings.

9.B. Approve the Student Transportation Services Agreement between Susquehanna Township School District and Rohrer Bus Service effective 7/1/2022 through 6/30/2025 (3 yrs.) with an option for a 1-year extension through 6/30/2026 as outlined in the attached contract.

Note: STSD recently issued a Request for Proposal (RFP) for Student Transportation Services. The RFP was issued to 10 bussing companies. It is noted that the district only received one submittal regarding this RFP which was received from its incumbent student transportation services provider, Rohrer Bus Service.

9.C. 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 2022-2023 school year.

- **9.D.** Approve the renewal of the contract with Effective School Solutions for the 2022-2023 school year to provide mental health services for students who have returned to the district from out of district placement as well as maintain at-risk students in district.
- **9.E.** Approve the district's extension of its current digital copier / printer services agreement with Marco to the newly negotiated terms as outlined in the attached proposal noting a recommendation to execute a 5-Year (60 month) agreement, effective July 1, 2022, through June 30, 2027.

Note: The district's previous agreement was with Phillips Copier. However, it is noted that Phillips was acquired by Marco several years ago. After extensive negotiations Marco presented Susquehanna Township School District with the above outlined and attached proposal which will provide the district with new copiers/printers districtwide for each of its high volume devices at a cost of \$20,847.96 less per year. This will save the district a total of \$104,239.80 over the 5-year term. Additionally, the district has negotiated a \$10,000 credit that can be applied to its cost at any time over the 5-year term.

9.F. Approve the MOU between Camp Curtin YMCA and Susquehanna Township School District for April 2022 through June 2022.

The Camp Curtin YMCA will provide a Life Skills program for identified students from Susquehanna Township School District. The program will operate on a rolling admission basis throughout the 2022-2023 academic years. Sessions will take place 3

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times per week at Camp Curtin YMCA, on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays. Lesson plans and instruction will center on domains identified by the Susquehanna Township School District.

DISCUSSION

9.G. Discuss the addendum to the Agreement with Finalsite to provide Weglot Exclusive Translation service for the district website.

DISCUSSION

9.H. Discuss the MOU with the United Way of the Capital Region (UWCR). UWCR will provide an education liaison to assist pre-school parents in accessing social services and pre-school programming. The UWCR will provide this service, free of charge to the district, in its efforts to improve student outcomes during and beyond kindergarten.

DISCUSSION

9.1. Discuss the Laurel Life agreement for 2 elementary transition classrooms for the 2022-23 school year. Laurel Life provides trauma-informed services for behavioral and mental health challenges in the school setting. The contract is for 2 elementary programs, one K-2 and one 3-5.

X. POLICY

None

XI. OTHER

MOTION TO POSTPONE

11.A. Moved by Ms. Newill, seconded by Mr. Johnson, to postpone Item 11.A. until the May 9, 2022, meeting.

Motion passed 8-0, 0 abstentions, 1 absent

11.A. Approve the STSD Board Code of Conduct.

Note: The board intends to establish and agree upon a "code of conduct" to foster civil and productive deliberations.

MOTION TO APPROVE

11.B. Moved by Mr. Heller, seconded by Dr. Cohen to approve item 11.B. Motion passed 7-0, 1 abstention (McCullough), 1 absent

11.B. Approve the Offer for Repository bid presented to the Dauphin County Office of Tax Claim by Mr. Alton J. Whittle in the amount of \$1,000.00 as presented by Dauphin County in the attached Offer for Repository Minimum Offer document. This offer may either be approved or disapproved by the Susquehanna Township School District Board of School Directors.

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Note: Property remaining unsold at a judicial sale is placed in a repository for unsold properties. A list of these properties is maintained by the Dauphin County Tax Claim Bureau online and in the office. In order to purchase a property from the repository list a minimum bid of \$1,000 plus fees must be presented to the Tax Claim Bureau. A bid must be presented in writing with payment to the Bureau (see Repository Guidelines/Procedures for further instruction). Bids are presented by the Tax Claim Bureau to the taxing bodies where the property is located for approval. The bid is first presented to the Dauphin County Commissioners for approval; if approved the bid is then presented to the School District and Municipality for review.

MOTION TO APPROVE

- **11.C.** Moved by Dr. Cohen, seconded by Mr. Heller to approve item 11.C. Motion passed 8-0, 0 abstentions, 1 absent
- **11.C**. Affirm Scott Campbell as the representative for the Capital Area Intermediate Unit (CAIU) for a three (3) year term, July 1, 2022, through June 30, 2025.

MOTION TO APPROVE

- **11.D.** Moved by Miss McCullough, seconded by Mr. Johnson to approve Item 11.D. Motion passed 7-1(Rawls), 0 abstentions, 1 absent
- **11.D**. The Board panel for student #2021-22/028 recommends the Adjudication and Disposition as discussed in executive session be adopted by the full Board of Directors of the Susquehanna Township School District.

MOTION TO APPROVE

- **11.E.** Moved by Ms. Newill, seconded by Dr. Cohen to approve Item 11.E. Motion passed 7-1(Rawls), 0 abstentions, 1 absent
- **11.E.** The Board panel for student #2021-22/029 recommends the Adjudication and Disposition as discussed in executive session be adopted by the full Board of Directors of the Susquehanna Township School District.

MOTION TO APPROVE

- **11.F.** Moved by Mr. Heller, seconded by Dr. Cohen to approve Item 11.F. Motion passed 7-1(Rawls), 0 abstentions, 1 absent
- **11.F.** The Board panel for student #2021-22/030 recommends the Adjudication and Disposition as discussed in executive session be adopted by the full Board of Directors of the Susquehanna Township School District.

XII. NEW BUSINESS

SPEAKER

Mr. Dietrich referenced altering the format of board meetings as suggested by Mr. Rawls earlier in the meeting.

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Juliann Newell

Board Secretary

Mr. Dietrich would like a discussion item on the next agenda regarding the mascot. The board would like to also discuss communication to other districts that we are no longer using the Indian name.

Miss McCullough would like more information from the parent who spoke during public comment and suggested that the bullying policy be reviewed.

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Moved by Mr. Rawls, seconded by Mr. Johnson, to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed: 9-0, 0 abstentions, 0 absent

Meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

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