

CALL TO ORDER	At 7:02 p.m., the March 6, 2023, meeting of the Susquehanna Township Board of School Directors was called to order by President John F. Dietrich.
SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT	Mr. Jesse Rawls, Sr., Mr. Terry Heller, Dr. Michael Cohen, Keita Kalonji Johnson, Esq., Rebecca McCullough, Esq., Mr. John F. Dietrich
SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS	Mr. Scott Campbell
ABSENT	Mr. Majid Ali, Ms. Julieann Newill
DISTRICT OFFICE PRESENT	Mr. Oslwen Anderson, Jr., Mr. Mark Holman, Dr. Tamara Willis, Dr. Kristi Prime, Mrs. Carrie Martin, Ms. Ann-Marie Rathmell, Mr. Justin Green, Mr. Jonathan Bishop
SOLICITOR	Appel, Yost & Zee LLP
EXECUTIVE SESSION	The President announced that executive session was held immediately prior to the meeting for the purpose of real estate, personnel, and student matters.
INTRODUCTIONS/ GUEST PRESENTATIONS	Don Lyter and Denise Hewitt, managers from our local GIANT, presented the Director of Food Services, Jackie McMichael, a check for \$10,686.38 to support feeding students in the Susquehanna Township School District. The check was for monies raised by GIANT'S Feeding School Kids Round Up Program.
REPORTS/ ANNOUNCEMENTS	<p>PSBA: Mr. Johnson reported that Governor Shapiro will deliver his first budget address tomorrow, March 7, 2023.</p> <p>Superintendent Report: Dr. Tamara Willis shared that last week was Maintenance and Grounds Worker Appreciation Day. She thanked them for going above and beyond while their department was not fully staffed. This week is National School Social Work Week. She thanked our school social worker and the three (3) Communities in Schools partners who work in our buildings. Dr. Willis gave a shout out to the swim team who placed 6th at the district meet. Dr. Willis thanked Ms. Woodson, a teacher at Thomas Holtzman, who organized the Blacks in Wax event at Thomas Holtzman. Emily Fleming, a Thomas Holtzman Elementary student, chose Sherly Lee Ralph as the subject of her project. The Emmy award actress gave a shout out to Emily on social media and Emily's story was featured in an article in the Philadelphia Inquirer. Dr. Willis thanked the staff and administration at Thomas Holtzman for this great event. Members of the high school football team visited Sara Lindemuth/Anna Carter last week to read to students in honor of Read Across America. Dr. Willis thanked Coach Headen for working with Mr. Martin to organize</p>

the event. On March 6, 2023, work began on the new concession stand project. A sign will be placed at the corner of Elmerton and Progress Avenue and details of the progress will be featured on the district's website.

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA ITEMS FOR MARCH 6, 2023

MOTION TO APPROVE

2.A. Moved by Mr. Rawls, seconded by Mr. Johnson, to approve the meeting agenda for March 6, 2023.

Motion passed 7-0, 0 abstentions, 2 absent

2.B. Board Member Comments

Mr. Rawls thanked Ms. Carol Miller for the letter she wrote to the board in appreciation of the recent increase in the hourly pay for paraprofessionals.

Mr. Heller congratulated the swim team who sent 16 swimmers to districts, some of whom this is their 1st year swimming competitively.

III. HEARING OF THE PUBLIC

SPEAKER

H. Holmes address the board regarding special education and customized learning.

IV. PRESENTATIONS AND DISCUSSIONS

PRESENTATION

4.A. Dr. Kristi Prime, Director of Curriculum and Instruction, presented on the Canvas Learning Management System (LMS). (attached to BoardDocs)

4.B. Dr. Tamara Willis, Superintendent, presented the Teaching and Learning Focused Plan. (attached to BoardDocs)

V. MINUTES

MOTION TO APPROVE

5.A. Moved by Mr. Rawls, seconded by Mr. Heller, to approve Item 5.A. Motion passed 7-0, 0 abstentions, 2 absent (Mr. Ali, Ms. Newill)

5.A. Approve the Minutes of the February 21, 2023, Board Meeting.

VI. PROGRAM

None

VII. PERSONNEL

MOTION TO APPROVE

7.A.B.C.D.E. Moved by Mr. Rawls, seconded by Mr. Heller, to approve Items 7.A.B.C.D.E.
Motion passed 7-0, 0 abstentions, 2 absent (Mr. Ali, Ms. Newill)

7.A.1. Approve the resignation of Esther Dippery as Assistant Food service Manager at the Susquehanna Township Middle School, effective February 28, 2023.

7.A.2. Approve the resignation of Betty Kern as Part-Time Food Service Worker at the Sara Lindemuth/Anna Carter Primary School, effective February 21, 2023.

7.A.3. Approve the resignation of Christopher Haun as Business Education Teacher at the Susquehanna Township High School, effective March 14, 2023.

7.A.4. Approve the resignation of Jacqueline Batcha as Science Teacher at the Susquehanna Township Middle School, effective March 14, 2023.

7.B. Approve the termination of employment of Victor Rodriguez-Martinez for not meeting the probationary period as Night Custodian at the Sara Lindemuth/Anna Carter Primary School, effective March 1, 2023.

7.C. Approve Jordan Jarvis as Special Education Teacher at the Susquehanna Township Middle School at a salary of \$52,861.00, effective date to be determined. Ms. Jarvis will be replacing Vincent Beaston.

7.D.1. Approve Arlenee Hernandez as Part-Time Food Service Worker at the Sara Lindemuth/Anna Carter Primary School at a rate of \$15.00 per hour, effective February 27, 2023. Ms. Hernandez will be replacing Betty Kern.

7.D.2. Approve Mecca Smith as Assistant III/PCA at the Susquehanna Township High School at a rate of \$15.16 per hour, effective February 16, 2023. Ms. Smith will be replacing Karla Najera.

7.D.3. Approve John Hamelin as Groundskeeper at the Susquehanna Township School District at a rate of \$18.79 per hour, effective March 1, 2023. Mr. Hamelin will be replacing Marvin Shiner.

7.D.4. Approve Marquisa Majors as Night Custodian at the Susquehanna Township High School at a rate of \$17.70 per hour, effective March 1, 2023. Ms. Majors will be replacing Jillian Boring.

7.E.1. Approve Madyson Baer as Choreographer for the 2022-2023 Susquehanna Township High School Musical at a stipend of \$1,000.00.

7.E.2. Approve Michael Torcaso as Assistant JV Softball Coach at the Susquehanna Township High School at a stipend of \$2,600.00 for the 2022-2023 school year.

VIII. FINANCES

MOTION TO APPROVE

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

Motion passed 7-0, 0 abstentions, 2 absent (Mr. Ali, Ms. Newill)

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 \$1,010.20.

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 \$40,998.35.

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 \$1,620,219.28.

8.D. Approve the payment of Food Service bills from the Food Service Checking, as listed on the Computer Check Summary, totaling \$96,484.20.

8.E. Approve the following Personal Tax Refund:

Taxpayer Name: Marissa Hershey

Bill#: 014130

Year: 2022

Refund Amount: \$294.00

Reason: Marissa Hershey was on active military duty in 2022; paid the taxes in error.

IX. CONTRACTS

MOTION TO APPROVE

9.A.B.C. Moved by Mr. Rawls, seconded by Mr. Johnson to approve Items 9.A.B. Motion passed 7-0, 0 abstentions, 2 absent (Mr. Ali, Ms. Newill)

9.A. Approve homebound instruction for student # 2022-23/021 based on information from doctor.

9.B. Approve the High School Roof Restoration project base bid as outlined in the attached Weatherproofing Technologies, Inc. agreement in the amount of \$481,987.52. Additionally, approve the related add alternate bid #1 (Capping of existing chimney/repointing of masonry) in the amount of \$30,132.10 and alternate bid #2 (Replacement of skylight domes) in the amount of \$40,338.70.

9.C. Approve the High School Football Field Concession Stand Track Perimeter Fence Job Order Contracting (JOC) attached supplemental contract #-2021-JOCC-31 as outlined and in the amount of \$51,749.99 and discussed at a LT Facilities Planning Committee Meeting. The contract is presented as a supplemental to the KPN ezIQC program contract for which Lobar Associates Master Builders serves as the Central PA awardee.

DISCUSSION

9.D. Discuss the Local Education Agency Letter of Agreement (LEA), Pennsylvania's Education for Children and Youth Experiencing Homelessness (ECYEH) Program Roles and Responsibilities between Susquehanna Township School District (STSD) and Region 2 - Berks County Intermediate Unit. This Agreement ensures compliance with the McKinney-Vento Act.

DISCUSSION

9.E. Discuss the Letter of Agreement with The Meadows Psychiatric Center for the 2023-2024 and 2024-2025 school years. This is a service used on an as needed basis.

DISCUSSION

9.F. Discuss agreements with Laurel Life to provide services with two elementary classrooms and one middle school classroom for the 2023-2024 and 2024-2025 school years.

DISCUSSION

9.G. Discuss payments to the following entities for the transitioning of existing Susquehanna Township School District phone services from its current provider to a new provider. Please note that Verizon has confirmed with STSD Administration that their email is how they provide quotations to state and local governments; therefore, no additional agreement is required.

- Vendor: Verizon – Monthly Payment Amount = \$289.00
- Vendor: PRISMWORKS Technology – One-Time-Payment = \$3,960.00

DISCUSSION

9.H. Discuss the Addendum to the Agreement with Learner Centered Leadership (LCL) for addition professional development services in the amount of \$6,800 for the 2022-2023 school year.

LCL will provide professional development for staff and administrators on the use of research-based best practices to improve classroom instruction and student engagement. This agreement supports the district's focus on increasing student achievement through direct and targeted instruction.

DISCUSSION

9.I. Discuss the Agreement with Instructure to provide the Canvas Learning Management Platform for the 2023-2024 school year.

Canvas is a Learning Management System (LMS) which includes collaboration with our curriculum, assessments, and data. It has advanced capabilities compared to our current LMS with enhanced data capabilities. This LMS can deliver virtual instruction should that be something we look into down the line. Canvas is a much broader used LMS and much more user-friendly than our current one. Canvas minimizes clicks, makes processes straightforward, and can make the least tech-savvy user feel comfortable, all while delivering a consistent, modern look and feel crafted especially for usability. By creating a familiar and intuitive design that is tried and tested, our interface stays out of the way of teaching and learning, allowing teachers to educate without the hassle of using an outdated educational platform.

X. POLICY

None

XI. OTHER

MOTION TO APPROVE

11.A. Moved by Mr. Heller, seconded by Dr. Cohen, to approve Item 11.A. Motion passed 7-0, 0 abstentions, 2 absent (Mr. Ali, Ms. Newill)

11.A. The Board panel for student #2022-23/020 recommends the Adjudication and Disposition, as discussed in executive session, be adopted by the full Board of Directors of the Susquehanna Township School District.

DISCUSSION

11.B. Discuss proposed travel to Belize in August 2024 for TBD number of students to be chaperoned by TBD number of STSD teachers and parents. All parents and chaperones will receive their appropriate background checks and clearances. The cost to the district is \$0.

XII. NEW BUSINESS

None

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 8:26 p.m.


Julieann Newill
Board Secretary