SUSQUEHANNA TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT

Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17110

November 20, 2023 Monday Evening

CALL TO ORDER At 7:07 p.m., the November 20, 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., Keita Kalonji Johnson, Esq., Dr. Michael Cohen,

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

SCHOOL BOARD
MEMBERS PRESENT
VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS

Mr. Majid Ali, Mr. Scott Campbell

ABSENT Ms. Julieann Newill

DISTRICT OFFICE PRESENT

Mr. Oslwen Anderson, Jr., Mr. Mark Holman, 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 personnel, student matters and real estate.

MOTION TO APPROVE NEW BOARD MEMBER

1.D. Moved by Mr. Rawls, seconded by Mr. Johnson to approve item 1.D.

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

1.D.Appoint Tameka M. Hatcher to fill the vacant position for the term expiring

December 2023.

Ms. Tameka Hatcher joined the meeting at 7:09 p.m.

INTRODUCTIONS/
GUEST PRESENTATIONS

None

REPORTS/
ANNOUNCEMENTS

Legislative Updates/PSBA: Mr. Johnson shared that HB301 has passed in the Senate. HB301 will help mitigate the teacher shortage by expanding the pipeline and alternative pathways to bring teaches to the Commonwealth. The bill includes stipends for student teacher and mentors. The bill will go to the House next and is expected to pass with some amendments. There was also a bill introduced in the Senate which would provide excused mental health days for K-12 students.

Student Board Representatives: Bessie Idan and Nicholas Mabry presented a report highlighting recent activities and events from district buildings. (attached to

BoardDocs)

Superintendent Report: Dr. Willis shared that the Rotary Club of Susquehanna Township's clothing drive has been rescheduled to Saturday, December 9th. All donations will support district families. Dr. Willis welcomed new board member Tameka Hatcher and thanked the outgoing board members for their service. She presented Mr. Dietrich with the PSBA Honor Roll Service Award, recognizing his 12 years of service on the school board. Additionally, Dr. Willis shared that 2 of our teachers, Karla Fabregas from Sara Lindemuth / Anna Carter Primary School and Marisa Meholic from the middle school, were recognized as 2023 Teachers of the Year by Shippensburg University.

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA ITEMS FOR NOVEMBER 20, 2023

MOTION TO APPROVE

2.A. Moved by Mr. Rawls, seconded by Mr. Johnson to approve the meeting agenda for November 20, 2023.

Motion passed 8-0, 0 abstentions, 1 absent (Newill)

- 2.B. Board Member Comments
- Mr. Rawls thanked outgoing board members for their service.

Mr. Johnson reminded parents to check their email and possibly their spam folder for information on parent teacher conferences.

Mr. Dietrich reminded board members that as the board reorganizes in December that the board committees will need to be reorganized.

III. HEARING OF THE PUBLIC

None

IV. PRESENTATIONS AND DISCUSSIONS

None

V. MINUTES

MOTION TO APPROVE

- **5.A.B.** Moved by Mr. Rawls, seconded by Mr. Johnson, to approve Item 5.A.B. Motion passed 8-0, 0 abstentions, 1 absent (Newill)
- **5.A.** Approve the Minutes of the November 6, 2023, Board Meeting.
- 5.B. Approve the Minutes of the November 13, 2023, Board Meeting.

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VI. PROGRAM

None

VII. PERSONNEL

MOTION TO APPROVE

7.A.B.C.D.E. Moved by Mr. Rawls, seconded by Dr. Cohen to approve Items 7.A.B.C.D.E.

Motion passed 8-0, 0 abstentions, 1 absent (Newill)

- **7.A.1.** Approve the resignation of Sabrina Morrissette as Elementary School Teacher at the Thomas W. Holtzman, Jr. Elementary School, effective December 31, 2023.
- **7.A.2.** Approve the resignation of Kelsey Mearkle as Math Teacher at the Susquehanna Township Middle School, effective November 8, 2023.
- **7.A.3.** Approve the resignation of Sharai Thornton as Assistant III Paraprofessional at the Susquehanna Township Midde School, effective November 24, 2023.
- **7.A.4.** Approve the resignation of Ajahnae Sanks as Attendance Clerk at the Sara Lindemuth/Anna Carter Primary School, effective November 7, 2023.
- **7.A.5.** Approve the resignation of Kathryn Linn as Elementary School Teacher at the Thomas W. Holtzman, Jr. Elementary School, effective November 22, 2023.
- **7.A.6.** Approve the resignation of Gretchen Helsel as Elementary School Teacher at the Thomas W. Holtzman, Jr. Elementary School, effective November 17, 2023.
- **7.B.1.** Approve the retirement of Elizabeth Pagan as Part-Time Food Service Worker at the Thomas W. Holtzman, Jr. Elementary School, effective December 31, 2023. Ms. Pagan has been with the district since 2014.
- **7.C.1.** Approve Sierra Smith as Elementary School Teacher at the Thomas W. Holtzman, Jr. Elementary School at a salary of \$52,766.00, effective date to be determined. Ms. Smith will be replacing Troy Krall.
- **7.C.2.** Approve Victoria Rutherford as Special Education Teacher at the Thomas W. Holtzman, Jr. Elementary School at a salary of \$52,766.00, effective date to be determined. Ms. Rutherford will be filling a new position.
- **7.D.1.** Approve Omar Soltero as Assistant III Paraprofessional at the Sara Lindemuth/Anna Carter Primary School at a rate of \$18.89 per hour, effective November 2, 2023. Mr. Soltero will be filling a new position.

- **7.D.2.** Approve Eammon Walsh as Part-Time Food Service Floater at the Susquehanna Township School District at a rate of \$15.00 per hour, effective November 13, 2023. Mr. Walsh will be replacing Alma Riley.
- **7.D.3.** Approve Tayania Brown Assistant III Paraprofessional at the Susquehanna Township Middle School at a rate of \$18.89 per hour, effective November 29, 2023. Ms. Brown will be replacing Karla Najera.
- **7.E.1**. Approve Doug Shenk as AAP Facilitator at the Susquehanna Township High School at a rate of \$31.00 per hour for the 2023-2024 school year.
- **7.E.2.** Approve Brayden Cockley as AAP Facilitator at the Susquehanna Township High School at a rate of \$31.00 per hour for the 2023-2024 school year.
- **7.E.3.** Approve Anthony McCraw as Volunteer Boys Basketball Coach at the Susquehanna Township Middle School for the 2023-2024 school year.
- **7.E.4.** Approve Tayania Brown Assistant III Paraprofessional at the Susquehanna Township Middle School at a rate of \$18.89 per hour, effective November 29, 2023. Ms. Brown will be replacing Karla Najera.
- **7.E.5.** Rescind JoEllen Showers as K-2 English Language Arts Academic Team Lead for the 2023-2024 school year.
- **7.E.6.** Approve Hannah Sprenkle as K-2 English Language Arts Academic Team Lead at a stipend of \$1,750.00 for the 2023-2024 school year.
- **7.E.7.** Approve the payment of 4.5 personal days at \$150.00 a day for a total of \$675.00 for Troy Krall.
- **7.E.8.** Approve the payment of 2 personal days at \$150.00 a day for a total of \$300.00 for Michael Jones.
- **7.E.9.** Approve Korryn Bogdan as Girls Open Gym Advisor at the Susquehanna Township Middle School at a rate of \$21.00 per hour, not to exceed 20 hours for the 2023-2024 school year.
- **7.E.10.** Approve Duane Jones as E Sports Club Advisor at the Susquehanna Township High School at a rate of \$31.00 per hour, not to exceed 20 hours for the 2023-2024 school year.
- **7.E.11.** Approve Charlie Griffin as Volunteer Wrestling Coach at the Susquehanna Township High School for the 2023-2024 school year.

- **7.E.12.** Approve Jecon Alphonso as Head Girls Basketball Coach at the Susquehanna Township Middle School at a stipend of \$3,000.00 for the 2023-2024 school year.
- **7.E.13.** Approve Brittany Pendelton as Mentor for Jenna McGinnis at a stipend of \$500.00 for the 2023-2024 school year.
- **7.E.14.** Approve Josamarie Stalcar as Music Director for the 2023-2024 Susquehanna township Middle School Musical at a stipend of \$1,000.00.

VIII. FINANCES

MOTION TO APPROVE

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

Motion passed 8-0, 0 abstentions, 1 absent (Newill)

- **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 \$269.00.
- **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 \$52,453.93.
- **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 \$2,345,430.11.
- **8.D.** Approve the payment of Food Service bills from the Food Service Checking, as listed on the Computer Check Summary, totaling \$50,674.82.
- 8.E. Approve the Food Service Cash Balance of \$1,931,443.59.
- 8.F. Approve the General Fund Cash Balance of \$27,561,251.00.
- **8.G.** Approve the following Personal Tax Refunds:

1. Taxpayer Name: Abigail Goodhart

Bill #: 010924 Year: 2023

Refund Amount: \$270.00

Reason: Abigail Goodhart made less than \$5,000.00; paid the taxes in error.

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2. Taxpayer Name: Brandon Chemeaux

Year: 2016 - \$308.00 Year: 2017 - \$308.00 Year: 2018 - \$265.62 Year: 2021 - \$308.00

Total amount of refund \$1,189.62

Reason: Brandon Chemeaux's wages were erroneously garnished due to a relative's delinquent tax bill being mistakenly accounted for as his responsibility. It is further noted that the relative in question is physically disabled and exempt from paying this tax.

3. Taxpayer Name: Brenda Santoro

Bill #: 000189 Year: 2022

Refund Amount: \$283.50

Reason: Brenda Santaro is a senior citizen; paid the taxes in error.

4. Taxpayer Name: Douglas Santoro

Bill #: 000190 Year: 2022

Refund Amount: \$283.50

Reason: Douglas Santaro is a senior citizen; paid the taxes in error.

5. Taxpayer Name: Juan C Garcia

Bill #: 013980 Year: 2021

Refund Amount: \$308.00

Reason: Juan C Garcia is not a Susquehanna Township resident; paid the taxes in

error.

6. Taxpayer Name: William Rose

Bill#: 013516 Year: 2022

Refund Amount: \$280.00

Reason: William Rose is retired; paid the taxes in error.

8.H. Approve the transfer of \$2,500,000 from the district's General Fund to its Capital Projects Fund. The transfer of funds will be recognized in the district's June 30, 2023, Boyer & Ritter, LLC issued Susquehanna Township School District Independent Audit Report.

IX. CONTRACTS

MOTION TO APPROVE

- **9.A.** Moved by Mr. Rawls, seconded by Mr. Johnson to approve Item 9.A. Motion passed 8-0, 0 abstentions, 1 absent (Newill)
- **9.A.** Approve the attached EI Associates architectural and engineering professional services agreement not to exceed the values represented in the Agreement for the identified scope of work required to both improve the student experience when accessing food offerings within the food court and continue with modernizing this service area. This service is proposed to be financed via the district's Capital Projects Fund.

MOTION TO APPROVE

- **9.B.** Moved by Mr. Rawls, seconded by Dr. Cohen to approve Item 9.B. Motion passed 7-1 (Campbell), 0 abstentions, 1 absent (Newill)
- **9.B.** Approve the contract with BlueCloud Staffing to provide nursing services to an individual learner for the 2023-2024 school year.

MOTION TO APPROVE

- **9.C.** Moved by Mr. Rawls, seconded by Dr. Cohen to approve Item 9.C. Motion passed 8-0, 0 abstentions, 1 absent (Newill)
- **9.C.** Approve the Roscoe Warner Concession Stand Project Job Order Contracting (JOC) supplemental contract #-2021-JOCC-31 job order #120561.00.01 in the amount of \$907.51. This contract is presented as a supplemental to the KPN ezIQC program contract for which Lobar Associates Master Builders serves as the Central PA awardee. This additional work was required by the Susquehanna Township Fire Marshall regarding the district's recently erected playground security fencing. The work provided related to the enlargement of the gate opening within the fence as well as the installation of an exit device.

MOTION TO APPROVE

- **9.D.** Moved by Mr. Rawls, seconded by Dr. Cohen to approve Item 9.D. Motion passed 8-0, 0 abstentions, 1 absent (Newill)
- **9.D.** Approve the Roscoe Warner Concession Stand Project Job Order Contracting (JOC) supplemental contract #-2021-JOCC-31 job order # 109030.00.11 (credit) in the amount of (\$2,835.71). 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. This supplemental represents a labor credit associated with changes in the scope of work regarding the concession stand building columns. Essentially, the columns structural materials and sizes were modified resulting in less labor to construct thus generating a financial credit.

MOTION TO APPROVE

9.E. Moved by Mr. Rawls, seconded by Dr. Cohen to approve Item 9.E.

Motion passed 8-0, 0 abstentions, 1 absent (Newill)

9.E. Approve the Middle School Wheelchair Replacement Job Order Contracting (JOC) contract #-2021-JOCC-31 job order # 122823.00 in the amount of (\$40,203.25). The contract is presented as a KPN ezIQC program contract for which Lobar Associates Master Builders serves as the Central PA awardee. This contract represents all cost associated with the replacement of a mechanical wheelchair lift at the district's middle school. The wheelchair lift is required to provide special needs students with the necessary access to the library and ancillary areas within the MS building. It is noted that this was an unforeseen expenditure that will require a reduction in spending within other areas of the general fund Maintenance & Operations budget.

MOTION TO APPROVE

- **9.F.** Moved by Mr. Rawls, seconded by Dr. Cohen to approve Item 9.F. Motion passed 7-1 (Dietrich), 0 abstentions, 1 absent (Newill)
- **9.F.** Approve the High School Football Field Scoreboard Lighting Job Order Contracting (JOC) contract #-2021-JOCC-32 job order # 109030.03.02 in the amount of (\$8,993.20). The contract is presented as a KPN ezIQC program contract for which Lobar Associates Master Builders serves as the Central PA awardee. This contract represents all cost associated with the installation of uplighting to be installed in front of the newly erected scoreboard to illuminate the scoreboard during night games so that it is visible to spectators.

DISCUSSION

9.G. Discuss the 2- year Agreement with Caring Foundation to provide school-based peer support groups for grieving children and adolescents.

DISCUSSION

9.H. Discuss the Agreement with Merakey Pennsylvania to provide education to students, as needed, for the 2023-2024 school year.

DISCUSSION

9.1. Discuss the Agreement with LearnWell Education to provide services to learners that are hospitalized during the 2023-2024 school year.

DISCUSSION

9.J. Discuss the Agreement with Acorns to Oaks Counseling, LLC, to provide School Psychologist services as needed for the 2023-2024 school year.

X. POLICY

POLICY FIRST READ

10.A. First read of revised Policy 815: Acceptable Use of Internet, Computers and Network Resources.

POLICY FIRST READ

10.B. First read of Policy 815.1: District Website and Web Pages.

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POLICY FIRST READ 10.C. First read of Policy 830: Breach of Computerized Personal Information

POLICY FIRST READ 10.D. First read of revised Policy 317: Conduct/Disciplinary Procedures.

XI. OTHER

MOTION TO POSTPONE 11.A. Moved by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Mr. Rawls, to postpone Item 11.A. until

the December 18, 2023, board meeting.

Motion passed 8-0, 0 abstentions, 1 absent (Newill)

11.A. Approve the proposed 2024 School Board Meeting dates as attached.

MOTION TO APPROVE 11.B. Moved by Mr. Rawls, seconded by Miss McCullough to approve Item 11.B.

Motion passed 6-1 (Campbell), 1 abstention (Hatcher), 1 absent (Newill)

The Board had discussion on the Sunshine Act and members attending meetings

virtually.

11.B. The Board panel for student #2023-24/015 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. Discuss the proposed 2024 School Board Meeting dates as attached. (attached to

BoardDocs)

XII. NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Rawls welcomed Tameka Hatcher to the board and thanked Mr. Dietrich for his

long service to the board.

Ms. Hatcher thanked the outgoing board members and expressed her enthusiasm to work with the current and new members of the board. She is happy to serve the

district.

Mr. Rawls shared his thoughts on Customized Learning and how beneficial he has seen it is for students. He is amazed at the student progress he has personally seen. He gave a shout out to Mr. Martin and his staff at Sara Lindemuth / Anna Carter

Primary School. He also thanked Dr. Willis and her team for putting the district on

the right track for students to be successful.

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XIII. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Moved by Mr. Rawls, seconded by Ms. Hatcher, to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed: 8-0, 0 abstentions, 1 absent (Newill)

Meeting adjourned at 8:14 p.m.

Rebecca McCullough Board Secretary