SUSQUEHANNA TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT

Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17110

CALL TO ORDER

At 7:00 p.m., the February 20, 2024, meeting of the Susquehanna Township Board of

School Directors was called to order by President Jesse Rawls, Sr.

SCHOOL BOARD
MEMBERS PRESENT

Ms. Tameka Hatcher, Keita Kalonji Johnson, Esq., Mrs. Jackie Hill

Mr. Steven H. Johnson, Ms. Elise I. LeMelle, Miss. Rebecca McCullough, Esq.,

Mr. Jesse Rawls, Sr.

SCHOOL BOARD
MEMBERS PRESENT
VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS

Mr. Majid Ali, Mr. Scott Campbell

DISTRICT OFFICE PRESENT

Mr. Oslwen Anderson, Jr., Mr. Mark Holman, Dr. Tamara Willis, Mrs. Cara Klinger

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 land development matters.

INTRODUCTIONS/
GUEST PRESENTATIONS

None

REPORTS/
ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

Dauphin County Technical School (DCTS): Mr. Steven Johnson attended the JOC meeting on February 14, 2024. The JOC celebrated student achievement and enjoyed a meal made by the Culinary Arts students. Mr. Johnson reported that the Culinary Arts students will be participating in a national competition. Mr. Johnson shared that DCTS students helped in the construction of the new Catherine Hershey School.

Superintendent Report: Dr. Tamara Willis reported that Lex Cyrus, STHS student, broke the PA Track and Field Coach's Association (PTFCA) Indoor Track Carnival record at Lehigh University. Girl's Basketball will be hosting the quarter finals state basketball game on Friday, February 23. On February 24th Karen Love, former teacher at Thomas Holtzman Elementary, will be hosting the 26th annual African American Read In at Steelton Highspire Elementary. All students who attend will receive a free book. Ms. Love will also be coming to Thomas Holtzman in March for Women's History Month. Additionally, Mr. Andrae Martin, Principal at Sara Lindemuth/Anna Carter Primary School, is coordinating a Men's Read-In Day during Read Across

America Week on March 7, 2024. Dr. Willis also recognized Mr. David Archer, Susquehanna Township High School Principal, for be recognized by PennLive Trailblazers and Trendsetters. Dr. Willis also gave a report on the 2024-2025 District Calendar survey. Respondents were happy that the district has opted for full day professional development days in lieu of the previous half days and has placed the professional days on a Monday or Friday instead of midweek. Those who responded had concerns over the early start date of school, the lack of traditional snow days and the scheduled half day prior to the Winter Break. Additionally, concern was raised over the two scheduled days off the week of February 16, 2025. An amendment was made to address this concern and one of the days was moved to the following week. Dr. Willis also reminded everyone that the district will recognize and honor all religious holidays as an excused absence for students and will encourage staff not to schedule assessments on those days. Students must turn in a written note to have the day excused.

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA ITEMS FOR FEBRUARY 20, 2024

MOTION TO APPROVE

2.A. Moved by Ms. Hatcher, seconded by Miss LeMelle to approve the meeting agenda for February 20, 2024. Motion passed 9-0, 0 abstentions, 0 absent

2.B. Board Member Comments

Mr. S. Johnson encouraged all board members to stop by the Dauphin County Technical School.

Mr. K. Johnson gave a shout out to administration and staff for providing an opportunity for students to attend the Historically Black College and University (HBCU) college fair. Mrs. Hill seconded this and gave a shout out to Mr. Archer as well.

Ms. Hatcher reminded everyone that February is Black History Month. Local artist Leon Laing has an exhibit at the MLK City Government Center in Harrisburg.

Mr. Rawls reported that he was the first African American to receive a full scholarship to Michigan. He will also be inducted into Harrisburg High School Hall of Fame in the spring.

III. HEARING OF THE PUBLIC

None

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IV. PRESENTATIONS AND DISCUSSIONS

None

V. MINUTES

MOTION TO APPROVE

5.A. Moved by Ms. Hatcher, seconded by Mr. S. Johnson, to approve Item 5.A. Motion passed 9-0, 0 abstentions, 0 absent

5.A. Approve the Minutes of the February 5, 2024, Board meeting.

VI. PROGRAM

None

VII. PERSONNEL

MOTION TO APPROVE

7.A.B.C.D. Moved by Mr. K. Johnson, seconded by Mr. S. Johnson to approve Items 7 A B C D

Motion passed 9-0, 0 abstentions, 0 absent

- **7.A.1.** Approve the resignation of Cynthia McCarthur as Guidance Secretary at the Susquehanna Township High School, effective April 1, 2024.
- **7.A.2.** Approve the resignation of Jacqueline Hoffman as Assistant III at the Susquehanna Township Middle School, effective February 18, 2024.
- **7.A.3.** Approve the resignation of Felicia Souley as Part-Time Food Service Floater at the Susquehanna Township School District, effective February 14, 2024.
- **7.B.1.** Amend Brenna Franz as LTS Elementary School Teacher at the Sara Lindemuth/Anna Carter Primary School from a date to be determined to effective February 13, 2024.
- **7.B.2**. Approve Jacqueline Hoffman as Special Education Teacher at the Susquehanna Township Middle School at a salary of \$52,766.00, pro-rated, effective February 19, 2024. Ms. Hoffman will be filling a new position.
- **7.C.1.** Approve Seti Tamang as Part-Time Food Service Worker at the Sara Lindemuth/Anna Carter Primary School at a rate of \$15.00 per hour, effective February 12, 2024. Ms. Tamang will be replacing Alejandra Castillo.

- **7.D.1.** Approve Bobbie Mellott as Mentor for Jenna Lawrence at the Sara Lindemuth/Anna Carter Primary School at a stipend of \$250.00 pro-rated, effective January 8, 2024.
- **7.D.2.** Approve Jason Berry as Mentor for Cole Cristian at the Thomas W. Holtzman, Jr. Elementary School at a stipend of \$250.00 pro-rated, for the 2023-2024 school year.
- **7.D.3.** Approve Jamie Wiley as AAP Facilitator at the Susquehanna Township Middle School at a rate of \$31.00 per hour for the 2023-2024 school year.

VIII. FINANCES

MOTION TO APPROVE

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

Motion passed 9-0, 0 abstentions, 0 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 checking bill from the Capital Reserve PSDLAF Checking, as listed on the Computer Check Summary, totaling \$24,851.63.
- **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 \$1,871,802.56.
- **8.D.** Approve the payment of Food Service bills from the Food Service Checking, as listed on the Computer Check Summary, totaling \$65,477.45.
- **8.E.** Approve the Food Service Cash Balance of \$2,184,804.22.
- **8.F.** Approve the General Fund Cash Balance of \$6,295,176.98.

8.G. 1. Approve the following Personal Tax Refund:

Taxpayer Name: Margaret L Reda

Bill #: 017396 Year: 2023

Refund Amount: \$10.50

Reason: Margaret L Reda received two bills in error; paid both taxes in error.

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8.G.2. Approve the following Personal Tax Refund:

Taxpayer Name: Wen Seng

Bill #: 017573 Year: 2023

Refund Amount: \$294.00

Reason: Wen Seng is not a Susquehanna Township resident; paid the taxes in error.

8.G.3. Approve the following Personal Tax Refund:

Taxpayer Name: Patricia Cruz

Bill #: 000390 Year: 2022

Refund Amount: \$283.50

Reason: Patricia Cruz made less than \$5,000.00; paid the taxes in error

MOTION TO APPROVE

8.H. Moved by Mr. K. Johnson, seconded by Mr. S. Johnson to approve item 8.H. Motion passed 7-1(Mr. Ali, 1 abstention (Mrs. Hill), 0 absent

8.H. Approve the following Real Estate Tax Refund:

Taxpayer Name: Alice and Frank Allen

Parcel #: 62-029-267

Year: 2023

Refund Amount: \$20.00

Reason: Taxpayer mailed, and tax collector received payment before penalty period. Tax collector processed payment subsequent to the penalty period. Taxpayer not

liable for excess cost.

IX. CONTRACTS

MOTION TO APPROVE

- **9.A.B.** Moved by Mr. S. Johnson, seconded by Mrs. Hill to approve Items 9.A.B. Motion passed 8-1(Campbell), 0 abstentions, 0 absent
- **9.A.** Approve the EI Associates proposal for the preparation of project design and pricing documents for the high school cafeteria food court renovation project as discussed and presented at the district's most recent long-term facilities planning committee meeting. This project is slated for funding via the district's Food Service Fund as monies are already in place to finance the project. The project is to be completed and ready for stakeholder use at the start of the 2025-2026 school year.
- **9.B.** Reject all bids regarding the district-wide technology security software and equipment February 8, 2024, proposal opening.

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FEBRUARY 20, 2024
Tuesday Evening

DISCUSSION 9.C. Discuss the Proposal from G. R. Sponaugle to replace the electrical panel at the

Susquehanna Township Middle School.

DISCUSSION 9.D. Discuss the proposal from Lobar Associates to relocate the temporary

concession stand from the High School Stadium to the Middle School Field area for

use.

DISCUSSION 9.E. Discuss the agreements with Talk Together, LLC, to provide Speech services, as

needed, both in-person and virtually.

DISCUSSION 9.F. Approve Comcast's provision of technology related services to Susquehanna

Township School District.

X. POLICY

None

XI. OTHER

MOTION TO APPROVE 10.A. Moved by Mr. K. Johnson, seconded by Mrs. Hill to approve Item 10.A.

Motion passed 9-0, 0 abstentions, 0 absent

10.A. Approve the 2024-2025 STSD School Calendar.

XII. NEW BUSINESS

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION TO ADJOURN Moved by Ms. Hatcher, seconded by Mr. S. Johnson, to adjourn the meeting.

Motion passed: 9-0, 0 abstentions, 0 absent

Meeting adjourned 7:44 p.m.

Rebecca McCullough

Board Secretary