



## Superintendent's HOPE Note - March 2024

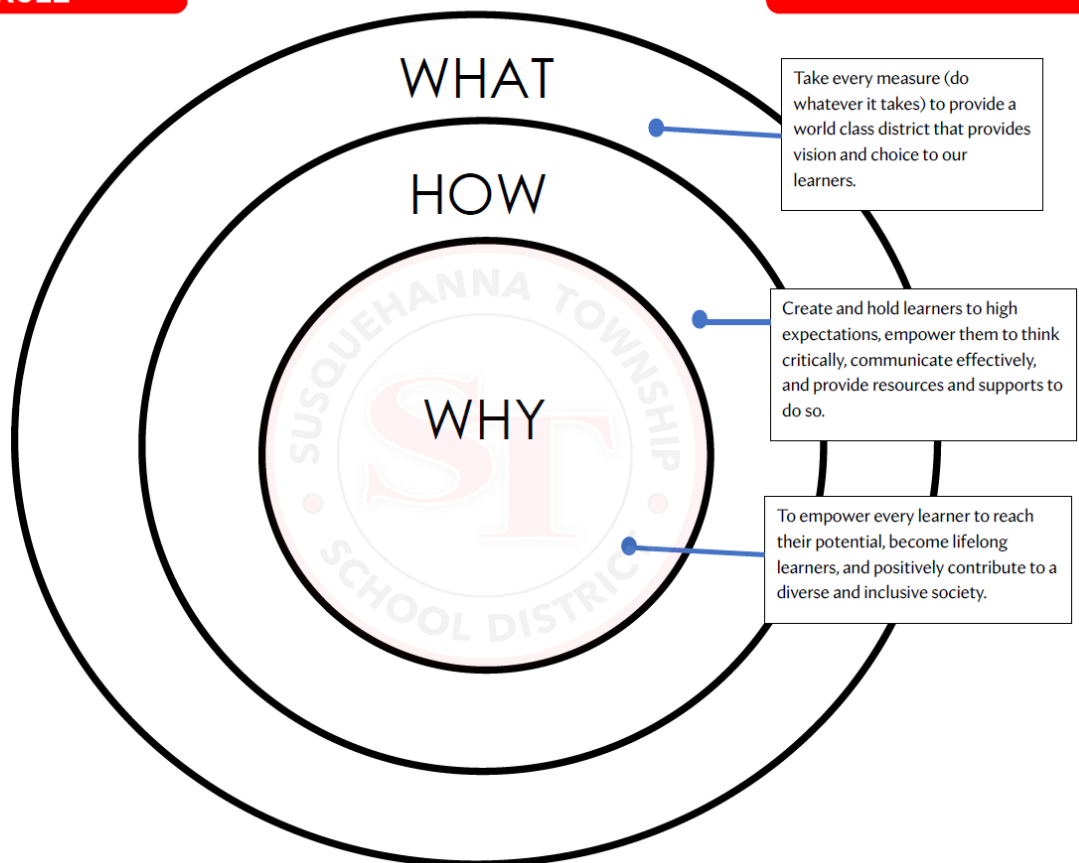
*Learning is an active process. We learn by doing. Only knowledge that is used sticks in your mind. —Dale Carnegie*

### Starting With Why

During our strategic planning session on February 22nd, representatives across the district collaborated to develop the STSD Golden Circle, inspired by Simon Sinek's concept from his book "Start With Why." Sinek emphasizes the importance of understanding the purpose behind what we do beyond just making a living. He asks, "WHY does your company exist? WHY do you get out of bed every morning? And WHY should anyone care about the work you do?"

In our planning session, teams worked together to articulate our WHY, leading us to reassess our purpose and the value we bring to our community. Once our WHY was defined, teams addressed our HOW (the actions we take when living out our WHY) and our WHAT (the products, services, or roles we fulfill within the district). Through multi-voting and language refinement, the team agreed upon the following Golden Circle for the Susquehanna Township School District. We welcome your feedback before our next meeting on April 4th. Share your thoughts [here](#). We are eager to hear from you.

#### STSD GOLDEN CIRCLE





### The Tale of Two Classrooms

#### Teacher-centered Classroom

- The learning process revolves around the teacher.
- Information is directed from the teacher to the learners.
- Learners rely on the teacher to make decisions.
- There's a single chance to "get it right".
- Failure is seen as final, without room for improvement.
- Learners prioritize feedback from the teacher over feedback from peers.
- The teacher is the primary speaker.
- The teacher establishes rules and goals.
- The teacher bears sole responsibility for addressing learners' inquiries.
- The teacher's knowledge about the subject is prioritized.

#### Learner-centered Classroom

- Learners have the freedom to select from various projects, assignments, and group partners.
- Learners have multiple chances each week to interact with peers and collaborate with different classmates.
- Learners strive to assist each other by addressing one another's questions, utilizing the teacher as a resource or facilitator.
- Failure is seen as an opportunity for growth.
- Learners evaluate their own learning alongside the teacher or facilitator.
- Learners actively contribute to the learning process by generating questions and engaging in reflective conversations with peers.

*I hear and I forget. I see and I remember. I do and I understand.—Confucius*

#### Piece of the Puzzle



We'd like to recognize Tim Urban, our district's HVAC specialist, as this month's Piece of the Puzzle! Tim devised a solution to improve air temperature management at our Thomas Holtzman building and continues to maintain units across the district, resulting in significant cost savings. With over 100 HVAC devices installed, including thermostats and controllers for rooftop units, Mr. Urban's expertise has greatly enhanced the building experience for learners and staff. We're grateful for Tim's contributions and commend him for his dedication to our district.