

# Southmoreland School District

High Quality Learning For All

Boardroom News

February 2024



## Board of School Directors

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Pamela Mondock, Business Manager/  
Transportation Director/Treasurer

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# BOARDROOM NEWS



## SUPERINTENDENT'S INFORMATION

- ◆ Scottie Spotlight - CWCTC Aspiring Educator's Program - McKenzie Thompson spoke about the program highlights and benefits that have so far helped her grow already. She acknowledged teachers from Southmoreland who have been there for her along her way.
- ◆ Comprehensive Planning Wrap Up
- ◆ Southmoreland Portrait of A Learner
- ◆ 2 Hr. Delays for Professional Development
- ◆ Combustible Gas Monitoring - 4th Qtr 2023
- ◆ Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank Award Presentation— The Bronze Award was presented to Zach and staff. Zach acknowledged his hardworking staff.
- ◆ Current Grants List



## Aspiring Educators Program

Aspiring Educators  
02/09/2024  
Mckenzie Thompson



# GRANTS

Grant Name	Submitted By	Date Submitted	Amount	Submitted Expenditures
Fall 2022 The United Way	Heitchue		\$2,000	Transition activities for students & families coming to kindergarten for the 23-24 school year.
December 2023 The United Way	Heitchue			Transition activities for studens & families coming to kindergarten for the 24-25 school year.
2022-2023 Title I Consolidated App	Clara	June 2022	\$425,688	Salary and benefits for Title I teachers
2022-2023 Title II App	Clara	June 2022	\$58,460	Salary and benefits for Class Size Reduction teacher
2022-2023 Title IV	Clara	June 2022	\$33,861	Master Track, Technology, eSports and Student Union
2022-2023 PCCD SS MH	Clara/Colebank	June 2022	\$258,002	School Police Officer salary and benefits; training for faculty; gates for admin wing; cameras and lighting upgrades; jamblocks; social worker (M 2); school psychologist services (Key Solutions)
2022 UDL Grant	Clara/Kuchar Long	July 2022	\$10,000	UDL Conference for TK; UDL books; UDL materials
2022-2023 Ready to Learn Grant	Clara	December 2022	\$357,264	Maintain full day kindergarten/Salaries and benefits for K -1 faculty
Project Lead the Way Implementation	Klugh	2023	\$10,000	SMS STEM
2023-2024 Title I Consolidated App	Clara	June 2023	\$689,166	Salary and benefits for Title I teachers
2023-2024 Ready to Learn Grant	Clara	December 2023	\$357,264	Maintain full day kindergarten/Salaries and benefits for K -1 faculty
BSCA Stronger Connection Grant	Boone	December 2023	\$750,000	Comprehensive Mental Health Services (Contracted through Innersight Solutions - - Counselors and Social Worker); Updated Mental Health Suites in Each Building; Positive Behavior and Intervention Supports Programming K-12
DCED - Tennis Court Replacement	Colebank	August 2023	Borough Applied	Application on behalf of the Scottdale Borough, but the district is involved
School Violence Prevention Program	Colebank	August 2023		
NFL Grassroots Grant	Colebank	January 2024	\$250,000	Turf for Russ Grimm Field
Project Lead the Way Expansion	Klugh	2024	\$10,000	SMS STEM
RK Mellon STEM+C	Klugh	2024	\$20,000	District-level support for STEM
Scott Electric	Colebank	February 2024		SPC Generator Replacement
COVID ARPA Project	Pritts/Colebank			Bleacher replacement
PCCD #1	Clara	February 2024	\$123,546.00	School Psychologist Salary \$70K
PCCD #2	Clara	February 2024	\$450,000	PA/Phone System (DES quote: \$11,724.00) All Buildings/Bells & PA System, Upgrade Surveillance System, E3 (Will replace MERP), Radios - \$1,939/Radio, Radios - \$1,939/Radio, Ladders, iPads - \$400/iPad - 4 for Security (one for each building), Grinders, Physical Threat Assessment, Sound System (GYM), Bleachers
PCCD #3	Clara	February 2024	\$40,228.08	New Security Officer, Insurance Buyout
PA Helps Grant	Redinger	Spring 2024		School Psychology Intern .This is dependent upon if the student interviewed accepts Southmoreland as her site.



## SUPERINTENDENT'S INFORMATION-Cont'd

- ◆ Southmoreland Portrait of A Learner



# At Southmoreland, we cultivate learners that.....



## A

**Accountability** is developed through honesty, accepting responsibility, meeting obligations, learning from mistakes, fostering trust and reliability.

## R

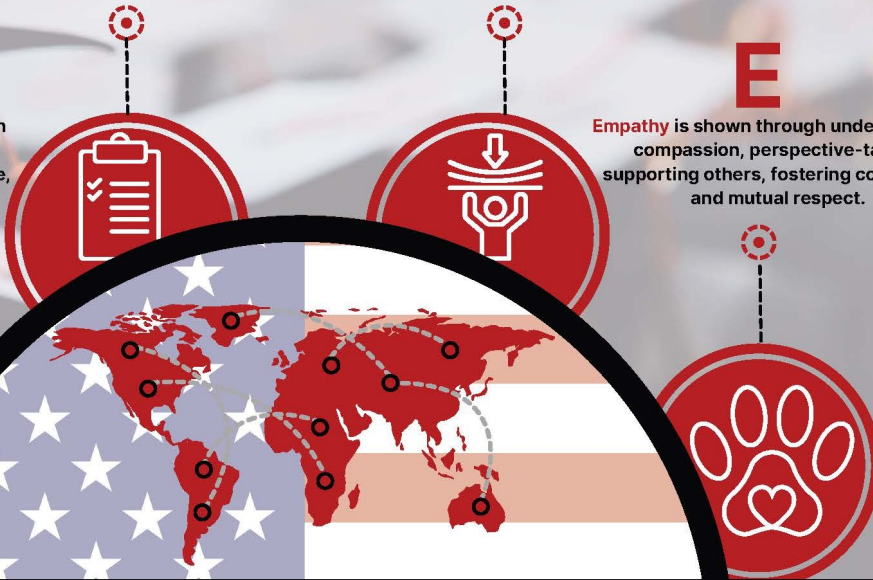
**Resiliency** involves bouncing back from challenges, adapting to adversity, maintaining optimism, persisting through difficulties, fostering strength and growth.

## C

**Citizenship** is demonstrated through respectful behavior, participation, volunteering, and community service, fostering positive contributions.

## E

**Empathy** is shown through understanding, compassion, perspective-taking, supporting others, fostering connection and mutual respect.



### SOUTHMORELAND PORTRAIT OF A LEARNER

"CULTIVATING LIFE-LONG LEARNERS READY FOR AN EVER-CHANGING WORLD"



## SUPERINTENDENT'S INFORMATION-Cont'd

### ◆ Comprehensive Planning Wrap Up

#### ***Mission Statement:***

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In Southmoreland School District, we provide a safe, supportive, and adaptable learning environment dedicated to nurturing individual growth and fostering active citizenship. Our mission is to inspire each student to achieve personal excellence, encouraging their journey as lifelong learners, responsible community members, and engaged citizens in southwestern Pennsylvania and beyond.

#### ***Vision Statement:***

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Our vision at Southmoreland School District is to cultivate lifelong learners ready for an ever-changing world, fostering innovation and opportunities to maximize each student's potential.

#### ***Shared Values:***

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***For Students:*** We, at Southmoreland School District, collectively value and strive to nurture a student community characterized by resilience. Our commitment lies in challenging each student, not only academically but also personally, to foster critical thinking and independent, autonomous learning. We believe that these core values are essential in preparing our students to become capable, adaptable, and thoughtful contributors to society.

***For Staff:*** At Southmoreland School District, we deeply value our staff who embody the spirit of lifelong learning. They stand as pillars of support for every student, demonstrating unwavering motivation and resilience, especially when faced with challenges. Our educators are committed to providing tailored learning opportunities, recognizing and nurturing the unique potential in each student. This dedication not only inspires academic growth but also fosters a nurturing and adaptable educational environment.

***For Administrators:*** Our administrators at Southmoreland School District are committed to lifelong learning, supporting our staff and students, and innovating within our educational systems. They exemplify accountability and maintain a visible and accessible presence, ensuring a collaborative and nurturing environment for all.

***For Parents/Caregivers:*** At Southmoreland School District, we recognize and value our parents and caregivers as essential partners in education. We appreciate their active involvement and see them as vital contributors to our learning community. Our parents and caregivers are informed and engaged, offering guidance and setting high expectations for their children's academic and personal growth. We acknowledge their supportive role and strive for a collaborative relationship, understanding that together, we can create the most enriching and empowering educational experience for our students.

***For the Greater Southmoreland Community:*** At Southmoreland School District, we value our community's partnership in providing our students with meaningful learning experiences beyond the classroom. Our community is supportive, generous, and growth-minded, actively investing in and extending our students' educational journeys. Together, we are committed to creating a nurturing environment that fosters growth and prepares our students for the future.



## SUPERINTENDENT'S INFORMATION-Cont'd

### ◆ Comprehensive Planning Wrap Up



# SSD 24-27 COMPREHENSIVE PLANNING SMART GOALS



## Goal 1: Rigorous and Relevant Resources

**Specific** — The District will identify and implement standards-aligned resources based upon challenges identified in the Future Ready Index and establish a cycle for the adoption of resources.

**Measurable** — This can be measured by the publication of an adoption cycle and through documentation of board meeting minutes for purchasing.

**Achievable** — Stakeholders can prioritize updates through the use of technology, collaboration, data-driven decisions, advocacy, and continuous improvement for rigorous school resources.

**Relevant** — Having up-to-date and rigorous resources in schools is crucial for providing high-quality education, preparing students for the future, fostering critical thinking skills, maintaining relevance, and promoting equity and access.

**Timebound** — An adoption cycle will be created and implemented in the 2024-2025 School Year.

## Goal 2: Innovative Scheduling Practices

**Specific** - The District will establish scheduling practices to ensure adequate time for instruction, ongoing data analysis, regular intervention group planning, and regular team meetings.

**Measurable** - This can be measured by analyzing the master schedules yearly and examining student opportunities and supports.

**Achievable** - The administrative staff can accomplish this task through professional development and the examining and identification of exemplary master schedules in the region that support this goal.

**Relevant** - This goal is relevant because it aims to optimize instructional time, ensure data-driven decision making, support effective interventions, and foster collaboration among educators, all of which are crucial for improving educational outcomes.

**Timebound** - Schedules will be researched and implemented in the 2024-2025 and 2025-2026 School Years.

## Goal 3: Student Attendance

**Specific** - The District will implement a consistent approach to student attendance in all buildings that includes parent communication and accurate reporting based upon new state expectations on a yearly basis.

**Measurable** - The District will measure progress by implementing attendance policy, ensuring accurate reporting, aligning with state expectations, and conducting yearly reviews for improvement.

**Achievable** - The District can achieve the goal through collaborative policy development, effective communication, staff training, data management, alignment with state regulations, and continuous improvement efforts.

**Relevant** - Improving attendance ensures student engagement, academic success, and maximizes learning opportunities, aligning with educational objectives and state requirements.

**Timebound** - Reporting procedures will be accurate for the 2024-2025.

## Goal 4: Student Showcase Events

**Specific** - The District will create a showcase event to be held each year for each school in the district.

**Measurable** - This can be measured through attendance, participation rates, feedback, exhibits, community engagement, consistency, and budget allocation to evaluate annual showcase event success.

**Achievable** - This goal can be achieved through careful planning, coordination with each school, securing necessary resources, and consistently evaluating and refining the event.

**Relevant** - This will promote community engagement, showcases school achievements, fosters pride, and strengthens ties between schools and the community.

**Timebound** - Yearly student showcase events will begin in the 2024-2025 School Year.



“CULTIVATING LIFE-LONG LEARNERS READY FOR AN EVER-CHANGING WORLD”





## BUSINESS MANAGER/TRANSPORTATION DIRECTOR INFORMATION

The following reports were posted for Board and public view:

- ◆ Activity and Cyber Charter reports are posted online in BoardDocs
- ◆ 2024-2025 Proposed Budget

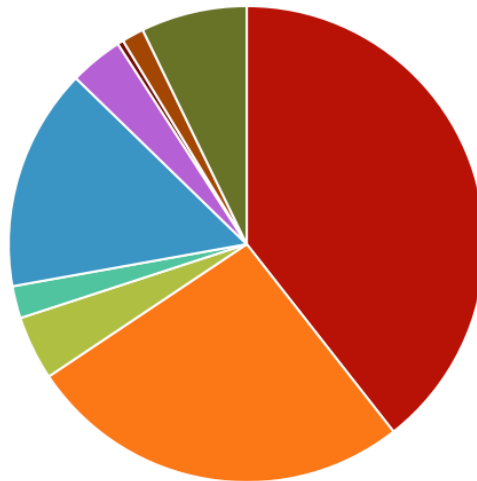
2024-2025  
Status of Budget  
Development

Object	Description	Proposed Budget Amt
100	Salaries & Wages	\$14,196,207
200	Employee Benefits	\$9,591,992
300	Purchased Services	\$1,367,200
400	Property Services	\$416,753
500	Other Purchased Serv	\$5,221,266
600	Supplies	\$1,472,331
700	Property	\$213,696
800	Other Objects	\$462,805
900	Other Uses	\$2,610,000



*"HIGH QUALITY LEARNING FOR ALL"*

BUDGET AMOUNT



- 100 PERSONNEL
- 200 EMP. BENEFITS
- 300 PURCH. SVCS.
- 400 PURCH. PROP. SVCS.
- 500 OTHER PURCH SVCS
- 600 SUPPLIES
- 700 PROPERTY
- 800 OTHER OBJECTS
- 900 OTHER USES OF FUNDS



## SOLICITOR'S INFORMATION

None at this time.

## CWCTC REPORT

It was reported the students at the CTC continue to cater events including the Scottsdale's 150th Anniversary Celebration, and continued partnership for restoration projects around the local area.

## WIU REPORT

Last meeting was on January 23rd. The IU discussed the technological needs of the IU as well as the districts, there are 7 new members to the Board, continued staffing concerns, & offered a Southmoreland created mug to Ms. McKenzie Thompson.

## PSBA LEGISLATIVE LIAISON REPORT

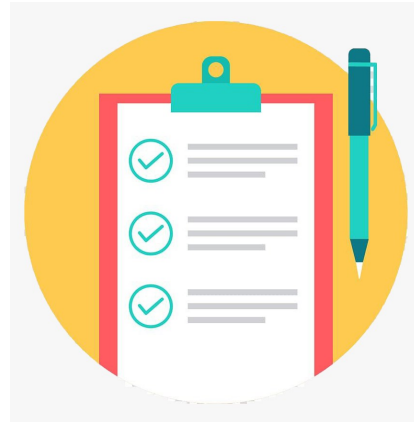
There is no report this month.

### **Building, Grounds and Safety**

There are numerous projects around the district that are in need of attention such as line striper, high school chiller, gym floor, and sidewalks to name a few.

### **Finance, District Operations, Transportation**

Reference was made to the proposed budget Ms. Mondock showed during her report.



## COMMITTEE REPORTS

### **Personnel, Policy, Academics**

The meeting on January 30th addressed that equal time needs spent on all 3 areas. The past had more time on policies. Items of discussion were graduation requirements, standardize grades against state standards, class rank, and students earning college credits in high school.

### **Non-Academic, Athletics, Extra-Curricular**

None at this time.

### **School Safety & Security**

Will discuss a few changes to safety personnel later in the meeting.





## POLICIES

The following policies were approved and adopted at this meeting to comply with required and mandated school policies:

1.	006	Meetings
2.	011	Principles for Governance and Leadership
3.	200	Enrollment of Students
4.	202	Eligibility of Nonresident Students
5.	204	Attendance
6.	216.1	Supplemental Discipline Records
7.	217	Graduation
8.	221	Dress and Grooming
9.	233	Suspension and Expulsion
10.	251	Students Experiencing Homelessness, Foster Care and Other Educational Instability
11.	254	Educational Opportunity for Military Children
12.	810	Transportation
13.	815	Acceptable Use of Internet, Computers and Network Resources
14.	819	Suicide Awareness, Prevention and Response







## STUDENT REPORTS

Student representatives to the Board Nolan Blaze & Faith Tarr presented the following:

- ◆ Congratulations to January's Scottie Scholar — Olivia Love. Also congratulations to January's Spirit of Southmoreland Student — Isabella Johnson.
- ◆ Our 2024 Snow Court brought in over \$6,000 in donations for St. Jude's, the most raised by any Snow Court in Southmoreland history. Congratulations to Snow King Nolan Blaze, who raised \$2,400 and Snow Queen Madison Brown, who raised \$1,700.
- ◆ Senior French Horn Christopher Headley represented Southmoreland at PMEA District 1 Orchestra at North Hills Middle School February 8-10.
- ◆ Seniors Nolan Blaze and Christopher Headley represented Southmoreland at PMEA District 1 Chorus at Canon-McMillan High School January 24-26. Both of the boys successfully auditioned to move on to Region Choir in March, with Nolan receiving first chair in the Tenor 2 section, and Christopher earning a solo to open the concert.
- ◆ Senior Clarinets Zackary McGrath and Danica Johnson, Bassoon Nolan Blaze, Alto Saxophone Carlie Cameron, and French Horn Christopher Headley, Junior Jack Gentry, and Freshman Caleigh Boyce represented Southmoreland at FayWest Honors Band at Connellsville Area High School on February 2nd.
- ◆ Habitat for Humanity is an organization that partners with people in communities and all over the world to help them build or improve a place they call home. Currently, the Westmoreland County Habitat for Humanity is building a home for a Grandmother raising her two grandchildren. The family lost their home and all of their possessions in a fire. Members of the Interact Club will volunteer Friday, March 1st, and Saturday, March 2nd to contribute to this local project.
- ◆ 9<sup>th</sup> and 10th grade ELA partnered with the Scottdale Library to get library cards for all students to assist with their research papers. Thank you Kristy Smith and the Scottdale Library!
- ◆ Congratulations to Freshmen Olivia Welling, Caleigh Boyce, and Liam Smith for their performance at the PMEA District 1 East Junior High Band Concert at Yough Intermediate High School.
- ◆ On Saturday, February 17th, SHS Music Theatre hosted their Mamma Mia! Family Fun Day with activities including an inflatable obstacle course, reptile encounters, hair tinsel & face painting, karaoke & disco dance party, visits with Disney princesses, and more!
- ◆ Senior Nolan Blaze represented Southmoreland at the Regional Poetry Out Loud Competition on Saturday, January 20th. Nolan had to recite three poems from memory, competing with fellow high schoolers from the area.



## STUDENT REPORTS

Student representatives to the Board Nolan Blaze & Faith Tarr presented the following:

- ◆ For Valentine's Day, Student Council hosted a school-wide Dress-Up day and sold Cupcake Grams to be delivered to other students throughout the day. Over two-hundred cupcakes were sold!
- ◆ Student Council will be hosting our annual Bump It Up Volleyball Tournament on March 27th, with all proceeds going to Make a Wish, and they will also be hosting the second annual Powderpuff event on April 27<sup>th</sup> at Southmoreland Stadium. Additionally, there are Dine to Donates planned for tomorrow, Wednesday the 21st at Wish's Bar and Grill, and Sunday the 25th at Norvelt Pizzeria. We hope to see you there!
- ◆ The Southmoreland Reading Team will be competing at Seton Hill University on March 5<sup>th</sup>. Over 20 students will be reading a total of 60 books in preparation for this event.
- ◆ The Southmoreland Art Council displayed their talents by painting the windows of the student union to represent images from this year's musical *Mamma Mia!*
- ◆ The Southmoreland High School Counseling Office is pleased to announce the start of the Career Cafe series, which involves community members volunteering their time to talk with students about their career. So far, we have had 5 confirmations and several are checking their schedule hoping to confirm this week.
- ◆ The Counseling Office works with their schedules and our Scottie Block times to bring students together with community members that are working jobs that are available to our students. These positions include:
  - Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner
  - Pharmacist
  - Geologic and Stormwater Permitting
  - Healthcare Interior Design
  - Criminal Defense Attorney/ Public Defender
  - Physical Therapist
- ◆ If anyone is interested, please consider completing the Community Interest Form located on the SHS Counseling website under the Announcements tab or on Facebook!
- ◆ The Counseling Office has been vigorously working on scheduling for the upcoming 2024-2025 school year. Counselors are meeting with students daily to help finalize their plans for the upcoming year. We are happy to announce student feedback has been positive for our new courses.





## SCHOOL BOARD

The following motions were approved:

- ◆ Meeting Minutes—January 16, 2024

### PERSONNEL

The following motions were approved:

- ◆ Personnel Log
- ◆ Uncompensated Leave
- ◆ Musical Staff:
  - ⇒ Shawn Conway - Musical Director
  - ⇒ Shawn Conway - Vocal Coach
  - ⇒ Jamie Gore - Musical Producer
  - ⇒ Jamie Gore - Orchestra Director
  - ⇒ Chelsea Conway - Artistic Director
  - ⇒ Kaylee Hansberry - Choreographer
  - ⇒ Ella Huffman - Assist. Choreographer
  - ⇒ Robyn Brady - Stage Manager
  - ⇒ Josh Brady - Set Architect & Lighting Assist
  - ⇒ Steven Clark - Orchestra Musician- Keyboard I
  - ⇒ Jude Gore - Orchestra Musician- Keyboard II
  - ⇒ Jeremiah Hutter - Orchestra Musician- Percussion
  - ⇒ Shawn Harris - Orchestra Musician- Drum Set
- ◆ SEA Sick Leave Donation
- ◆ School Police Supervisor-12 Months



### Personnel Resignations-Sorry to see you go!

- ◆ Deborah Hennessey - Cafeteria Worker

### New Hires-A very warm welcome to the following!

- ◆ Rosemary Spottedbear - PT School Intervention/Unarmed Security

### Supplemental—New Hires-A very warm welcome to the following!

- ◆ Ruth Joyce - MS Head Volleyball Coach
- ◆ Chris Hixson - MS Assistant Volleyball Coach
- ◆ Stephan Kaylor - MS Assistant Baseball Coach
- ◆ Brian Pritts - Volunteer MS Baseball Coach



### Substitutes– Thank you for your help!

- ◆ Holly Owen - Custodian
- ◆ Odhinn Martin - Custodian
- ◆ David Hatfield - Custodian

### Bus/Van Drivers - Quest

- ◆ None this month



## EDUCATION

The following items were approved this month:

- ◆ Comprehensive Plan-Posting it.
- ◆ Learning Support Reading Curriculum
- ◆ PMEA Band Festival(s)
- ◆ PMEA Region I Choral Festival(s)
- ◆ Student Discipline Agreement



## FINANCE

All of the following Motions were approved:

- ◆ Monthly Board Treasurers' Report-December
- ◆ General Fund Board Summary Report-December
- ◆ Accounting and Food Service Check Summary Listing-December
- ◆ Insurance Broker RFP



## BUILDINGS/GROUNDS

- ◆ Line Striper Equipment



## ATHLETICS/ACTIVITIES

No new items approved this month.



***Let's go Scotties!***

**Next Board meeting is scheduled  
for March 19, 2024**

