

CALL TO ORDER	At 7:02 p.m., the March 17, 2025, 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, Ms. Elise I. LeMelle, Mrs. Jackie Hill, Mr. Jayonn Folks, Mr. Eric Hedenberg, Keita Kalonji Johnson, Esq., Mr. Steven H. Johnson, Dr. Anita Mareno; Mr. Jesse Rawls, Sr.
DISTRICT OFFICE PRESENT	Dr. Tamara Willis, Dr. Andrae Martin, Mr. Oslwen Anderson, Jr., Mrs. Kathy Ciaciulli, Mrs. Carrie Martin, Ms. Ann-Marie Rathmell, Mr. Justin Green, Mr. Jonathan Bishop
SOLICITOR	Eckert Seamans Cherin & Mellott, LLC
EXECUTIVE SESSION	The President announced that executive session was held immediately prior to the meeting for the purpose of reviewing the PSBA Assessment, administrative plans, legal advice, personnel, real estate matters.
INTRODUCTIONS/ GUEST PRESENTATIONS	Theresa Eberly, Township Manager, and Mack Breech, Planning and Zoning Administrator presented on the Wayne Avenue property address change. The district's property previously known as 1901 Wayne Avenue will be renamed to 1699 Stanley Drive.
REPORTS/ ANNOUNCEMENTS	<p><b>Legislative Updates:</b> Mr. Kalonji Johnson reported that it is state budget season, and stakeholders are awaiting the impact of the Federal Department of Education's reorganization at the state level. Additionally, the USDA has announced cuts to the school lunch program.</p> <p><b>Ms. Hatcher</b> shared that she and Dr. Willis attended Legislative Day in Harrisburg with Senator Kim. The discussion focused on federal mandates and the state's potential role in addressing an estimated 13% funding shortfall.</p> <p><b>Student Board Representatives:</b> Suha Rockwell and Nicholas Mabry presented a report highlighting recent activities and events from district buildings. (attached to BoardDocs)</p> <p><b>Dauphin County Technical School:</b> Mr. S. Johnson shared highlights from the JOC meeting. He shared a video of a robotics competition students attended. The DCTS students won their competition and will be moving on to the state championship.</p> <p><b>Committees:</b> The Education and Athletics committee met on March 3, 2025. The topics of discussion were the postseason, spring sports, consideration of a digital</p>

ticketing system, athletic recruiting and maintenance of the high school gym floor. The next meeting will be on April 8, 2025.

**Superintendent's Notes: Dr. Tamara Willis** shared several student highlights:

Olivia Stokes – Photo was shared in an opinion piece in PennLive.

Leo Pitassi – medaled in States in 50 Freestyle (5<sup>th</sup> place)

Girls Basketball Mid-Penn Conference Recognitions – Jaycee Martin, 1<sup>st</sup> Team;

Aaliyah Barnes, 2<sup>nd</sup> Team; Devyn Archer, 3<sup>rd</sup> Team

Boys Basketball Mid-Penn Conference Recognitions – Alfonzo Burnett, 1<sup>st</sup> Team;

Mekhi Slappy, 2<sup>nd</sup> Team

Boys Basketball – 4<sup>th</sup> in District III, 1<sup>st</sup> States win since 2020 and top 16<sup>th</sup> team in 4A

Dr. Willis also shared that the 100 Men Reading event was held at Sara Lindemuth/Anna Carter Primary School featuring many community members reading to students in honor of Dr. Suess's birthday and Read Across America.

Dr. Willis gave a shout out to the high school students for their performance of Mamma Mia. The middle school will be performing Willy Wonka Jr. on May 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>.

Dr. Willis will establish an EIT Advisory Committee consisting of community members and staff to support the administration in marketing and raising awareness about the voter referendum on the November 2025 ballot. The first meeting is scheduled for April 15, 2025.

**II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA ITEMS FOR MARCH 17, 2025**

**MOTION TO APPROVE**

**2.A.** Moved by Mr. S. Johnson, seconded by Mr. Folks to approve the meeting agenda for March 17, 2025.

Motion passed 9-0, 0 abstentions, 0 absent

**2.B. Board Member Comments**

Ms. Hatcher welcomed everyone to the meeting and reminded everyone that today is St. Patrick's Day. She noted for the record the passing of Mr. Carl Singleton, a Harrisburg native active in the community and most recently served as the Chief Equity Officer for the City of Harrisburg. She and Mr. Rawls offered condolences on behalf of the board and administration.

Mr. Rawls encouraged students to enter the education field and spoke about the benefits of teaching.

### III. HEARING OF THE PUBLIC

**Ms. LeMelle** read a statement outlining the guidelines for public comment.

**SPEAKER**

**V. Edwards** shared her thoughts on the teaching profession and would like to see more volunteers in district buildings.

**SPEAKER**

**J. Robinson** addressed the board about the proposed new school building and the voter referendum that will appear on the November ballot.

Ms. Hatcher assured speakers that the board takes stakeholder concerns seriously.

### IV. PRESENTATIONS AND DISCUSSIONS

None

### V. MINUTES

**MOTION TO APPROVE**

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

5.A. Approve the Minutes of the March 3, 2025, Board meeting.

### VI. PROGRAM

None

### VII. PERSONNEL

**MOTION TO APPROVE**

**7.A.** Moved by Mr. K. Johnson, seconded by Ms. Hatcher, to approve Item 7.A. Motion passed 9-0, 0 abstentions, 0 absent

**7.A.1.** Approve the resignation of Marvin Redcross as Assistant Wrestling Coach at the Susquehanna Township High School, effective February 28, 2025.

**7.A.2.** Approve the resignation of Tyler Nell as Assistant III/PCA- Multiple Disabilities at the Susquehanna Township Middle School, effective April 4, 2025.

**7.A.3.** Approve the resignation of Ran Datta Subedi as Night Custodian at the Susquehanna Township High School, effective March 14, 2025.

**7.A.4.** Approve the resignation of Ganesh Subedi as Night Custodian at the

Susquehanna Township High School, effective March 11, 2025.

**7.A.5.** Amend the resignation of Celeste Francis as Assistant Food Service Manager at the Susquehanna Township Middle School from effective date to be determined to effective April 10, 2025.

**MOTION TO APPROVE**

**7.B.1.** Moved by Ms. Hatcher, seconded by Ms. LeMelle, to approve Item 7.B.1.

**ROLL CALL VOTE:**

Aye:	Mr. Hedenberg, Dr. Mareno, Mr. Folks, Ms. Hatcher, Ms. LeMelle, Mrs. Hill, Mr. S. Johnson, Mr. K. Johnson, Mr. Rawls
Nay:	None
Abstain:	None
Absent:	None

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

**7.B.1.** Approve the retirement of Oslwen C. Anderson, Jr. as Business Manager at the Susquehanna Township School District, effective August 8, 2025. Mr. Anderson has served the district for 24 years.

All board members thanked Mr. Anderson for his years of service and said it was an honor to work with him. They wished him the best in his retirement.

Mr. Anderson thanked everyone and wished all stakeholders the very best. He is looking forward to continuing to support the district in his retirement.

**MOTION TO APPROVE**

**7.B.2.C.D E.F.G.** Moved by Mr. K. Johnson, seconded by Ms. Hatcher, to approve Items 7.B.2.C.D E.F.G.

Motion passed 9-0, 0 abstentions, 0 absent

**7.B.2.** Approve the retirement of Janice Walls as Food Service Worker at the Sara Lindemuth/Anna Carter Primary School, effective June 6, 2025. Janice has been with the district since 2021.

**7.C.** Approve the transfer of Maria Edwards from PT Food Service Worker to FT Assistant Food Service Manager at the Susquehanna Township Middle School with a \$0.75 shift differential, effective March 10, 2025. Maria will be replacing Celeste Francis.

**7.D.** The administration recommends that the Board approve the termination of employee #101416.

**7.E.1.** Amend Joshua Yeckley as English Teacher at the Susquehanna Township High School from effective April 25, 2025, to effective March 17, 2025.

**7.E.2.** Amend Karen Kipp as Special Education Teacher- Autistic Support at the Susquehanna Township High School from effective date to be determined to effective March 17, 2025.

**7.E.3.** Approve Celia Bolich as Speech Pathologist- Elementary at the Sara Lindemuth/Anna Carter Primary School at a salary of \$61,919.00, effective August 12, 2025. Celia will be filling a new position.

**7.F.1.** Approve Jocelyn Gaden as PT Food Service Worker at the Susquehanna Township High School at a rate of \$15.00 per hour, effective March 10, 2025. Jocelyn will be replacing Yojana Zerpa.

**7.F.2.** Approve Kathy Wertz as PT Food Service Substitute at the Susquehanna Township School District at a rate of \$15.00 per hour, effective March 12, 2025.

**7.F.3.** Approve Patricia Swingle as PT Food Service Worker at the Sara Lindemuth/Anna Carter Primary School at a rate of \$15.00 per hour, effective March 12, 2025. Patricia will be replacing Susan Butler.

**7.F.4.** Approve Melody Roth as Attendance Secretary at the Susquehanna Township High School at a rate of \$18.04 per hour, effective date to be determined. Melody will be replacing Britanani Burns.

**7.G.1.** Approve the following coaches/advisors for the 2024-2025 school year:

<b>Name</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Stipend</b>
Jane Park	Student Government Advisor	STMS	Pro-rated amount of \$240.00
Dane Snyder	Assistant Girls Soccer Coach	STMS	\$2,300.00
Kenneth Atticks	Varsity Assistant Baseball Coach	STHS	\$4,000.00
Lucas Balistrere	Volunteer Baseball Coach	STHS	\$0
Sam Scannella	Volunteer Baseball Coach	STHS	\$0

#### **VIII. FINANCES**

#### **MOTION TO APPROVE**

**8.A.B.C.D.** Moved by Mr. Hedenberg, seconded by Mr. Folks, to approve Items 8.A.B.C.D.

Motion passed 9-0, 0 abstentions, 0 absent

**8.A.** 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 \$1,074,992.92.

**8.B.** Approve the payment of Food Service bills from the Food Service Checking, as listed on the Computer Check Summary, totaling \$102,602.48.

**8.C.** Approve the Food Service Cash Balance of \$2,789,422.75.

**8.D.** Approve the General Fund Cash Balance of \$5,663,200.82.

**IX. CONTRACTS**

**MOTION TO APPROVE**

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

**9.A.** Approve the Agreement with Ridgeway Church to provide unpaid work experience opportunities for learners.

**MOTION TO APPROVE**

**9.B.** Moved by Mr. K. Johnson, seconded by Ms. LeMelle to approve Item 9.B.  
Motion passed 9-0, 0 abstentions, 0 absent

**9.B.** Approve the Agreement between Susquehanna Township School District and IAG to offer international teachers the opportunity to be placed in a cultural exchange program at Susquehanna Township School District.

**MOTION TO APPROVE**

**9.C.** Moved by Mr. Hedenberg, seconded by Ms. Hatcher to approve Item 9.C.  
Motion passed 9-0, 0 abstentions, 0 absent

**9.C.** Approve the Agreement with Lebanon Valley College to provide facilities and learning experiences for LVC undergraduate and/or graduate health science program students.

**MOTION TO APPROVE**

**9.D.** Moved by Mr. Hedenberg, seconded by Mr. S. Johnson to approve Item 9.D.  
Motion passed 9-0, 0 abstentions, 0 absent

**9.D.** Approve the Letter of Agreement with The Meadows Psychiatric Center to provide educational services, in the event that a Susquehanna Township learner is hospitalized at The Meadows for the 2025-2026, 2026-2027, and 2027-2028 regular school years.

**MOTION TO APPROVE**

**9.E.** Moved by Mr. Folks, seconded by Mr. Hedenberg to approve Item 9.E.  
Motion passed 9-0, 0 abstentions, 0 absent

- 9.E.** Approve the agreement with Youth Counseling Services, LLC to provide school-based intensive behavioral health services, as needed, through 02/26/2026.
- MOTION TO APPROVE**      **9.F.** Moved by Mr. Hedenberg, seconded by Ms. LeMelle to approve Item 9.F.  
Motion passed 9-0, 0 abstentions, 0 absent
- 9.F.** Approve the agreement with PHASE 4 Learning Center, Inc. to provide alternative education for disruptive youth, as needed for the remainder of the 2024-2025 regular school year.
- MOTION TO APPROVE**      **9.G.** Moved by Ms. Hatcher, seconded by Mrs. Hill to approve Item 9.G.  
Motion passed 9-0, 0 abstentions, 0 absent
- 9.G.** Approve the personnel mentoring agreement with Dr. Tom Butler as discussed in executive session.
- MOTION TO APPROVE**      **9.H.** Moved by Mr. K. Johnson, seconded by Mr. Hedenberg to approve Item 9.H.  
Motion passed 9-0, 0 abstentions, 0 absent
- 9.H.** Approve the Vantage Financial Lease Proposal as attached and recommended by Administration. This lease represents the requested purchase of student devices for incoming 2025-2026 school year Kindergarten, 5th, and 9th grade students. This lease also represents the requested purchase of ancillary equipment inclusive of device carts and cases. All equipment will be utilized for a minimum of 4 to 5 years in accordance with our device rotation schedule. Equipment descriptions and quantities are itemized in the included attachment.
- MOTION TO APPROVE**      **9.I.** Moved by Mr. K. Johnson, seconded by Mr. Hedenberg to approve Item 9.I.  
Motion passed 9-0, 0 abstentions, 0 absent
- 9.I.** Approve the MOU between the Harrisburg Alumni Kappa Foundation of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc. and the Susquehanna Township School District to implement the Guide Right Mentoring Program.
- MOTION TO APPROVE**      **9.J.** Moved by Ms. LeMelle, seconded by Mr. Folks to approve Item 9.J.  
Motion passed 9-0, 0 abstentions, 0 absent
- 9.J.** Approve the Letter of Engagement to allow Brooke E.D. Say, Esquire, of Saxton & Stump, to serve as solicitor to support the District's Special Education Department.

**DISCUSSION**

**9.K.** Discuss the Agreement and Addendum with Yellow Breeches Educational Center, Inc. to provide services, as needed, for the 2025-2026 regular school year.

**DISCUSSION**

**9.L.** 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.

**X. POLICY**

**MOTION TO APPROVE**

**9.A.B.C.D.E.F.G.** Moved by Ms. Hatcher, seconded by Mr. Hedenberg to approve Item 9.A.B.C.D.E.F.G.

Motion passed 9-0, 0 abstentions, 0 absent

**10.A.** Approve Policy 222: Tobacco and Vaping Products

**10.B.** Approve Policy 227: Controlled Substances/Paraphernalia.

**10.C.** Approve Policy 308: Employment Contract/Board Resolution.

**10.D.** Approve Policy 323: Tobacco and Vaping Products.

**10.E.** Approve Policy 351: Controlled Substance Abuse.

**10.F.** Approve Policy 803: School Calendar.

**10.G.** Approve Policy 806: Child Abuse.

**XI. OTHER**

**MOTION TO APPROVE**

**11.A.** Moved by Mr. Hedenberg, seconded by Ms. LeMelle, to approve Item 11.A.  
Motion passed 9-0, 0 abstentions, 0 absent

**11.A.** The Board panel for student # 2024-25/021 recommends the Adjudication and Disposition, as discussed in executive session, be adopted by the full Board of Directors of the Susquehanna Township School District.

**XII. NEW BUSINESS**

Mr. Rawls would like to add the cleaning of the roof top units to the next agenda.



**XIII. ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION TO ADJOURN**

Moved by Mr. S. Johnson, seconded by Mr. Folks, to adjourn the meeting.  
Motion passed: 9-0, 0 abstentions, 0 absent

Meeting adjourned 8:16 p.m.

Elise LeMelle  
Board Secretary