

CALL TO ORDER	At 7:04 p.m., the February 18, 2025, meeting of the Susquehanna Township Board of School Directors was called to order by Vice President Tameka Hatcher.
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
ABSENT	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 personnel and real estate. The board also received a training on due process from Eckert Seamans.
INTRODUCTIONS/ GUEST PRESENTATIONS	Celebrating Families: Ms. Amanda Pressley, Principal of Sara Lindemuth/Anna Carter Primary School, and Mrs. Nicole Stewart, Assistant Principal, honored the Doyle Family for their contributions to fostering a positive and supportive learning environment in our school community. The family was presented with a certificate and a token of appreciation from Dr. Willis and received cards and a token of appreciation from Sara Lindemuth/Anna Carter Primary School.
REPORTS/ ANNOUNCEMENTS	<p>Legislative Updates: Mr. K. Johnson reported that it is budget season, with several key hearings taking place. Notably, the Department of Education will appear before the Senate on the 20th and the House on the 24th. The Department of Revenue hearings are happening this week, while the State Higher Education hearings are scheduled for next week. Mr. Johnson encouraged the public to watch the hearings via livestream. A link can be found on the Senate and House website.</p> <p>PSBA: Ms. Hatcher shared that she will be attending the National School Board Association conference in April.</p> <p>Student Board Representatives: Suha Rockwell and Nicholas Mabry presented a report highlighting recent activities and events from district buildings. (attached to BoardDocs)</p> <p>Dauphin County Technical School: Mr. S. Johnson was not able to attend the last meeting. He reported that the Sweetheart Dinner Picture opportunity was postponed due to weather.</p>

Board of Commissioners: **Pamela Cross** introduced herself as the new liaison to the school district.

Committees: **Mr. K. Johnson** reported that the Education and Athletics Committee met on Tuesday, February 4, 2025. He encouraged the student representatives to attend these meetings which are held on the first Tuesday of the month in the boardroom. Jonathan Breeden presented on the Believe Program, a Social Emotional program for middle school students. There would be a grant opportunity to fund the program. The Athletic Director, Mr. Deane, provided updates from the Athletic Department including goals for spring and fall athletes, assessments of coaching staff, and unifying the athletic culture/programming for middle school and high school programs.

Mrs. Hill shared that the Long-Term Facilities Committee will meet on Thursday, February 20, 2025, at 5pm in the boardroom.

Ms. Hatcher reported that the Policy Committee will meet on Wednesday, February 19 @ 6:30 pm in the boardroom.

Superintendent's Notes: **Dr. Tamara Willis:** Dr. Willis recognized the Senior Wrestlers and encouraged the community to follow the district's athletic department on Instagram (@hanna_athletics). She highlighted the success of the Boys and Girls Basketball teams, as well as several wrestlers and swimmers, all advancing to district competitions. She also noted that the PIAA District 3 schedule and ticket information for all events are available on the district website. Additionally, Dr. Willis congratulated Nick Mabry on being named a National Merit Scholar Finalist.

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA ITEMS FOR FEBRUARY 18, 2025

MOTION TO APPROVE

2.A. Moved by Ms. LeMelle, seconded by Mr. K. Johnson to approve the meeting agenda for February 18, 2025.

Motion passed 8-0, 0 abstentions, 1 absent (Mr. Rawls)

2.B. Board Member Comments

Mr. K. Johnson reminded the community to stay abreast of upcoming state-related funding and federal executive orders.

Ms. Hatcher reminded everyone that February is Black History month and that we will continue to uplift and to celebrate the diversity of our district.

III. HEARING OF THE PUBLIC

None

IV. PRESENTATIONS AND DISCUSSIONS

PRESENTATION

4.A. Carrie Martin, Director of Special Education and Student Services, and Dr. Andrae Martin, Assistant Superintendent, did a presentation on the FOCUS Program.

4.B. Dr. Andrae Martin, Assistant Superintendent, presented an update on Curriculum and Instruction.

V. MINUTES

MOTION TO APPROVE

5.A. Moved by Ms. LeMelle, seconded by Mrs. Hill, to approve Item 5.A.
Motion passed 8-0, 0 abstentions, 1 absent (Rawls)

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

VI. PROGRAM

MOTION TO APPROVE

6.A. Moved by Mr. Hedenberg, seconded by Ms. LeMelle, to approve Item 6.A.
Motion passed 8-0, 0 abstentions, 1 absent (Rawls)

6.A. Approve the STMS Focus Program. The STMS Focus Academy provides individualized, student-centered programming for grades 6-8 in an after-school setting, aiming to reduce discipline referrals and enhance academic success. With a blended learning environment through Capital Area Online Learning Academy (CAOLA), students receive personalized instruction while developing accountability, self-regulation, and conflict-resolution skills. Focus Academy fosters a respectful and supportive atmosphere, free from distractions, where students can reach their full academic and personal potential. Through evidence-based interventions and collaboration with families, schools, and community resources, the program equips students to take responsibility for their education and role as engaged citizens.

VII. PERSONNEL

MOTION TO APPROVE

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

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

7.A. Approve the resignation of Nora Johnstone as Math Teacher at the Susquehanna Township Middle School, effective June 10, 2025.

7.B.1. Amend Matthew Freda as a Science Teacher at the Susquehanna Township Middle School from an effective date to be determined to effective February 18, 2025.

7.B.2. Approve Sara Martin as Special Education Teacher- Learning Support at the Thomas W. Holtzman, Jr. Elementary School at a salary of \$71,410.00, pro-rated, effective March 28, 2025. Sara will be replacing Travis Leaman.

7.B.3. Approve James Sonier as French Teacher at the Susquehanna Township High School at a salary of \$76,231.00, effective August 12, 2025. James will be replacing Jeffrey Mack.

7.B.4. Approve Sarah Southard as English Teacher at the Susquehanna Township Middle School at a salary of \$55,911.00, pro-rated, effective date to be determined. Sarah will be filing a new position.

7.B.5. Approve Yvette Keys as Special Education Teacher- Learning Support at the Susquehanna Township Middle School at a salary of \$69,580.00, effective August 12, 2025. Yvette will be replacing Amanda Salter.

7.C.1. Approve Kiana Proctor as Assistant III Paraprofessional at the Thomas W. Holtzman, Jr. Elementary School at a rate of \$18.30 per hour, effective February 19, 2025. Kiana will be replacing Shekia Jackson-Tate.

7.C.2. Approve Katie Carter as Tax Collection, Accounts Payable and Business Services Specialist at the Susquehanna Township School District at a salary of \$42,619.00, pro-rated, effective March 3, 2025, pending receipt of all clearances and new hire paperwork. Katie will be replacing Cheryl Reed.

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

Name	Position	Location	Stipend
Chris Stovall	JV Assistant Baseball Coach	STHS	\$2,600.00
Alexis Torres	Head Varsity Softball Coach	STHS	\$5,200.00
Jessica Weary	Head Girls Soccer Coach	STMS	\$2,700.00
Bobby George	Head Boys Soccer Coach	STMS	\$2,700.00
Bruce Searfoss	Assistant Boys Soccer Coach	STMS	\$2,300.00

7.D.2. Approve the following coach for the 2025-2026 school year:

Name	Position	Location	Stipend
Bobby George	Head Boys Varsity Soccer Coach	STHS	\$5,500.00

7.D.3. Approve Marisa Meholic as Mentor for Michelle Shields at the Susquehanna Township Middle School at a pro-rated amount of \$400.00, effective February 14, 2025.

7.D.4. Approve Elizabeth Alexander as Mentor for Victoria Rutherford at the Thomas W. Holtzman, Jr. Elementary School at a pro-rated amount of \$500.00, effective January 31, 2025.

7.D.5. Approve Jennifer Renaldi as Sponsor for Matthew Freda at the Susquehanna Township Middle School at a pro-rated amount of \$200.00, effective February 18, 2025.

7.D.6. Approve Lola Itzhaki as Mentor for Emilee Criss at the Thomas W. Holtzman, Jr. Elementary School at a pro-rated amount of \$560.00, effective January 6, 2025.

7.D.7. Approve Lola Itzhaki as Mentor for Hannah Wilson at the Thomas W. Holtzman, Jr. Elementary School at a pro-rated amount of \$560.00, effective January 6, 2025.

7.E. The administration recommends that the board approve the statement of charges and notice of hearing regarding the dismissal of employee 101222.

VIII. FINANCES

MOTION TO APPROVE

8.A.B.C.D.E.F.G. Moved by Mr. K. Johnson, seconded by Mrs. Hill, to approve Items 8.A.B.C.D.E.F.G.

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

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 \$1,600.00.

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 \$12,820.99.

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 \$2,626,222.31.

8.D. Approve the Food Service Cash Balance of \$2,905,413.51.

8.E. Approve the payment of Food Service bills from the Food Service Checking, as listed on the Computer Check Summary, totaling \$90,548.98.

8.F. Approve the General Fund Cash Balance of \$6,903,092.10.

8.G. Approve the following Personal Tax Refund:

Taxpayer Name: Amber Bixler

Bill #: 006364

Year: 2024

Refund Amount: \$283.50

Reason: Amber Bixler is retired; paid the taxes in error

IX. CONTRACTS

MOTION TO APPROVE

9.A.B. Moved by Mr. K. Johnson, seconded by Ms. LeMelle to approve Items 9.A.B. Motion passed 8-0, 0 abstentions, 1 absent (Rawls)

9.A. Approve the MOU with Harrisburg Area Community College for College in the High School and Dual Enrollment programs.

9.B. Approve the payment of Capital Reserve PSDLAF checking bills from the Capital Reserve PSDLAF Checking, as listed on the Computer Check Summary, totaling \$12,820.99.

DISCUSSION

9.C. Discuss the Agreement for the Sale of the Walker Mill Road (Progress Avenue) Property.

DISCUSSION

9.D. Discuss the MOU between Susquehanna Township School District and Susquehanna Township for the Walker Mill Road (Progress Avenue) Property.

DISCUSSION

9.E. Discuss the Agreement with Panorama Education. Panorama Education is an educational technology company that provides tools and analytics to help schools and districts improve student outcomes. They specialize in collecting and analyzing data on student social-emotional learning (SEL), family engagement, and school climate to support evidence-based decision-making and foster equitable learning environments. Year 1 of this Agreement will be funded through a grant.

X. POLICY

None

XI. OTHER

MOTION TO APPROVE

11.A. Moved by Mr. K. Johnson, seconded by Mr. Hedenberg, to approve Item 11.A.
Motion passed 8-0, 0 abstentions, 1 absent (Rawls)

11.A. Approve the appointment of STSD Board of School Director Jackie Hill as the district's representative to the CAIU Board, to serve a three-year term from July 1, 2025, to June 30, 2028.

MOTION TO APPROVE

11.B. Moved by Mr. K. Johnson, seconded by Mr. S. Johnson, to approve Item 11.B.
Motion passed 8-0, 0 abstentions, 1 absent (Rawls)

11.B. Approve the out-of-state field trip for Rho Kappa Social Studies Honor Society to travel to Washington D.C. on March 27, 2025, to visit historical sites and museums.

DISCUSSION

11.C. Discuss the attached Offer for Repository bid presented to the Dauphin County Office of Tax Claim by Mr. Adam Walker in the amount of \$2,000.00 as presented by Dauphin County in the attached Offer for Repository Minimum Offer document. This offer may either be approved or disapproved by the Susquehanna Township School District Board of School Directors.

DISCUSSION

11.D. Discuss the proposed change of address of the district property located at 1901 Wayne Avenue to 1651 Stanley Drive.

XII. NEW BUSINESS

None

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Moved by Mr. Folks, seconded by Mr. K. Johnson to adjourn to the meeting.
Motion passed 8-0, 0 abstentions, 1 absent (Rawls)

Meeting adjourned 8:47 p.m.


Elise LeMelle
Board Secretary