

CALL TO ORDER	At 7:03 p.m., the May 19, 2025, meeting of the Susquehanna Township Board of School Directors was called to order by President Jesse Rawls, Sr.
SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT	Mr. Jesse Rawls, Sr., Ms. Tameka Hatcher, Mrs. Jackie Hill, Mr. Jayonn Folks, Mr. Eric Hedenberg, Mr. Steven H. Johnson, Dr. Anita Mareno
ABSENT	Ms. Elise LeMelle, Keita Kalonji Johnson, Esq.
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, contracts and the superintendent’s evaluation.
INTRODUCTIONS/ GUEST PRESENTATIONS	Representative Justin Fleming, a member of the House Appropriations Committee, provided an overview of the proposed \$51.47 billion state budget, highlighting potential increases in education funding—including basic education, special education, and pre-K—as well as proposed savings through a cap on cyber charter school tuition. He also discussed anticipated new revenue sources such as adult-use cannabis legalization and gaming expansion. For Susquehanna Township, he noted modest increases in both basic and special education funding and shared that the district stands to benefit from equity-based funding reforms aimed at closing longstanding adequacy gaps. Representative Fleming emphasized the importance of ongoing advocacy and bipartisan cooperation to ensure meaningful education funding reform.
REPORTS/ ANNOUNCEMENTS	<p>Student Board Representatives: Nicholas Mabry and Suha Rockwell presented a report highlighting recent activities and events from district buildings. (attached to BoardDocs)</p> <p>Nicholas Mabry addressed the board with his thoughts on the role of student board representatives and left the meeting at 7:52 p.m.</p> <p>Dauphin County Technical School: Mr. S. Johnson Mr. S. Johnson reported that E. Dame has successfully earned two associate degrees while attending DCTS, computer networking and computer information systems. Additionally, students in the Building and Construction program traveled to North Carolina under the guidance of Mr. Brightbill to assist with rebuilding efforts in an area impacted by flooding and tornadoes. Mr. Johnson shared a brief video from a North Carolina local</p>

news station highlighting the project. The students worked on drywall installation, built a ramp and steps, and completed woodwork on the exterior of a home.

Capital Area Intermediate Unit: Mrs. Hill shared that she attended the Susquehanna Township Sunshine Festival today.

Board Committees: Ms. Hatcher shared that seven policies appear on the agenda for approval this evening.

Superintendent's Report: Dr. Tamara Willis Dr. Tamara Willis shared that it is spring concert season and commended students and staff for their hard work and dedication. She recognized high school student Olivia Stokes for her outstanding achievements at the Afro-Academic, Cultural, Technological, and Scientific Olympics (ACT-SO), sponsored by the Greater Harrisburg Area NAACP. Olivia placed first in both Photography and Original Essay categories, and second in the Poetry Written category.

Dr. Willis also congratulated Suha Rockwell, recipient of the Rotary Youth Leadership Award (RYLA) from the Susquehanna Township Rotary Club.

Several athletic highlights were shared: the high school football program recently held its Spring Fling event to showcase athletes for college and university recruiters. The track and field team has two PIAA state qualifiers: Jaylynn Dorsey, qualifying in the long jump, triple jump, and 200-meter dash; and Shaniyah Weidler, qualifying in the triple jump. Zikhere Leaks set a new school record in the 110-meter hurdles at the district meet with a time of 14.69 seconds.

Dr. Willis reported that the Sunshine Festival was held today and extended her thanks to all students and volunteers for their contributions.

Dr. Martin shared that Spring Signing Day will take place on Wednesday, May 21 at 3:15 p.m., where ten students will sign letters of intent to colleges and universities.

Lastly, Dr. Willis announced that district administration will meet with the Edgemont Community on May 27 at 6:00 p.m. for a community town hall meeting to address questions about the proposed new school on Stanley Drive.

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA ITEMS FOR MAY 19, 2025

MOTION TO APPROVE

2.A. Moved by Mr. S. Johnson, seconded by Mr. Folks to approve the meeting agenda for May 19, 2025.

Motion passed 7-0, 0 abstentions, 2 absent (Ms. LeMelle, Mr. K. Johnson)

2.B. Board Member Comments

Ms. Hatcher inquired whether the student board representatives are recognized at graduation or during the high school awards ceremony. Mr. Rawls confirmed that the senior student representative is recognized at the high school senior awards event. Ms. Hatcher also reminded everyone that May is Mental Health Awareness Month.

Mr. Rawls thanked Mr. S. Johnson for his excellent reports from DCTS. He also reminded everyone that May 20 is Election Day.

III. HEARING OF THE PUBLIC

Ms. Hatcher read a statement outlining the guidelines for public comment.

SPEAKER

N. Weidler and her parents, J. Weidler and D. Weidler, expressed their support for agenda item 11.B, which pertains to the high school choir's opportunity to travel to Carnegie Hall in New York City for the Mid America Productions (MAP) Choral Ensemble Full Concert Residency in March 2026. They also shared that the Susquehanna Township High School Band recently performed at Hershey's Music in the Park, where they placed first in their class and second overall. They thanked the board and administration for their support of the arts.

SPEAKER

C. Edwards inquired about where to locate the performance objective standards for the Assistant Superintendent. He also shared his thoughts regarding the structure of monthly board meetings.

Ms. Hatcher directed Mr. Edwards to the appropriate section of the district website and followed up by emailing him the link to the Superintendent's page.

Mr. Rawls shared that the first meeting of the month is the work session, and the second meeting is the voting meeting. He also shared that the information Mr. Edwards is seeking is located on the district website.

SPEAKER

Representative Justin Fleming shared that his son will graduate from Susquehanna Township High School this year. He expressed his gratitude to the board, administration, and teachers for fostering his son's love of learning and for providing opportunities to earn college credits during high school. Representative Fleming also emphasized the importance of maintaining continuity in teaching staff and leadership.

IV. PRESENTATIONS AND DISCUSSIONS

PRESENTATION

4.A. Mrs. Kathy Ciaciulli, Director of Human Resources, provided an update from Human Resources. (attached to BoardDocs)

Mrs. Ciaciulli and Dr. Willis presented the Innovation Award to Chelsea Wagner for her outstanding work in developing the science program at Thomas Holtzman. She received a certificate and a t-shirt from the district.

PRESENTATION

4.B. Mr. Oslwen C. Anderson, Jr., Business Manager presented the 2025-2026 Proposed Final General Fund Budget. (attached to BoardDocs)

V. MINUTES

None

VI. PROGRAM

None

VII. PERSONNEL

MOTION TO APPROVE

7.A.B.C.D.E.F.I.J. Moved by Mr. Hedenberg, seconded by Mr. Folks, to approve Items 7.A.B.C.D.E.F.I.J.

Motion passed 7-0, 0 abstentions, 2 absent (Ms. LeMelle, Mr. K. Johnson)

7.A.1. Approve the resignation of Litti Rissler as Assistant III/Paraprofessional at the Sara Lindemuth/Anna Carter Primary School, effective May 6, 2025.

7.A.2. Approve the resignation of Jenna McGinnis as Elementary School Teacher at the Sara Lindemuth/Anna Carter Primary School, effective June 9, 2025.

7.A.3. Approve the resignation of Lindsey Hemmann as Art Teacher at the Susquehanna Township Middle School, effective June 9, 2025.

7.B. Approve Lamir Wilson-Duffie as Groundskeeper at the Susquehanna Township School District at a rate of \$18.75, effective May 14, 2025. Lamir will be replacing Lamar Johnson.

7.C.1. Approve the following ESY Paraprofessionals at their hourly rate for the 2024-2025 school year:

Kim Rhoads	Dakharee Mann
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7.C.2. Approve the following ESY Teacher at a rate of \$40.00 per hour for the 2024-2025 school year:

Jennifer Nolt	
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7.D. Rescind the following new positions created for the 2025-2026 school year: 2 (K-2) positions at Sara Lindemuth/Anna Carter Primary School, 1 (3-5) Teacher at Thomas Holtzman Elementary School, and 1 (Related Arts SEL Teacher) at Thomas Holtzman Elementary School approved at the April 7, 2025, board meeting.

7.E.1. Approve the creation of thirteen (13) K–5 Instructional Interventionist positions and the corresponding job description for the 2025–2026 school year.

Note: Of the thirteen positions, five (5) are existing roles that will be transitioned from Reading or Math Interventionist to Instructional Interventionist. The remaining eight (8) are newly created positions—four (4) of which result from rescinding previously approved new positions from April, and four (4) are additional new positions.

7.F.1. Approve the job title change for Katrina Fry from Reading Specialist to Instructional Interventionist at Thomas W. Holtzman Elementary School, effective July 1, 2025. There is no change in salary.

7.F.2. Approve the job title change for Jennifer Hotsko from Reading Specialist to Instructional Interventionist, at Sara Lindemuth / Anna Carter Primary School, effective July 1, 2025. There is no change in salary.

7.F.3. Approve the job title change for Janeen Kime from Reading Specialist to Instructional Interventionist at Thomas W. Holtzman Elementary School, effective July 1, 2025. There is no change in salary.

7.F.4. Approve the job title change for Jennifer Mariano from Reading Specialist to Instructional Interventionist, at Sara Lindemuth / Anna Carter Primary School, effective July 1, 2025. There is no change in salary.

7.F.5. Approve the job title change for Megan Krot from Math Interventionist to Instructional Interventionist, at Thomas W. Holtzman Elementary School, effective July 1, 2025. There is no change in salary.

7.I. Approve the elimination of four (4) Reading Specialist positions and one (1) Math Interventionist position effective for the 2025-2026 school year.

7.J. Recommend approval of the Teamsters Collective Bargaining Agreement, effective July 1, 2025, through June 30, 2028.

MOTION TO APPROVE

7.G. Moved by Mr. S. Johnson, seconded by Mrs. Hill, to approve Item 7.G.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Aye: Mr. Hedenberg, Dr. Mareno, Mr. Folks, Ms. Hatcher,
Mrs. Hill, Mr. S. Johnson, Mr. Rawls

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Ms. LeMelle, Mr. K. Johnson

Motion passed 7-0, 0 abstentions, 2 absent (Ms. LeMelle, Mr. K. Johnson)

7.G. Approve the job title change for Kathy Ciaciulli, from Business Manager to Chief Finance and Operations Officer, effective August 11, 2025.

MOTION TO APPROVE

7.H. Moved by Mr. Folks, seconded by Ms. Hatcher to approve Item 7.H.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Aye: Mr. Hedenberg, Dr. Mareno, Mr. Folks, Ms. Hatcher,
Mrs. Hill, Mr. S. Johnson, Mr. Rawls

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Ms. LeMelle, Mr. K. Johnson

Motion passed 7-0, 0 abstentions, 2 absent (Ms. LeMelle, Mr. K. Johnson)

7.H. Approve the employment contract for Mrs. Kathy Ciaciulli, effective August 11, 2025, through June 30, 2030, at an annual salary of \$155,500 for the 2025–2026 school year.

VIII. FINANCES

MOTION TO APPROVE

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

8.A.B.C.D.E.F.

Motion passed 7-0, 0 abstentions, 2 absent (Ms. LeMelle, Mr. K. Johnson)

8.A. Approve the payment of Activity Fund bills from the First National Bank Activity Fund Checking as listed on the Computer Check Summary, totaling \$11,128.46.

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 \$45,607.86.

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 \$2,260,271.40.

8.D. Approve the Food Service Cash Balance of \$2,949,740.94.

8.E. Approve the General Fund Cash Balance of \$6,056,272.35.

8.F. Approve the payment of New Construction Capital Projects Fund Checking. bill from the NEW CONSTRUCTION CPF CKG. as listed on the Computer Check Summary, totaling \$98,771.76

MOTION TO APPROVE

8.G. Moved by Mr. Folks, seconded by Mr. S. Johnson to approve Item 8.G.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Aye: Mr. Hedenberg, Dr. Mareno, Mr. Folks, Ms. Hatcher,
Mrs. Hill, Mr. S. Johnson, Mr. Rawls

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Ms. LeMelle, Mr. K. Johnson

Motion passed 7-0, 0 abstentions, 2 absent (Ms. LeMelle, Mr. K. Johnson)

8.G. Approve the DCTS 25-26 FY Proposed Budget in the amount of \$22,213,124 representing an increase over 24-25 FY adopted budget equivalent to \$1,158,636 or 5.5% as attached. The budget approval is now necessary due to a motion passed by the JOC to allow consortium districts to conduct roll votes for this budget's approval in the absence of JOC joint board meetings. The roll call vote form must be completed and returned to DCTS.

MOTION TO APPROVE

8.H. Moved by Mr. S. Johnson, seconded by Mrs. Hill to approve Item 8.H.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Aye: Mr. Hedenberg, Dr. Mareno, Mr. Folks, Ms. Hatcher,
Mrs. Hill, Mr. S. Johnson, Mr. Rawls

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Ms. LeMelle, Mr. K. Johnson

Motion passed 7-0, 0 abstentions, 2 absent (Ms. LeMelle, Mr. K. Johnson)

8.H. Approve the 25-26 Fiscal Year Proposed Final General Fund Budget inclusive of a 3.5% real estate tax increase with expenditures totaling \$73,325,199, revenues totaling \$70,479,035 and \$2,846,164 use of fund balance.

IX. CONTRACTS

MOTION TO APPROVE

9.A.B.C.D.E.F.G.H. Moved by Mr. Hedenberg, seconded by Mr. Folks to approve Items 9.A.B.C.D.E.F.G.H.

Motion passed 7-0, 0 abstentions, 2 absent (Ms. LeMelle, Mr. K. Johnson)

9.A. Approve the Letters of Agreement with Keystone Human Services to provide a Mental Health Consultant for the Student Assistance Programs at the four school buildings, for the 2025-2026 School Year.

9.B. Approve the 25-26 fiscal year broker agreement with AJG Risk Management Service, Inc. inclusive of both insurance carrier premiums, as well as brokerage commission costs as disclosed in Exhibit B of the attachment.

9.C. Approve the Agreement for CAIU to provide School-Age Education Services to Susquehanna Township School District learners for the 2025-2026 School Year.

9.D. Approve the extension of the existing contract between Rohrer Bus Service and Susquehanna Township School District for a period of one-year, effective July 1, 2025, through June 30, 2026. The district will pursue a multiple year contract for transportation services during the 25-26 fiscal year.

9.E. Approve the attached three-year Unifirst Service Agreement in the annual amount of \$15,006.68 for the provision of uniforms for district custodians, maintenance workers, and groundskeepers as well as walk-off floor mats at entrance/exit ways for each of the district's buildings.

9.F. Approve the PSBA, Better Unemployment Compensation System Comprehensive Program participation agreement between the PSBA Insurance Trust and Susquehanna Township School District. The program provides school districts with services related to managing district unemployment compensation risks, claims, and related services.

9.G. Approve the Dual Enrollment Agreement between PennWest University and Susquehanna Township School District for dual enrollment of STHS students.

9.H. Approve the attached Storm Water Management O&M and ancillary Site Plan between Susquehanna Township School District and Susquehanna Township.

DISCUSSION

9.I. Discuss the 2025-2026 CAIU Title III Consortium Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) regarding the program services and products to be provided in the CAIU Title III Consortium.

X. POLICY

MOTION TO APPROVE

10.A.B.C.D.E.F.G. Moved by Mr. Hedenberg, seconded by Mr. Folks to approve Items 10.A.B.C.D.E.F.G.

Motion passed 7-0, 0 abstentions, 2 absent (Ms. LeMelle, Mr. K. Johnson)

10.A. Approve revised Policy 218.1: Weapons

10.B. Approve revised Policy 218.2: Terroristic Threats

10.C. Approve Policy 236.1: Threat Assessment

10.D. Approve revised Policy 247: Hazing

10.E. Approve revised Policy 805: Emergency Preparedness and Response

10.F. Approve Policy 805.1: Relations With Law Enforcement Agencies

10.G. Approve Policy 805.2: School Security Personnel

XI. OTHER

MOTION TO APPROVE

11.A. Moved by Mr. S. Johnson, seconded by Mrs. Hill to approve Item 11.A.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Aye: Mr. Hedenberg, Dr. Mareno, Mr. Folks, Ms. Hatcher,
Mrs. Hill, Mr. S. Johnson, Mr. Rawls

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Ms. LeMelle, Mr. K. Johnson

Motion passed 7-0, 0 abstentions, 2 absent (Ms. LeMelle, Mr. K. Johnson)

11.A. Approve resolution to place a public referendum on the ballot at the November 4, 2025, municipal election seeking approval of the electorate to eliminate the school occupation tax and increase the school earned income tax rate to replace revenues generated by the occupation tax as attached.

MOTION TO APPROVE

11.B. Moved by Mr. Hedenberg, seconded by Ms. Hatcher to approve Item 11.B.

Motion passed 7-0, 0 abstentions, 2 absent (Ms. LeMelle, Mr. K. Johnson)

11.B. Approve the overnight, out-of-state field trip for members of the Susquehanna Township High School Choir to travel to Carnegie Hall in New York City on March 11-15, 2026, to attend Mid America Production (MAP) Choral Ensemble Full Concert Residency. (flyer attached)

XII. NEW BUSINESS

None

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Moved by Mr. S. Johnson, seconded by Mr. Hedenberg, to adjourn the meeting.
Motion passed 7-0, 0 abstentions, 2 absent (Ms. LeMelle, Mr. K. Johnson)

Meeting adjourned 9:30 p.m.

Elise LeMelle
Board Secretary