



January 10, 2022

6:00 P.M.
H.S. Library

Mr. Todd Engel
President
Region III

Mr. Steve Rupert
Vice President
Region II

Mrs. Cathy Bachman
Treasurer
Region III

Mrs. Sue Bowman
Region I

Mr. Diane Cramer
Region II

Mr. Nathan Miller
Region I

VACANT
Region I

VACANT
Region II

VACANT
Region III

Dr. Mark Stamm
Superintendent

Mrs. Jamie Mowrey
Board Secretary

Mr. Fred Holland
Solicitor

Agenda

Work Session of the Board

The board may vote on any items that properly come before the board.

Opening

Call to Order

Silent Meditation & Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

Preliminary Comments on Agenda Items

Action Items

School Board Vacancy Positions – all appointments will be until December 2023

- a. Region I – Attachment #1
- b. Region II – Attachment #2
- c. Region III – Attachment #3

Superintendent's Recommendations:

1. Modified Work Week for Staff Member – Attachment #4
2. Approval of Policies – Second Reading:
 - a. 336 Personal Necessity Leave
3. Employment

Superintendent's Items for Discussion

1. Strategic Plan Update
2. Real Estate Tax Bill Collection Agreement – Attachment #5
3. Susquehanna Transit Bus Renewal – Attachment #6
4. School-Based Mental Health Update
5. McKissick – Building Plan/Update

Old Business

New Business

Courtesy to the Floor

Final Remarks by Board Members

EXECUTIVE SESSION

There will be an Executive Session after the work session regarding security, real estate, and personnel.

Adjournment

SUPERINTENDENT'S RECOMMENDATIONS
January 10, 2022

1. Modified Work Week for Staff Member – Attachment #4

It is recommended that the board approve absence from work for Irina Plotnikova, Instructional Paraprofessional at the High School, for one day a week for the remainder of the school term for the purposes of furthering her education. She will first use her available personal leave time. The additional days will be unpaid. Mr. Smith has provided a recommendation for board consideration for approval.

2. Approval of Policy – Second Reading

It is recommended the school board approve the second reading of the following policy:

- Policy No. 336 – Personal Necessity Leave

3. Employment

Jr/Sr High School Secretary Position

Jesse Smith, Jr/Sr High School Principal, is recommending school board approval for Cheyenne Hogue as the new Jr/Sr High School Secretary effective December 15, 2021. This is a 240-day position with a starting rate of \$14.79 per hour with benefits.

BEN BRIGANDI

Region I

Jamie Mowrey
Business Manager
South Williamsport School District

Dec. 13, 2021

Jamie,

This is a letter of application for the South Williamsport school board's Region I position, one that I held for a few weeks this past fall. The board opened this seat for public application with spots in the other two regions at its past meeting, a very fair and understandable decision.

As stated in my previous application, I have two children at Rommelt and a homeowner within the district. As you can see from my resume, I am an adjunct instructor at Lycoming College in addition to my full-time job as a content manager of annual High School Sports Awards shows run by USA Today Network Ventures. Before that, I was sports editor at the Williamsport Sun-Gazette for nearly two decades.

At Lycoming, I have taught students from not only local schools, but around the world. Life changes fast with a high school diploma in hand, and it's up to us to make sure our students are as prepared as possible whether it's to a college or job six states from home, or an apartment six blocks from home. At the Sun-Gazette, I met regularly with not only the public readership, but school parents across the coverage area. Being open, honest, and available has always been the best policy for the best relationships.

As I said at my prior board interview, I believe our top priority should be to get our students healthy, both physically and mentally. This shows up in every attempt to put everyone in the best possible position, whether it is performing the best possible band concert or improving math scores.

I would love to discuss this open position further with anyone interested.

Best regards,

Ben Brigandi

1/3/22

South Williamsport School Board
C/O Jamie Mowrey
515 West Central Avenue
South Williamsport PA 17702

Region I

Dear Board and Administration

This is my letter of application for the Region I vacancy of the South Williamsport Area School District School Board. As a South Williamsport alum and a parent of two children within the district, I am interested in serving on the board to ensure safe and up-to-date facilities, policies, and curriculums are in place to meet the needs of our students.

As an alum of the district and a first-generation college student, I am positioned to understand many of the districts' students' emotional, social, and educational needs. In addition to the benefit of having lived experiences similar to our demographic of students, I also have a background in education. I recently graduated from Drexel University with a Doctorate in Leadership and Management with an emphasis in Technology Education and have taught for 15 years at a local community college. As a college instructor, I am part of the Pennsylvania State Education Association. I believe that my experiences as an executive member of my chapter's union representative council will be an asset to the board due to my experience with union contract negotiations and working with school administration to develop policies and memorandums to improve working educational experiences at the college.

Throughout my years in education, I have learned that the best way to encourage students to be successful in the classroom is to meet their emotional needs. To help ensure my students' emotional needs are met, I have attended professional developments to help improve my awareness and sensitivity when dealing with at-risk student populations. A few of the trainings have included QPR (Question, Persuade, and Respond) to help prevent suicide, Safe Zone Training to learn more about the LGBTQ+ community, and Diversity Training to help identify social blind spots that may exist in the classroom. In addition to working at my school to ensure the emotional well-being of my students, I also provide emotional support to the community children through my volunteer work at Heartworks. Heartworks is a nonprofit grief support group through UPMC to support grieving children and families. For the organization, I volunteer as a group facilitator for middle school children that have experienced a significant death of a loved one in their family.

If nominated to join the board, I will work with the administration and the current board to choose a new facility plan that will include industrial arts, fine arts, and athletic spaces to meet the needs of all our students. I will also bring my leadership and emotional support experience to help develop social and emotional support programs tailored to better meet the needs of our students. Finally, I will use my love of education to encourage and support our amazing teachers so they can continue to offer the same strong educational experiences our school district has always provided to our community.

I appreciate your consideration,

Dr. Tammy Miller, Ed.D.

Jessica Smith

Region 1 School Board Position

Dear School Board Members,

I would like to express my interest in becoming a member of the South Williamsport Area School Board. I am married with 3 children, 2 of whom are already in the district, so I am very invested in the future of South Williamsport.

My job as a Property Manager and a Pharmacy Technician allows me to interact with different people daily. There are many high stress situations that I have dealt with in my line of work over the years and I feel confident with the current state of Affairs I would be prepared for any situation. I have been on the Elementary PTO for the last 3 years and feel that can benefit the Board. I coach different sports in the district so I will continue to have the kids and their safety be at the forefront of my mind.

I have also attached my resume for your records and can be available to answer any questions you might have. I really appreciate the opportunity to apply for this position and hope you will see that I am the best person for the job. Thank you for your consideration and I hope to hear from you soon.

Sincerely,

Jessica Smith

Enclosure

School Board Members
C/O Jamie Mowrey
SWASD
South Williamsport, PA 17702

1/3/2022

Region II

Dear SWASD School Board Members,

I am writing to express my interest in the Region II vacancy on the SWASD school board.

I reside within the district at _____ and have lived there since 2013. My daughter attends Kindergarten at Central Elementary.

Currently, I teach a variety of business courses at Penn College. As an instructor and as an academic adviser, I often work with students who have recently graduated from both local and regional school districts. I see firsthand both their successes and their struggles as they transition to higher education and, ultimately, the work force.

Having studied educational leadership at the graduate level, I am familiar with the role that a school board plays in its district and the importance in building collaborative relationships with other school board members and with the community. I feel I can be an effective advocate for parents, students, and the South Williamsport community at large, and help to make decisions that will benefit our school district.

For the above reasons, I feel like I am well-positioned to serve on this board. Please see my resume (attached) for further details regarding my experience, education, and service.

Thank you for your consideration!

Sincerely,

Summer Bukeavich

CHARLES J. HAEFNER

Region II

Jamie Mowrey
Business Manager
South Williamsport School District

December 6, 2021

Dear School Board Members,

This letter is for application for the vacant board seat for South Williamsport Region II. My children are grown and long graduated from South but I have a grandnephew currently attending.

As you can see from my resume, I currently serve on the board of a non-profit organization – Foundation for Human Movement Studies (FHMS) – and have served since 2005. I have an MBA and graduated with honors. I also have a teaching certificate from a private school – Waldorf Schools – that have schools worldwide. I'm also a Level III graduate of Spacial Dynamics (currently highest level) which facilitates many of the gym/games/movement activities at Waldorf Schools. As a board member of FHMS, I have contact with Waldorf Schools and teachers, mostly in the US and several years ago, I went with a team of SDI personnel to Buenos Aires to train teachers at several Argentinian Waldorf Schools to better interact with their student's movement needs. I also served in the US Army and attained the rank of SP5 serving as a Personnel Specialist.

Attached please find my resume. I can be available to answer any questions you might have. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Charles J. Haefner

Letter of Introduction

Region III

Dear Secretary of the SWASD School Board,

My name is Tom Henderson of

I was born and raised here in 1950. So, this is my hometown. A 1968 graduate of South Williamsport Area School District (SWASD) after which I graduated from Kutztown University with a BA in Elementary and taught 3 ½ years in the Hamburg Area School District. A 1982 graduate of Practical Bible Training School in Pastoral Studies. I am a 6-year veteran of the Army Reserves from 1970-1976 and a former substitute teacher in the district for 12 years. I am currently the music minister at Tabernacle Baptist Church of Williamsport, a Deacon, the adult Sunday School teacher and caretaker of the property.

My wife and I are native to the area, having both graduated from South and then the year of the '72 flood, we were married and will celebrate 50 years next year. We have been blessed with 4 married children and 13 grandchildren, all of whom are active in the Lord's work in local churches as Pastors and Children's Ministry Directors.

Why do I want to fill this vacancy for school director in the third region? This is our home and I believe I bring much experience to the plate in education and family. I am Pro-Life and believe parents should have a positive impact on the education for their children and would represent their views in the school district. As a taxpayer, I understand the impact and the integrity of hard-working citizens of this important school district and will strive to encourage strong families in our community. Because of that, I am currently serving on the Comprehensive Planning Committee at SWASD to promote a vision, mission, and future for our school district.

Please consider me for this vacant position.

Thank you,

Thomas L. Henderson



Region III

October 11, 2021

South Williamsport Area School District
515 West Central Avenue
South Williamsport, PA 17702

Dr. Stamm and SWASD School Board

I wish to express my interest in one of the vacant seats on the SWASD school board. As a resident of Duboistown, I believe that I reside in region three. I am certainly qualified by education, professional experience, and formal and informal working knowledge of the district. My qualifications include the following highlights:

- Thirty years of experience in the district as secondary English teacher
- English department chair
- Career Pathways chair
- Class Advisor
- Club sponsor
- PTO booth volunteer
- Faculty mentor
- Strategic Planning Committee member
- SWAEA contract negotiating team and past president
- STAR Team member
- Graduate of SWAHS Class of 1975

I hope this proves adequate qualification for the vacant position on the board.

Sincerely



John Hitesman

Attachment 4

December 17, 2021

Members of the Board,

I am writing in support of Irina Plotnikova's request to modify her work week. She does a tremendous job working with Mrs. Newlen and our students. In addition, we normally have difficulty hiring support staff. Not granting her request would put our students in a tough position academically, and would disrupt the educational program she supports. I believe we can accommodate her request for the remainder of the school year. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Jesse Smith

Comprehensive / Strategic Planning Requirements in Pennsylvania

Title 22 of the PA Code, Chapter 4 specifies planning requirements for all school districts which includes the following plans below. All schools are required to use the Future Ready Comprehensive Planning portal for this process.

- Professional Development Plan
 - Every 3 years, a school entity must submit to the Secretary for approval a professional education plan. The professional education plan must be made available for public inspection and comment for 28 days, and then it can be approved by the board and then submitted to PDE.
- Induction Plan
 - Every 6 years, a school entity must submit to the Department for approval an induction plan. The induction plan must be made available for public inspection and comment for 28 days, and then it can be approved by the school entity's governing board and then submitted to PDE.
- Student Services
 - Every 6 years, a school entity must develop and implement a comprehensive and integrated K-12 program of student services. This student services plan must be made available for public inspection and comment for 28 days, and then it can be approved by the school entity's governing board.
- Special Education
 - Every 3 years, each school district must develop and submit to the department a special education plan. The special education plan must be made available for public inspection and comment for 28 days, and then it can be approved by the school entity's governing board and then submitted to PDE.
- Gifted Education
 - Every 6 years, each school district must develop and implement a gifted education plan. The gifted education plan must be made available for public inspection and comment for 28 days, and then it can be approved by the school entity's governing board.

These plans will be posted for public review in the main office and on the district web site January 11 through February 9, 2022 which meets the statutory 28 day review period. They will be brought back to the board for approval on February 17.

This agreement is between South Williamsport School District and Dorothy White Mertz of 1141 Four Mile Dr, Williamsport, Pa 17701 for the collection of Real Estate Tax bills.

Taxes will be mailed to or collected at 2655 Euclid Ave, Duboistown, Pa, 17702. This space in the Duboistown Borough Building will be provided to the Tax Collector. Hours will be posted, recorded on an answering machine and printed on the tax bills.

For the collection of Real Estate Tax Bills my quote would be \$4.00 per bill mailed. I would submit an invoice each time funds are turned in, (including each installment that is paid and Interim bills February and August) and then a final invoice for bills not paid at settlement. Also payment of postage and an information sheet accompanying the mailing of notices for delinquent tax bills send mid-November would be invoiced to the School (as required by law).

2 boxes of copy paper and 2 boxes of postage envelopes per year (one window, one regular) for use during the year for the residents will be reimbursed by the school.

If required I will present a Resolution to be approved for Return Check Fees, Duplicate Bill Fees, Tax Certifications, Memo bill fees and Rebate Receipts.

Collection would be in the INFOCON system currently used and that the County supports. Currently there is NO CHARGE for this system. Should they begin to charge for this system, the School District would pay this cost.

Funds will be submitted no later than the 10th of the month, and more frequently during the discount collection period.

You would continue to pay for processing and mailing the bills from the printer through Lycoming County.

I will provide receipts for Tax Rebate, and IRS filing, answer tax status 1-3 times per listing, closing or re-finance, explain interim bills, send reminders once delinquent , mail tax bills a second or third time with address changes , etc, all for the benefit of the taxpaying resident.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Dottie White Mertz

dswtaxoffice@gmail.com

570-220-4729 cell (temporary contact until January 2022)

21SwmpSchoolREcontract

**SOUTH WILLIAMSPORT AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
PROPOSAL FOR TRANSPORTATION SERVICES
CONTRACT YEARS 2022 – 2027**

1. THIS PROPOSAL IS FOR 9 BUSES DAILY
 6 – 72 PASSENGER CAPACITY
 1 – 72 PASSENGER CAPACITY – BUS ROUTE 260
 1 – 40 PASSENGER CAPACITY
 1 – 40 PASSENGER CAPACITY (WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE)
 If a bus/buses would be added or eliminated the daily rate would be adjusted accordingly
2. THE 9 DAILY RUNS WOULD BE APPROXIMATELY THE SAME NUMBER OF MILES AND REQUIRE THE SAME AMOUNT OF DRIVER'S TIME TO COMPLETE, AS CURRENTLY BEING CONTRACTED FOR.
3. AS IN THE PAST, SOUTH WILLIAMSPORT SCHOOL DISTRICT WILL PROVIDE THE FUEL FOR ALL REGULAR RUNS, ATHLETIC TRIPS AND FIELD TRIPS.
4. RATES FOR DAILY TRANSPORTATION:

WITH CAMERA SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM INCLUDED

<u>SCHOOL YEAR</u>	<u>RATE PER DAY</u>	<u>BUS PER DAY</u>
2022 / 2023	\$1902.16	\$217.39
2023 / 2024	\$1902.16	\$217.39
2024 / 2025	\$1978.28	\$226.09
2025 / 2026	\$1978.28	\$226.09
2026 / 2027	\$2037.61	\$232.87

ALL BUSES PROVIDED ARE EQUIPPED WITH ANGELTRAX RECORDING CAMERA SYSTEMS. EACH SYSTEM IS EQUIPPED WITH A THREE CAMERA SYSTEM, GPS LAYOVER AND HARD DRIVE FOR VIDEO STORAGE. THE HARD DRIVE CAN HOLD UP TO A WEEK'S WORTH OF VIDEO, DEPENDANT ON THE ROUTE LENGTH. WE WILL PROVIDE, INSTALL AND MAINTAIN THE CAMERA SYSTEM.

IF AN EXTRA SHUTTLE RUN TO NESBIT OR WILLIAMSPORT WOULD NEED TO BE ADDED THE ADDITIONAL COST WOULD BE:

<u>SCHOOL YEAR</u>	<u>RATE PER DAY</u>
2022 / 2023	\$39.09
2023 / 2024	\$39.09
2024 / 2025	\$41.05
2025 / 2026	\$41.05
2026 / 2027	\$42.70

5. DAILY AIDE / BUS MONITOR PROVIDED FOR A SCHOOL ROUTE.

<u>SCHOOL YEAR</u>	<u>RATE PER DAY</u>
22/23	\$59.12
23/24	\$59.12
24/25	\$62.89
25/26	\$62.89
26/27	\$64.02

6. RATES FOR ATHLETIC TRIPS AND FIELD TRIPS:

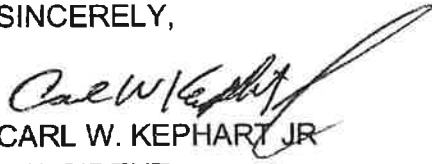
<u>SCHOOL YEAR</u>	<u>PRICE PER MILE</u>	<u>MINIMUM RATE PER TRIP</u>
2022 / 2023	\$1.74 PER MILE	\$99.00 PER TRIP
2023 / 2024	\$1.74 PER MILE	\$99.00 PER TRIP
2024 / 2025	\$1.81 PER MILE	\$120.00 PER TRIP
2025 / 2026	\$1.81 PER MILE	\$120.00 PER TRIP
2026 / 2027	\$1.86 PER MILE	\$124.80 PER TRIP

ON ANY TRIP WHERE DRIVER LAYOVER WOULD BE MORE THAN 3 HOURS (SUCH AS TOURNAMENTS, COMPETITIONS OR FIELD TRIPS) THE DRIVER LAYOVER WOULD BE \$17.00 PER HOUR FOR EACH HOUR OVER 3 HOURS, FOR CONTRACT TERM YEAR 2022-2024. FOR THE REMAINING THREE YEARS OF CONTRACT, 2024-2027 SCHOOL TERMS, LAYOVER CHARGE WOULD BE \$20.00 PER HOUR, FOR EACH HOUR OVER 3 INITIAL HOURS.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION OF THIS PROPOSAL. SUSQUEHANNA TRANSIT COMPANY IS VERY GRATEFUL FOR HAVING THE OPPORTUNITY TO SERVE SOUTH WILLIAMSPORT SCHOOL DISTRICT FOR THE PAST 40 YEARS AND LOOK FORWARD TO CONTINUE THAT WORKING RELATIONSHIP.

IF YOU, OR ANY OF YOUR BOARD MEMBERS WOULD LIKE TO DISCUSS THIS PROPOSAL, I WOULD BE MORE THAN HAPPY TO MEET WITH YOU AT YOUR CONVENIENCE.

SINCERELY,



CARL W. KEPHART JR
PRESIDENT



CAMERON W KEPHART
EXECUTIVE VICE-PRESIDENT



Comprehensive School Based Mental Health Program Update

In May of 2021, we ended the school year with a full week of activities around preparing students for a safe and healthy summer. At the conclusion of that week, every student in grades 5-12 was handed a resource card that focused on their well being and how to seek help if needed. In addition, using federal COVID19 funds, we funded over \$14,000 summer activities for students.

We knew that returning to this school year, communication, would be our primary focus. Tragically, recent events have once again shown how important this program is for students, staff, and the community.

To ensure we are providing supportive and helpful information to all, Mrs. Maria Pierce, Director of Student Services, School Counselors and I have developed an annual series of wellbeing activities. Each month will be a different topic with specialized and age appropriate activities that are also aligned with the Second Step Program.

In the coming weeks, we will further develop these activities, communication plans, and other resources. Discussions with students have been very beneficial to guide the development of this program and we will continue to seek their input.

Below is the tentative plan.

- September – Healthy Me / Healthy Us Introduction / Reintroduction
- October – Standing Up for Me and Us: Bullying Prevention
- November – Social Media: Respectful / Responsible
- December – Caring for Me and Us
- January – Pressure Everywhere!
- February – Celebrating You!
- March - Suicide Awareness
- April - Your Community, Your Future
- May – Healthy Me, Healthy Us - Summer Launch

