

## Superintendent of Schools Welcome

December 1, 2023

Dear Susquehanna Community Students and Families,

I would like to express my gratitude to the Board of Education for the opportunity to serve as your Superintendent of Schools and for having the past three months to engage in succession planning with Mr. Stone, as well as working closely with the administrative team—I could not be more prepared to begin. I spent much time interacting with teachers, support staff, students, and their families during the school day and at after-school events. The sense of “community” was alive and well in Susquehanna when I participated in the Homecoming events, the Friday Night Football game, the High School play, and the Big Blue Madness Night, which kicked off the basketball teams’ winter season.

In my first 100 days on the job, I have recognized the commitment to academic excellence by the faculty, the economic needs of the Susquehanna community, and the plans underway to ensure facility improvements are prioritized. This fall, the Board of Education approved the Comprehensive Plan, which was prepared by the leadership teams. This plan will navigate the direction of teaching, learning, and health/safety going forward, ensuring that written curriculums in K-12 courses are aligned with Pennsylvania Standards. Additionally, Safety continues to be a priority as the school district has secured an armed security officer who walks the hallways and cafeterias in both buildings and the outside campus. Lanesboro Police will continue to be onsite throughout the school day and throughout the school year.

In conclusion, I have begun my 28th year in public education in the Pennsylvania school system and served eight years as a Superintendent. My experience in previous positions will be an asset to the Susquehanna Community School District. I will continue to prioritize learning and achievement, along with promoting kindness, compassion, and gratitude for both students and staff. I am excited for the opportunity ahead of me to find solutions to the problems that come to the district office. I am confident that we will continue improving our education delivery and the services we offer our students. Together, we have a lot of good work to do, and I look forward to solving these challenges with you.

Let’s have a great year, Susquehanna!

Sincerely,

Mr. John Rushefski

Superintendent of Schools