

**Minutes**  
**January 17, 2024**  
**Swedesboro-Woolwich Board of Education**  
*"A Community dedicated to inspiring life-long learners"*  
**Gov. Charles Stratton School**  
**15 Fredrick Boulevard**  
**Woolwich Township, NJ 08085**  
**6:00 Executive Session**  
**Regular Session to Follow**

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**1. Opening**

A. Call to Order

**Open Public Meeting Act.** Adequate notice of this meeting of the board of education of the Swedesboro-Woolwich School District has been provided in accordance with the certification of notice by the secretary of the board, which shall become part of the minutes of this meeting.

B. Roll Call

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Gina Azzari, School Board President	All Committees
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Natalie Baker, School Board Vice President	(Chair) Curriculum, (Chair) Negotiations, Personnel/Finance Committees
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Julie Dickson	(Chair) Operations Committee
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Erin Carroll	Curriculum Committee
	Laurie Cecala-Read	Operations Committee
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Marie Barbara	(Chair) Personnel/Finance Committee, Negotiations
	Tamara McGovern	Curriculum Committee
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Alfred Beaver	Operations Committee
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Kenneth Riley	Personnel/Finance Committees, Negotiations

Quorum: 7-2/6:01 pm

**Other's Present:**

Dr. Kristin Kellogg, Superintendent of Schools  
Mr. Robert Miles, School Business Administrator, Board Secretary  
Mr. Joel Brown, Chief Information Officer  
Ms. Christina Panebianco, Assistant Board Secretary

Tamara McGovern arrived to meeting at 6:03 pm making quorum 9-0

Laurie Cecala-Read arrived to meeting at 6:03 pm making quorum 9-0

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**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**RECESS INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION – If Needed**

**WHEREAS**, the Open Public Meetings Act authorizes boards of education to meet in closed executive session under certain circumstances, and

**WHEREAS**, the Open Public Meetings Act requires the Swedesboro-Woolwich School District Board of Education (the "Board") to adopt a resolution at a public meeting to go into closed executive session; now therefore:

**BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board that it is necessary to meet in closed executive session to discuss certain items, including the following:

- Matters of personal confidentiality rights, including but not limited to, staff and/or student discipline matters, and specifically: \_\_\_\_\_
- Matters in which the release of information would impair the right to receive government funds, and specifically: \_\_\_\_\_
- Matters which, if publicly disclosed, would constitute an unwarranted invasion of individual privacy, and specifically: \_\_\_\_\_
- Matters concerning negotiations, and specifically: \_\_\_\_\_
- Matters involving the purchase of real property and/or the investment of public funds, and specifically: \_\_\_\_\_
- Matters involving the real tactics and techniques utilized in protecting the safety and property of the public, and specifically: \_\_\_\_\_
- Matters involving anticipated or pending litigation, including matters of attorney-client privilege, and specifically: \_\_\_\_\_
- Matters involving personnel issues, including but not limited to, the employment, appointment, termination of employment, terms and conditions of employment, evaluation of performance, promotion or discipline of any public officer or employee, and specifically: \_\_\_\_\_  
Personnel \_\_\_\_\_
- Matters involving quasi-judicial deliberations, and specifically: \_\_\_\_\_

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that any discussion held by the Board which need not remain confidential will be made public as soon as feasible. The minutes of the executive session will not be disclosed until the need for confidentiality no longer exists.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Board anticipates the executive session to last approximately 30 minutes. The Board will return to open session to conduct business at the conclusion of the executive session.

- 1) Recommendation: Dickson/Beaver approve to enter into **Executive Session** for the purpose of discussing/reviewing items as noted above.  
Board action needed: Yes Time: 6:03 pm  
(All yes, motion to carry 9-0)
  
- 2) Recommendation: McGovern/Dickson approve to return to **Regular Session**.  
Board action needed: Yes Time: 6:35 pm  
(All yes, motion to carry 9-0)

Roll Call- We have a Quorum 9-0

C. Flag Salute

D. Adoption of Agenda

Recommendation: Baker/McGovern approve the adoption of the agenda, **as presented**.

Board action needed: Yes  
(All yes, motion to carry 9-0)

E. Approval of Minutes

Recommendation: Baker/McGovern approve the regular and executive session minutes dated **December 13, 2023**, **as submitted**.

Board action needed: Yes  
(Motion to carry Regular Minutes 8-0-1 Beaver abstained: Executive 6-0-3 Beaver, Riley and Azzari abstained)

## **2. Presentations**

A. Stellar Comet of the Month- **December 2023**

1) **Walter Hill School**

Grade 6

- Nikoletta Gerakios
- Parker DeAngelis
- Aksel Feliz
- Jackson Evancho

2) **Charles G. Harker School**

Grade 3

- Ella Howie
- Tray'von Street

Grade 4

- Bryce Weber
- Domani DiSandro

Grade 5

- Shawn Poindexter
- Olivia Doumaux

3) **Gov. Charles Stratton School**

Grade 1

- Carson Camlin
- Sadie Eisenstein

Grade 2

- Braelyn Fitzgerald
- Grady Noonan

4) **Margaret Clifford School**

Kindergarten

- Taylor Longmore
- Edward Tull
- Parker Cahill
- Lexi Vengenock

**3. Communication**

A. Superintendent

*“A Community dedicated to inspiring life-long learners”*

1) Superintendent Updates

Shout Outs!

- I would like to take a moment to recognize our Swedesboro Woolwich school board. January is school board recognition month and I want to publicly acknowledge all of the hard work and dedication of our board members. They selflessly volunteer their time for the betterment of the community. I look forward to continuing our relationship, working to build the best version of the Swedesboro-Woolrich School District possible. Thank you again!
- Congratulations to Heather Sulitzer for her RBT renewal!
- Congratulations to the Clifford Teacher of the Year Mrs. Christina McClernan and ESP of the Year Ms. Linsley Shainline

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- Thank you to the PTO for providing the Holiday Treat for the Clifford staff
- Thank you to the PTO for setting up a visit from Santa to the Clifford School. The kids were so excited!
- Thank you to the administration for coming and being judges for the Annual Clifford Door Decorating Contest!
- Thank you to the Clifford room parents for making the classroom holiday parties a success!
- Thank you to Mrs. Regina and Mrs. Gretz for organizing our Finish the Lyrics Christmas Video at Hill
- Thank you to Mr. Owen and Mrs. Gretz for getting the drama program up and running at Hill
- HUGE shout out to Josh Stow and his crew for coming in early so that the district was able to safely open 1/16/24- they did a phenomenal job!
- Thank you to Mr. Gilmore, Mrs. Ryman, and Mrs. Gretz for caroling for our students
- Thank you to Mr. Tranz and our band members for spreading holiday cheer
- Thank you to the PTO for the Holiday Treat
- Thank you to our PTO VP Mrs. Illiano for helping our Drama Club with a cookie drive
- Thank you to Gayle Johnson and Lisa Komadina for always helping out when needed
- Thank you to Barb Nitowski for coming in off hours to make sure the Hill Front Office is running smoothly

**Project Elf**

A HUGE thank you to all the organizations and families that supported our 2023 Project Elf Drive. As a result of the tremendous generosity of these people, we were able to provide support (food, gifts, toys, clothes, books, bikes, furniture, ACME cards, Shoprite cards, etc.) to approximately 364 children:

Cathie Goehringer Family	Rastelli Food Group	Laura Hubbard Family
Harker Main Office-Carolynne Sandy, Lorraine Campbell, Paulette Gonzalez, Sieu Nguyen Families	Lexington Hills Motorcycle Club- Dave and Danielle Glanfield Family, Tom and Sherrie Ryan Family, Gary and Michelle Bill Family, Jack Nestor Family	3rd Grade Team-Joanne Ferrara, Kaitlyn Colleluori, Elenie Speis, Megan Snyder, Cassie Sholders, Dana Cheadle, Michele Garcia, Haley Watson, Staci Collins, Ellen Floyd, Alexis Cancila, Heather Dougherty
Cassidy Garbacz Family	Swedesboro-Woolwich PTO	Andrea Harmon Family

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Lauren Ibbotson Family	Swedesboro-Woolwich Education Association	Jodi Shinn Family
Lauren Whitson family	Swedesboro Woolwich Maintenance Department	Meredith Alexander Family
Morgan Baals Family	Swedesboro-Woolwich Tech Department	Candice Kennedy Family
Lisa Lattanzi Family	Curriculum Department-Jamie Flick, Jen Griffin-Garcia, Lori Savas, Darrell Ford	Alayna Pasztalanic Family
Amber LaVoie Family	Trisha Carola	Ashley Steger Family
Pansini Family	Board Office - Chrissy Panebianco, Debbie Gambino, Jaimie Zeidler, Nancy Christoff, Rob Miles, Kristin Kellogg	Amy Hay and Diane Thomas Families
Kim Hnosko Family	Lisa Bitterman's Kindergarten class- Tree of Warmth	Pat Hartz Family
Kathleen Tull Family	Julie Dickson and Marie Barbara Families	Lori Grelli/Kelly Pollitt Families
Marisa Vengenock Family	Steph Shainline Family	Maria McGinley and Paige Moore Families
Melissa Olsen Family	Lorraine Campbell Family	Andrea Santos and Rebecca Murray Families
Katie Abbott Family	Milissa Mastella Family	Julia May Family
Suzanne Healey Family	Eileen Mission Family	Ralph and Helen Stanzione Family
Michaela Counselor/Dana Jones Families	Hill School 6th grade Student Council	Sue O'Donnell Family
Megan Perry Family	Denise Guittar Family	Erin Seibert Family
The Kelly Gillies Group	Kelley Stingle, Johanna Mastrogiacomo, Shari Nair, and Patty Lynn Families	Hardin/McCann Family
Amanda Seal Family	Ryane Dougherty Family	Sue Fischer Family
Kathleen Hart Family	Leigh Donato Family	Tara Roberto's 5th grade class
Kristine Rooney Family	Danielle Murphy, Renee' Crickmore, Nicole Leone, and Michelle Guerriero Families	Jeni Boston Family
Caroline Schooley Family	Jocelyn Scott Family	Katharine Sayre Family
Karin Brown-Bolis Family	Michele DiCicco Family	Caroline Canora Family
Meghan Green Family	Jo Ellis Family	Jess Zappasodi Family
Amelia Steinmetz Family	Jenn Romano-Baus Family	Grace Church
4 Seasons Holiday House Tour Mary Ann Bompadre Family Linda Shubert Family Rosella Musumeci Family Judi Kennedy Family Lestonia Glover Family Maureen Gilch Family Beverly Randall Family Connie Dougherty Family Elaine Volpe Family Kathy Keane Family Sherron Laurrell Family Karen Howarth Family Linda Lemmel Family Monique Ealy Family Alice McKenna Family Peggy Gratz Family	Alexis Cancila and Haylee Watson Families	Julie Donahue, Amy Kline, Dana Cheadle, Dave Ortega, Rebekkah Shultz, Julie Taormina, Alec DelViscio, Lennie Spies, Carol Bauer, Lauren Paulson, Megan Snyder, Chris MacGuigan, Debbie Rivera, Silvia Cancila Families

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Debbie Lynam Family Lorraine Heart Family Helen Stanzione Family Elaine Rippman Family		
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2) District Enrollment

a) Report, **as submitted**

[Clifford  
Stratton  
Harker  
Hill](#)

3) Correspondence

- [Thank You](#)- Melissa Hickman

B. District Administration

1) Administrator’s Monthly Board Reports, **as submitted**

[Clifford  
Stratton  
Harker  
Hill  
Technology  
Special Services  
Curriculum & Instruction  
Maintenance](#)

**Public Comments/Visitors**

Pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act, this meeting will now be open to members of the public who wish to speak or make comment on agenda items or a school district issue that may be of concern to the residents of the district. Any person who wishes to speak must wait to speak until they have been recognized by the presiding Board Officer.

Any person who wishes to speak is requested to give their name, municipality of residence, and group affiliation, if any, at the beginning of their comments. Comments shall be limited to five minutes in total length. It is the intention of the board to listen to public comments, and to respond if possible. If questions cannot be immediately answered the Board asks that you pose the question to the Board Secretary via email.

If questions or comments pertain to litigation, student or personnel matters, the Board asks that you email the Superintendent after the meeting since the Board does not, pursuant to Open Public Meetings Act, discuss or respond to these items in public.

**Swedesboro-Woolwich Board of Education**

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1- Mrs. Eileen Healey- SWEA President- Mrs. Healey congratulated our board members and wanted to recognize them for Board of Education Month. Thank you for all you do! She wanted to thank our Administrators. We have had a few issues and they were resolved quickly with the help from our administrators!

**4. Action Items**

**Personnel/Finance/Negotiations Committee**

***Personnel & Finance Committee, (Chairperson) Marie Barbara- No Report***

***Negotiations Committee, (Chairperson) Natalie Baker***

- ***Preliminary meeting with the SWAA***

*Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent the following Personnel Matters are presented for Board Approval:*

**A. Personnel- Recommendation:** Dickson/McGovern approve the following personnel items, as listed:

<b>Name</b>	<b>Position/ Cert</b>	<b>Salary</b>	<b>Budget Acct #</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Effective Date</b>
1- Kayla Haertel	LPC	\$15.13/hour	60-910-310-100-000-00	New Hire- LPC	TBD- Pending completion of ALL state required paperwork
2- Taryn Fogg	Teacher	-	-	Requesting 3 days without pay	January 31, February 1, February 2
3- Staff ID#4955	Teacher	-	-	Medical Leave	On or around April 2, 2024-January 1, 2025/Staff member requesting to use 7 sick days and 3 personal days
4- Amy Kline	Teacher	\$85,424	11-120-100-101-000-00-080	Lane Change to MA	January 18, 2024
5- David Ortega	Teacher	\$57,384	11-120-100-101-000-00-080	Lane Change to MA	January 18, 2024

**B. Stipends- Recommendation:** Dickson/McGovern approve the following stipends for the 2023-2024 school year, as listed:

<b>Name</b>	<b>School</b>	<b>Stipend Position</b>	<b>Amount</b>
1- Nancy Christoff	District	Wellness Coordinator	\$1,100- Paid by Grant from SHIF Fund

**C. Workshops- Recommendation:** Dickson/McGovern approve the following workshops, as listed:

<b>Name</b>	<b>Workshop</b>	<b>Date &amp; Time</b>	<b>Cost</b>	<b>Estimated Travel Cost</b>
1- Rachel Ryman	School Refusal, Student Engagement, and Legalities in Addressing Mental Health in Schools	February 15-16, 2024	\$199/person	N/A
2- Lorraine Campbell	Special Education Law Update	February 1, 2024	\$125/person	N/A



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3- Robert Miles	Human Resources-Legal	January 23, 2024	\$125/person	N/A
4- Christina Panebianco	2024 STS of NJ Pupil Transportation Conference- Atlantic City	March 20-22, 2024	\$475	TBD

D. Recommendation: Dickson/McGovern approve the Board [Secretary’s Report](#) in accordance with 18A: 17-36 and 18A: 17-9 for the month of **November 2023**. The Board Secretary certifies that no line item account has been over expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A: 23A – 16.10 (c) 3 and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district’s financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year, and

Approve the [Reconciliation Report](#) in accordance with 18A:17-36 and 18A:17-9 for the month of **November 2023**. The Reconciliation Report and Board Secretary’s Report are in agreement for the month of **November 2023**.

Whereas, the Board Secretary in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10(c) 2 certifies that there are no changes in revenue amounts or revenue sources, and

Whereas, the Board of Education certifies- pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10 (c) 4 that after review of the secretary’s monthly financial report (appropriations section) and upon consultation with the appropriate district officials, that to the best of our knowledge no major account or fund has been over expended in violation of N.J.A.C 6A: 23A-16.10 (b) and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district’s financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year.

E. Regular, Payroll, Cafeteria & Addendum Bills

Recommendation: Dickson/McGovern approve for payment of **January 2024** regular and addendum bills in the amount of **\$1,382,977.38** and payment of **December 2023** payroll in the amount of **\$1,556,646.30, as submitted.**

F. Recommendation: Dickson/McGovern approve the Line-Item Transfer for **December 2023** in the amount of **\$148,766.59, as submitted.**

*Board member, Tamara McGovern, asked if the staff is required to report back after they attend workshops.*

*Dr. Kellogg will look into this and get back to the board.*

Board action needed: Yes (Roll Call Required)  
 (All yes, motion to carry 9-0)

Natalie Baker-Y	Julie Dickson-Y	Erin Carroll-Y
Laurie Cecala-Read-Y	Marie Barbara-Y	Tamara McGovern-Y
Alfred Beaver-Y	Kenneth Riley-Y	Gina Azzari-Y

**Curriculum, Policy, Community Relations Committee- No Report**  
***(Chairperson) Natalie Baker***

- A. Recommendation: Baker/Barbara accept the [Revised Memorandum of Agreement](#) between New Jersey Schools and Law Enforcement, **as submitted**.
- B. Recommendation: Baker/Barbara approve Haylee Dawson to provide Homebound Instruction for (#6361804460), per contracted rate of \$38/hour.
- C. Recommendation: Baker/Barbara approve Hospital-Based instruction for (#1702053653) as per annual contract with Brookfield School of \$38/hour.
- D. Recommendation: Baker/Barbara approve the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) Community Information Session to be held on Wednesday January 30, 2024 from 6-7pm in the Harker Makerspace
- E. Recommendation: Baker/Barbara approve the following Field Trips for the 2023-2024 school year:
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade- Philadelphia Zoo- May 16, 2024 (paid in full by Boosterthon Funds)
  - 1<sup>st</sup> Grade- Delaware Children’s Museum April 18, 2024 and April 24, 2024 (paid in full by Boosterthon Funds)
- F. Recommendation: Baker/Barbara approve to Appoint [Tutored by Teachers](#) as a tutoring agency to be utilized in conjunction with the High Impact Tutoring Grant for the 2023-2024 school year, **as submitted**.

Board action needed: Yes (Roll Call Required)  
(Motion carries, 9-0 for A-E; 8-0-1 for F- Dickson abstained)

Natalie Baker-Y	Erin Carroll-Y	
Laurie Cecala-Read-Y	Marie Barbara-Y	Tamara McGovern-Y
Alfred Beaver-Y	Kenneth Riley-Y	Gina Azzari-Y
Julie Dickson- Abstain from F yes for A-E		

**Operations**

**Buildings and Grounds, Long Range Plans, Technology, Transportation  
Committee (Chairperson) Julie Dickson- No Report**

A. Recommendation: Baker/Barbara approve the following Disposal of Property, **as submitted**:

- [Stratton School- Wonders Textbooks](#)
- [Stratton School- My Math](#)

B. Recommendation: Baker/Barbara approve to Appoint [Colliers Engineering & Design Firm](#) as the Engineer of Record for the remainder of the 2023-2024 school year, **as submitted**.

Board action needed: Yes (Roll Call Required)

(All yes, motion to carry 9-0)

Natalie Baker-Y

Julie Dickson-Y

Erin Carroll-Y

Laurie Cecala-Read-Y

Marie Barbara-Y

Tamara McGovern-Y

Alfred Beaver-Y

Kenneth Riley-Y

Gina Azzari-Y

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**RECESS INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION – If Needed**

**WHEREAS**, the Open Public Meetings Act authorizes boards of education to meet in closed executive session under certain circumstances, and

**WHEREAS**, the Open Public Meetings Act requires the Swedesboro-Woolwich School District Board of Education (the "Board") to adopt a resolution at a public meeting to go into closed executive session; now therefore:

**BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board that it is necessary to meet in closed executive session to discuss certain items, including the following

- Matters of personal confidentiality rights, including but not limited to, staff and/or student discipline matters, and specifically: \_\_\_\_\_
- Matters in which the release of information would impair the right to receive government funds, and specifically: \_\_\_\_\_
- Matters which, if publicly disclosed, would constitute an unwarranted invasion of individual privacy, and specifically: \_\_\_\_\_
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- Matters involving the purchase of real property and/or the investment of public funds, and specifically: \_\_\_\_\_
- Matters involving the real tactics and techniques utilized in protecting the safety and property of the public, and specifically: \_\_\_\_\_
- Matters involving anticipated or pending litigation, including matters of attorney-client privilege, and specifically: School Ethics Act Training
- Matters involving personnel issues, including but not limited to, the employment, appointment, termination of employment, terms and conditions of employment, evaluation of performance, promotion or discipline of any public officer or employee, and specifically: \_\_\_\_\_
- Matters involving quasi-judicial deliberations, and specifically: \_\_\_\_\_

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that any discussion held by the Board which need not remain confidential will be made public as soon as feasible. The minutes of the executive session will not be disclosed until the need for confidentiality no longer exists.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Board anticipates the executive session to last approximately 60 minutes. The Board † will return to open session to conduct business at the conclusion of the executive session.

Recommendation: Beaver/McGovern approve to enter into **Executive Session** for the purpose of discussing/reviewing items as noted above.

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Board action needed: Yes  
(All yes, motion to carry 9-0)

Time: 7:07 pm

Recommendation: Beaver/Baker approve to return to **Regular Session**.  
Board action needed: Yes  
(All yes, motion to carry 9-0)

Time: 8:30 pm

**Delegates:**

- a. NJSBA – Mrs. Gina Azzari
- b. GCSBA – Mrs. Natalie Baker

**6. Adjournment**

Recommendation: Cecala-Read/Riley approve the adjournment of meeting.  
Board action needed: Yes  
(All yes, motion to carry 9-0)

Time: 8:31 pm

Respectfully submitted,



**Mr. Robert Miles**  
**Board Secretary/SBA**

**Next Meeting(s).**

**February 21, 2024**

**Board/Committee Meetings as scheduled**