

**Agenda**  
**May 13, 2026**  
**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 P.M. Meeting Opening**

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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 type="checkbox"/> Gina Azzari, School Board President	All Committees
<input type="checkbox"/> Natalie Baker, School Board Vice President	(Chair) Policy, (Chair) Negotiations, Curriculum
<input type="checkbox"/> Julie Dickson	(Chair) Operations, Policy
<input type="checkbox"/> Erin Carroll	Personnel/Finance
<input type="checkbox"/> Laurie Cecala-Read	(Chair) Curriculum, Operations
<input type="checkbox"/> Kenneth Riley	(Chair) Personnel/Finance, Negotiations
<input type="checkbox"/> James McCarrie	Personnel/Finance, Negotiations
<input type="checkbox"/> Kevin Rodden	Operations, Policy
<input type="checkbox"/> Raymond Anderson	Curriculum

Quorum\_\_\_\_\_

C. Flag Salute

D. Adoption of Agenda

Recommendation: Adoption of the agenda, **as presented.**

Board action needed: Yes

## **2. Presentations**

*This evening, we are proud to recognize our Swedesboro-Woolwich Stellar Comets. Each month, students from across our schools are selected for exemplifying outstanding character, leadership, and a commitment to our district's core values. These students consistently go above and beyond in their classrooms and school communities, serving as role models for their peers. We are honored to celebrate their accomplishments and share their success with the Board of Education and the Swedesboro-Woolwich Community. At this time, I'd like to welcome Mr. Matt Kelly, Principal of the Walter Hill School, who will begin our Stellar Comets Presentation.*

### **A. Stellar Comet of the Month- April 2026**

#### **1) Walter Hill School**

##### Grade 6

- Alyssa McSorley
- Blakely Fleming

#### **2) Charles G. Harker School**

##### Grade 3

- Cory Noonan
- Jameson Forrest

##### Grade 4

- Luke Slocum
- Alexis Montague

##### Grade 5

- Benjamin Parkin
- Madison White

#### **3) Gov. Charles Stratton School**

##### Grade 1

- Arianna Hernandez
- Camila Garciduenas-Fung

##### Grade 2

- John Meehan
- Joel Moreno Lozada

#### **4) Margaret Clifford School**

##### Preschool

- Chase Barber
- Damien Augustine

##### Kindergarten

- Camille Cartella

- Jackson Lesser

B. PTO Presentation- Fundraising Funds

Swedesboro-Woolwich Board of Education

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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: HIB
- 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: To enter into **Executive Session** for the purpose of discussing/reviewing items as noted above.

Board action needed: Yes

Time \_\_\_\_\_

- 2) Recommendation: Return to **Regular Session**.  
Board action needed: Yes Time\_\_\_\_\_

**Approval of Minutes**

Recommendation: Approve the regular and/or executive session minutes dated **April 29, 2026, as submitted**.

Board action needed: Yes

**3. Communication**

A. Superintendent

*"A Community dedicated to inspiring life-long learners"*

- 1) Superintendent Updates
- 2) District Enrollment
  - a) Report, **as submitted**

[Clifford](#)  
[Stratton](#)  
[Harker](#)  
[Hill](#)

- 3) Correspondence.

[Thank you](#)- The Garcia Family

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. 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.

**4. Action Items**

**Personnel/Finance/Negotiations Committee**

***Personnel & Finance Committee Meeting Report, (Chairperson) Ken Riley***

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

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

**A. Personnel- Recommendation:** 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- Kenneth Menasion	Custodian/ Maintenance	\$18/hour	11-000-261-100-000-01	New Hire- Parttime Summer Help	TBD- Pending completion of ALL state required paperwork
2- Linda Swaine	Substitute Lunch Aide	\$15.92/hour	60-910-310-100-000-00	New Hire	May 14, 2026- pending completion of ALL state required paperwork
3- Alexandra Maravellas	Long Term Substitute- School Counselor	\$135/day for first 20 days \$200/day 21+	11-190-100-320-000-080	New Hire	TBD- Pending completion of ALL state required paperwork
4- Nicholas Dales	New Hire	BA+30/Step 1 \$59,705	11-230-100-101-000-01-050	New Hire	September 1, 2026- pending completion of ALL state required paperwork
5- Staff ID# 4985	Teacher	-	-	Medical/ Maternity Leave	On or around September 1, 2026- On or around December 2, 2026
6- Staff ID# 4441	Paraprofessional	-	-	Medical Leave	May 8, 2026-May 22, 2026
7- Stephanie Rios	Student	-	-	Cooperative Counseling under the direction of Kevin Jolly	Fall 2026
8- Kelsey Wintheim	Student	-	-	Cooperative Counseling under the direction of Kevin Jolly	Fall 2026 and Spring 2027
9- Korey Jeffries	Business Administrator	\$123,165.00	11-000-251-100-000-01	<b>2026-2027 <a href="#">Contract</a></b>	July 1, 2026
10- Josh Stow	Maintenance Supervisor	\$98, 209.00	11-000-261-100-000-01	<b>2026-2027 <a href="#">Contract</a></b>	July 1, 2026
11- Jamie Flick	Chief Academic Officer	\$154, 322.34	11-000-221-102-000-01-OXO	<b>2026-2027 <a href="#">Contract</a></b>	July 1, 2026
12- Joel Brown	Chief Information Officer	\$128, 281.32	11-000-252-100-000-01	<b>2026-2027 <a href="#">Contract</a></b>	July 1, 2026
13- All Staff	District	Staff List	-	<b><a href="#">Appointments for the 2026- 2027 school year</a></b>	July 1, 2026

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14- Sarah Perez	Teacher	-	-	<b>Resignation</b>	June 18, 2026
15- Megan Kinney	Teacher	BA/Step 2/\$58,605	11-130-100-101-000-01-060	<b>New Hire</b>	September 1, 2026
16- Kayley Spaeth	Teacher	BA/Step 2/\$58,605	11-120-100-101-000-01-050	<b>New Hire</b>	September 1, 2026
17- Staff ID# 4315	Teacher	-	-	<b>Unpaid Medical Leave of Absence</b>	May 19, 2026 through August 31, 2026
18- Dr. Diana Kaithern	School Vice Principal	\$95,000	11-000-240-103-000-01-080	<b>New Hire</b>	TBD- pending completion of ALL state required paperwork
19- Lauren Trojan	Teacher	BA+15/Step 6 \$61, 805	11-130-100-101-000-01-060	<b>New Hire</b>	September 1, 2026- pending completion of ALL state required paperwork
20- Debbie Rivera	Teacher	-	-	<b>Resignation</b>	June 30, 2026

**B. Stipends- Recommendation:** Approve the following stipends for the 2025-2026 school year, as listed:

Name	School	Stipend Position	Amount
1- TBD	Clifford	Ready, Set, Grow Kindergarten Camp from 9-11:30 Session 1 July 6-9, 2026 Session 2 July 13-16, 2026 Session 3 July 20-23, 2026 Session 4 July 27-30	\$38/hour Teacher \$25/hour Paraprofessional
2- Tara Roberto	Harker	Monarch Monday Summer Club July 6, 20, 27, August 3 from -11:30	\$38/hour
3- Jamie Flick	Clifford	Interim Principal	\$5000.00

**C. Workshops- Recommendation:** Approve the following workshops for the 2025-2026 school year, as listed:

Name	Workshop	Date & Time	Cost	Estimated Travel Cost

**D. Regular, Payroll, Cafeteria & Addendum Bills**

**Recommendation:** For payment of **May 2026** regular and addendum bills in the amount of **\$485,380.82** and payment of **April 2026** payroll in the amount of **\$1,582,607.48, as submitted.**

**E. Recommendation:** Approve the **Line-Item Transfer** for **April 2025, as submitted.**

**F. Recommendation:** Approve the retiree sick day payout request for Mrs. Maria Sohn to be paid on July 15, 2026, not to exceed \$8000, as per contract.

G. Recommendation: Approve the retiree sick day payout request for Mr. Gene Gould to be paid on July 15, 2026 in the amount of \$3,925.

H. Recommendation: Approve the [Swedesboro](#) and [Woolwich](#) Tax Levy Payment Schedules for the year ended June 30, 2026, **as submitted**.

I. Recommendation: Approve the following Resolution

**WHEREAS**, At a time of continued fiscal uncertainty and mounting challenges, local boards of education from across the state of New Jersey continue to suffer under the growing crisis posed by the rising cost of health benefits and are desperate for relief; and

**WHEREAS**, Despite record levels of state investments in public education, these school districts are facing fiscal pressures similar to those confronting the state budget, including the unsustainable growth in health-care premiums and the mounting insolvency of the state's public employees health benefits programs; and

**WHEREAS**, Both within the School Employees' Health Benefits Program (SEHBP) and the private market, year-over-year double-digit increases are placing tremendous strain on district budgets and local taxpayers alike; and

**WHEREAS**, Governor Sherrill and legislative leadership have publicly acknowledged the urgent need to address rising health-care costs and the challenges facing the state's health benefits plans, including both the state and local portions of the State Health Benefits Program and the SEHBP; and

**WHEREAS**, The seriousness of this issue is underscored by the mid-year SEHBP analysis released by the Treasury Department in March 2026, which concluded that "based on these projected losses and building in future trends, active premium rate increases for 2027 are likely to be in the double digits;" and

**WHEREAS**, These projected increases would follow the 31.9 percent premium increase that took effect in January 2026, further exacerbating an overall premium increase of nearly 74 percent in the preceding five years; and

**WHEREAS**, This growth in health-care costs far exceeds inflation, state aid increases and the fiscal capacity of local communities; and

**WHEREAS**, Rising health-care premiums are consuming an ever-larger portion of already constrained school district budgets, forcing difficult decisions that directly affect students, staff and educational quality; and

**WHEREAS**, These cost pressures also have significant consequences for taxpayers, as districts are often compelled to utilize the full extent of their available tax levy, even after which many districts remain unable to fully offset these increases due to the constraints of the property tax levy cap, despite the limited health-care exception; and

Swedesboro-Woolwich Board of Education

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**WHEREAS**, For the families and students these districts serve, the downstream consequences — including district deficits, program cuts and school closures — mean the loss of community stability, continuity of services, and in many cases, access to the specialized supports that our most vulnerable students depend on; and

**WHEREAS**, These are also precisely the conditions that erode student achievement and weaken the family engagement that is central to strengthening New Jersey's public schools; and

**WHEREAS**, Implementing real, sustainable solutions to the rising cost of health benefits and reforming how benefits are delivered through the SEHBP would demonstrate the Governor’s and Legislature’s leadership and continued commitment to New Jersey’s students, educators and families, which directly advances our shared goal of affordability and effective, efficient government for all New Jerseyans.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Swedesboro-Woolwich Board of Education in the county of Gloucester calls upon the Governor and State Legislature to provide immediate, short-term relief from the unsustainable increased health-care costs experienced by school districts in recent years; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Swedesboro-Woolwich Board of Education in the county of Gloucester urges the Governor to engage in meaningful engagement with all affected stakeholders to develop and implement practical long-term reforms to the state’s system of delivering health care to its public employees in order to generate meaningful, long-term savings; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to Governor Mikie Sherrill, State Treasurer Aaron Binder, Senate President Nicholas Scutari, Assembly Speaker Craig Coughlin, Latham Tiver, Herb Conaway, Heather Simmons, and the New Jersey School Boards Association.

Board action needed: Yes (Roll Call Required)

Natalie Baker

Julie Dickson

Erin Carroll

Laurie Cecala-Read

Kenneth Riley

James McCarrie

Kevin Rodden

Raymond Anderson

Gina Azzari

**Curriculum**

***Committee Meeting Report, (Chairperson) Laurie Cecala-Read***

A. HIB Reports

Recommendation: Approve **HIB**, as submitted.

B. Recommendation: Approve the **HIB Self-Assessment** and **HIB Report Card** for the 2024-2025 school year, as submitted.

C. Recommendation: Approve the following staff members for **ESY 2026**, as submitted.

Board action needed: Yes (Roll Call Required)

Natalie Baker

Julie Dickson

Erin Carroll

Laurie Cecala-Read

Kenneth Riley

James McCarrie

Kevin Rodden

Raymond Anderson

Gina Azzari

**Policy Committee and Community Relations**  
***Committee Meeting Report, (Chairperson) Natalie Baker***

- A. Recommendation: Approve the creation of an Ad-Hoc Committee for the purpose of Growth and Expansion discussions and items.

Board action needed: Yes (Roll Call Required)

Natalie Baker

Julie Dickson

Erin Carroll

Laurie Cecala-Read

Kenneth Riley

James McCarrie

Kevin Rodden

Raymond Anderson

Gina Azzari

**Operations**

**Buildings and Grounds, Long Range Plans, Technology, Transportation  
Committee Meeting Report, (Chairperson) Julie Dickson**

A. Facility Usage Requests

Recommendation: Approve Facility Usage Requests, as listed.

(Subject to submission of Insurance Certificate, and 501 documentation, and no conflict with school district activities)

Organization	School/Location	Date & Time	Activity

B. Recommendation: Approve the [Gloucester County Special Services Transportation Cooperative Contract](#) for the 2026-2027 school year, **as submitted.**

C. Recommendation: Approve the [AIL Agreement](#) for the 2025-2026 school year between Kingsway Regional School District and the Swedesboro-Woolwich School District, **as submitted.**

D. Recommendation: Approve Gloucester County Special Services School District to provide [MVC](#) abstracts for eligible District staff obtained through the NJMVC On-line Customer Abstract Information Retrieval System, and the SWSD agrees to participate in the Gloucester County Special Services School District MVC On-line Abstract Request Program for the school year 2026-2027 at an annual cost of \$55.00, as submitted, **as submitted.**

E. Recommendation: Approve Pritchard Industries as the Custodial Service provider for the District in response to RFP 26-004 for the 2026-2027 (Start date of 09/15/26) and 2027-2028 school years, with an option to renew for three years. 2026-2027 base cost of \$411,621.11, and 2027-2028 base cost of \$423,491.06.

**Bid Proposals  
Scoring**

Board action needed: Yes (Roll Call Required)

Natalie Baker

Julie Dickson

Erin Carroll

Laurie Cecala-Read

Kenneth Riley

James McCarrie

Kevin Rodden

Raymond Anderson

Gina Azzari

**Public Comments**

Any person interested in making comments on any agenda item or other school district related topic is requested to give their name and address. 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 e-mail. If your questions or comments pertain to litigation, student or personnel matters, the Board asks that you see the Superintendent after the Meeting since the Board does not, pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act, discuss or respond to these items in public. This portion will end at the conclusion of the public comments.

**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: \_\_\_\_\_
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- 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:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Superintendent Evaluation
- 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.

Recommendation: To enter into **Executive Session** for the purpose of discussing/reviewing items as noted above.

Board action needed: Yes

Time \_\_\_\_\_

Recommendation: Return to **Regular Session.**

Board action needed: Yes

Time \_\_\_\_\_

**Delegates:**

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

**6. Adjournment**

Recommendation: Approve the adjournment of meeting.

Board action needed: Yes

Time: \_\_\_\_\_

Respectfully submitted,



**Mr. Korey Jeffries**  
**Board Secretary/SBA**

**Next Meeting(s).**

**June 3, 2026**

**Board/Committee Meetings as scheduled**