

Minutes
September 23, 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

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

☒ Gina Azzari, School Board President	All Committees
☒ Natalie Baker, School Board Vice President	(Chair) Policy, (Chair) Negotiations, Curriculum
☒ Julie Dickson	(Chair) Operations, Policy
Erin Carroll	Personnel/Finance
☒ Laurie Cecala-Read	(Chair) Curriculum, Operations
☒ Kenneth Riley	(Chair) Personnel/Finance, Negotiations (Chair) District Growth & Planning
☒ James McCarrie	Personnel/Finance, Negotiations, District Growth & Planning
☒ Kevin Rodden	Operations, Policy, District Growth & Planning
☒ Raymond Anderson	Curriculum

Quorum: 6:00 pm/8-1

C. Flag Salute

D. Moment of Silence in Remembrance of 9/11

E. Adoption of Agenda

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

Board action needed: Yes

(All yes, motion to carry 8-0)

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: Litigation Update
- ☒ 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: Baker/Riley approve to enter into **Executive Session** for the purpose of discussing/reviewing items as noted above.

Board action needed: Yes

Time: 6:02 pm

(All yes, motion to carry 8-0)

- 2) Recommendation: Baker/Rodden approve to return to **Regular Session**.

Board action needed: Yes

Time: 6:38 pm

(All yes, motion to carry 8-0)

Approval of Minutes

Recommendation: Baker/Riley approve the regular and/or executive session minutes dated **August 12, 2026, as submitted**.

Board action needed: Yes

(All yes, motion to carry 8-0)

2. Communication

A. Superintendent

Shout Outs!

- Shout out to Paula Luciani at Clifford for all of her help getting Clifford ready for the first days of school
- Shout out to the tech team for setting up our new phones, onboarding new staff and helping us solve our tech issues each day!
- A huge shout out to our custodians for all their hard work cleaning and beautifying our buildings in preparation for the first day!
- Shout out to Jaime Mihok, Amy Illiano, the PTO board and volunteers for helping organize the Ice Cream Social Fundraiser, being present for the Open house, decorating our buildings in preparation for students and helping students get to classrooms on the first two days!
- Shout out to all the staff who presented summer PDs, attended workshops, and shared resources with colleagues. You did an amazing job!
- Shout out to our ATLs for working so hard to get all of our program materials distributed to their teams and supporting new teachers with navigating their classrooms and materials. "
- Shout out to Josh Stow, Mel Ingersoll, Boston Florentino, and all the other maintenance staff that helped get Hill back to school ready at the conclusion of the Film Production
- Shout out Barbara Costantini for working with the film crew this summer at Hill and assuring they received all their deliveries
- Shout out to every Hill Teacher for their cooperation with the use of rooms and furniture during filming as working seamlessly with the film crew to prepare their rooms
- Shout out to the PTO for Breakfast on our opening day of Inservice and the traveling Mr. Softee truck
- Shout out to Loraine Leypoldt for always being a wonderful support and someone I can rely on for all things techy.
- Thank you to the Principals and office staff for the great Open Houses

- Thank you to ALL Hill Staff for their flexibility and patience during the Film production.
- Gina Azzari thanked Jackie for scheduling time for her to speak with the Staff on the Opening Inservice Day!

1) Superintendent Updates

Regulations:

<u>2200</u>	Curriculum Content (Abolished)
<u>2411</u>	Guidance Counseling (Abolished)
<u>2460.30</u>	Additional/Compensatory Special Education and Related Services (Abolished)
<u>5516</u>	Student Use of Internet - Enabled Devices
<u>6115.01</u>	Federal Awards/funds Internal Controls-Allowability of Costs

2) District Enrollment

a) Report, **as submitted**

[Clifford
Stratton
Harker
Hill](#)

3) Correspondence

- [Thank you](#)- Debbie Hannold

4) OPRA Log

Document (s) Requested	Who Requested	Date Received	Date Completed
All SWEA and SWAA contracts from 2010 to Present.	Cristofer Slotoroff	08/12/2026	08/31/2026
All PO's from January 1, 2026 to Present.	Justin Wenig	09/09/2026	09/09/2026

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.

1- Mrs. Eileen Healey- SWEA President

- Questioned why some Regulation were abolished. Mrs. Traini explained they could either be updated or no longer in use
- SWEA would like to continue to meet during the school year to finalize the stipends

3. Action Items

Personnel/Finance/Negotiations Committee

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

- **Contracts- Non Union Administrators**
- **Stipends**
- **Budget Calendar**
- **Policies**

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: Baker/Cecala-Read approve the following personnel items, as listed:

Name	Position/ Cert	Salary	Budget Acct #	Action	Effective Date
1- John R. Long, Jr	Custodial/ Maintenance	\$35,500	11-000-261-100-000-01	New Hire	September 24, 2026-pending completion of ALL state required paperwork
2- Donna Mandos	LP	\$15.92/hour	11-000-262-107-000-01	New Hire	September 2026- pending completion of ALL state required paperwork
3- Mr. Joshua Stow	Maintenance Supervisor	-	-	<u>2026-2027 Contract</u>	July 1, 2026
4- Ashley Norton	Student Teacher	-	-	Practicum and Student Teaching under the direction of Johanna Mastrogiacomio	Practicum (2 days a week) September 2026- December 2026 Student Teaching January 2027- May 2027
5- Jamie Clement	School Nurse	-	-	Observe 1 st grade class for four hours as par of Rowan's School Nurse Instructional Program- Syllabus	2026-2027 School Year
6- Stephen Gaddy	Custodial/ Maintenance	-	-	Resignation	September 16, 2026
7- Staff ID# 4634	Teacher	-	-	Medical Leave	Starting on or around September 24, 2026 through on or around November 9, 2026. Staff member utilizing sick days
8- Staff ID# 4996	Teacher	-	-	Medical/Maternity Leave	Starting on or around November 11, 2026 through on or around March 18, 2027- staff member utilizing 20 sick days after birth

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9- Joshua Stow	Maintenance Supervisor	-	-	Resignation	November 23, 2026
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B. Stipends- Recommendation: Baker/Cecala-Read approve the following stipends for the 2026-2027 school year, as listed:

Name	School	Stipend Position	Amount
1- Clifford Stipends	Clifford	2026-2027 Clifford Stipends	See attached
2- Stratton Stipends	Stratton	2026-2027 Stratton Stipends	See attached
3- Harker Stipends	Harker	2026-2027 Harker Stipends	See attached
4- Hill Stipends	Hill	2026-2027 Hill Stipends	See attached
5- Haley Watson & Christine Derochers	District	MLL After School Tutoring/One hour per week from October 5, 2026-April 26, 2027	\$38/hour as per contract/ to be paid with ESEA Title III Funds

C. Workshops- Recommendation: Baker/Cecala-Read approve the following workshops for the 2026-2027 school year, as listed:

Name	Workshop	Date & Time	Cost	Estimated Travel Cost
1- Jamie Flick & Dana Teague	AMTNJ Conference- Brookdale Community College. Lincroft NJ	November 20, 2026/8:30am-3:30pm	\$215/person paid with ESEA Title IV-A Funds	\$0
2- Jamie Flick, Dana Teague, Kim Cheesman, Yuna Park, Diana Kaithern, and Matthew Kelly	Model Schools Conference 2027- Nashville TN	June 27—30, 2027	\$895/person	TBD
3- Jamie Bellows	NJ Association of Learning Consultants Fall Symposium. Mt. Laurel	October 23, 2026-8:00am-3:00pm	\$225/person	\$0
4- Alayna Pasztalaniec, Cristina D'Amelio, Rachel Ryman, Caroline Floyd	Handle With Care Re-Certification	October 9, 2026	\$625/person	\$0
5- Kelly Woronicak, Christina Hillen Bauman, Marissa Smith and Katie	Math/Science Vertical Articulation Meetings at Kingsway Middle School	October 12, 2026	\$38/per hour as per contract, for 3 hours	\$0

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Richer				
6- Amelia Steinmetz, Wendy Dominik, Jan Hill, Katie Richer, Kathleen Hart, Tiffnay Willey, Amanda Cicchini, Kelley Woronicak, Justin Acquarola, Milissa Mastella, Meghan Mertz, Autumn Lex, Albert DiGiacomo, Danielle O'Donnell, Christine Adamucci, Chris Lewis, Emily Hanna, Silvia Cancila, Rachel Ogbin, Kayley Spaeth	Williamstown Middle School Visit to see Building Thinking Classroom Models	October 8,13,20,27, 2026 (one group of teachers each day)	\$0	\$0

- D. Recommendation: Baker/Cecala-Read approve the Board Secretary's Report in accordance with 18A: 17-36 and 18A: 17-9 for the month of [July 2026](#) and [August 2026](#). 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 Treasurer Report in accordance with 18A:17-36 and 18A:17-9 for the month of [July 2026](#) and [August 2026](#). The Treasurer Report and Board Secretary's Report are in agreement for the month of July 2026 and August 2026.

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: Baker/Cecala-Read approve for payment of [September 2026](#) regular and addendum bills in the amount of **\$1,337,332.23** and payment of **August 2026** payroll in the amount of **\$289,123.26, as submitted.**

- F. Recommendation: Baker/Cecala-Read approve the [Line-Item Transfer](#) for **August 2026, as submitted.**

- G. Recommendation: Baker/Cecala-Read approve the [FY28 Budget Calendar](#), as **submitted**.
- H. Recommendation: Baker/Cecala-Read approve the sick day payment for retiree Mrs. Lorraine Campbell not to exceed 150 days at \$15,000 and 30 vacation days, as per contract.
- I. Recommendation: Baker/Cecala-Read approve the [Authorizing Resolution](#) for the Fulton CRIM Account, **as submitted**.

Board action needed: Yes (Roll Call Required)
(All yes, motion to carry 8-0)

Natalie Baker-Y
Laurie Cecala-Read-Y
Kevin Rodden-Y

Julie Dickson-Y
Kenneth Riley-Y
Raymond Anderson-Y

Erin Carroll
James McCarrie-Y
Gina Azzari-Y

Curriculum

Committee Meeting Report, (Chairperson) Laurie Cecala-Read

- **Demographer Study**
- **Classroom sizes vs. capacity- Jackie to report on the weekly board update**
- **2027 Board Meeting Calendar**
- **Nursing Plan**

- A. Recommendation: Baker/Rodden approve the **Student Safety Data System (SSDS)** information for the 2025-2026 school year, **as submitted**.
- B. Recommendation: Baker/Rodden approve the [2027-2028 Board Meeting Dates](#), **as submitted**. (To follow)
- C. Recommendation: Baker/Rodden approve the Kindergarten Library Walking Trip in October 2026.
- D. Recommendation: Baker/Rodden approve the [Walter Hill Renaissance Program](#) to run a 5K Run/Walk on November 27, 2026 from 9:00am-12:00pm at Locke Avenue Park, **see attached**.
- E. Recommendation: Baker/Rodden approve the Walter Hill Renaissance Clubs annual Bowling Trip to Wood Lanes on May 23, 2027.
- F. Recommendation: Baker/Rodden approve the Harker Mad Science Afterschool Club from November 9, 2026-December 21, 2026.
- G. Recommendation: Baker/Rodden approve the Gloucester County Special Services School District Agreement to provide additional [Remedial Services for Nonpublic I.D.E.A.](#) students, **as submitted**.
- H. Recommendation: Baker/Rodden approve the Agreement with Gloucester County Special Services to provide Chapter 226 [Non-Public Nursing Services](#) for the 2026-2027 school year, **as submitted**.
- I. Recommendation: Baker/Rodden approve the annual [Nursing Service Plan](#) for the 2026-2027 school year, **as submitted**.
- J. Recommendation: Baker/Rodden approve the [Bi-Annual Statement of Assurance](#) for Paraprofessionals for the 2026-2027 school year, **as submitted**.

- K. Recommendation: Baker/Rodden approve the ESL Family Engagement Night and Parent Advisory Committee (PAC) on October 7, 2026 from 5:30 pm-7:30 pm at the Clifford School.
- L. Recommendation: Baker/Rodden approve the [Memorandum of Agreement](#) for the Gloucester County Title III Consortium for the 2026-2027 school year, **as submitted**.
- M. Recommendation: Baker/Rodden approve the Annual Title I/ESEA Stakeholder Night on October 15, 2026 at the Stratton Library from 4:30-5:30 pm.
- N. Recommendation: Baker/Rodden approve TESOL Trainers to provide the workshop Four-Day SIOP Comprehensive- Principles and Practices of SDIOP, Parts 1 and 2 to 25 teachers. Staff will attend in 3 cohorts for a total of 12 days. 6 virtual training days at a cost of \$11,250 and 6 in-person days at a cost of \$25,500. Cost will be paid for by Title II A-Funds.
- O. Recommendation: Baker/Rodden approve the administration staff, Jackie Traini, Korey Jeffries, Joel Brown, Jamie Flick, Jennifer Boston and Josh Stow to attend the NJSBA Workshop 2026 October 19, 2026 through October 22, 2026.
- P. Recommendation: Baker/Rodden approve the Swedesboro-Woolwich Board of Education Members, Natalie Baker, Julie Dickson and Erin Carroll, to attend the NJSBA Workshop 2026 October 19, 2026 through October 22, 2026.
- Q. Recommendation: Baker/Rodden approve the Swedesboro-Woolwich Board of Education Members, Laurie Cecala-Read, Kenneth Riley, James McCarrie, to attend the NJSBA Workshop 2026 October 19, 2026 through October 22, 2026.
- R. Recommendation: Baker/Rodden approve the Swedesboro-Woolwich Board of Education Members, Kevin Rodden, Raymond Anderson, Gina Azzari, to attend the NJSBA Workshop 2026 October 19, 2026 through October 22, 2026.

Board action needed: Yes (Roll Call Required)

(Motion carries, 8-0 for A-M & O; 7-0-1 for N; 6-0-2 for P; 5-0-3 for Q&R)

Natalie Baker- Abstain from P; Yes for the rest

Julie Dickson- Abstain from P; Yes for the rest

Laurie Cecala-Read- Abstain from Q; Yes for the rest

Raymond Anderson- Abstain from R; Yes for the rest

James McCarrie- Abstain from Q; Y for the rest

Kenneth Riley- Abstain from Q; Yes for the rest

Kevin Rodden- Abstain from R; Yes for the rest

Gina Azzari- Abstain from N & R; Yes for the rest

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

<u>Board action needed:</u> Yes (Roll Call Required)		
Natalie Baker	Julie Dickson	Erin Carroll
Laurie Cecala-Read	Kenneth Riley	James McCarrie
Kevin Rodden	Raymond Anderson	Gina Azzari

District Growth and Planning Committee
Committee Meeting Report, (Chairperson) Ken Riley

- ***Enrollment Growth***
- ***Jackie to reach out to other districts that have had high growth***
- ***Jackie to reach out to Dr. Ivory***
- ***Hill has opportunities for space***

<u>Board action needed:</u> 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**

- *Facility Use*

A. Facility Usage Requests

Recommendation: Baker/McCarrie 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
1- Swedesboro-Woolwich Little Theater	Stratton MPR Stage Side	September 25, 20256	Practice
2- Kingsway Youth Basketball	School Gyms	October 2026-March 2027/Monday-Friday 6:15-9:00 pm	Practices/Games
3- Swedesboro-Woolwich Day Committee	Hill Parking Lot	September 26, 20266:00 am-6:00 pm	Parking for Swedesboro Day
4- Swedesboro-Woolwich Stars Baseball	Harker Gym	Monday's in October/6:30-8:30 pm	Practice

*Laurie Cecala-Read asked if there would be space for SWSA if they were to put in a request.
Korey explained that they have not reached out yet for this year and to put in request if needed.*

Board action needed: Yes (Roll Call Required)
(All yes, motion to carry 8-0)

Natalie Baker-Y
Laurie Cecala-Read-Y
Kevin Rodden-Y

Julie Dickson-Y
Kenneth Riley-Y
Raymond Anderson-Y

Erin Carroll
James McCarrie-Y
Gina Azzari-Y

Public Comments- None to Report

Any person interested in making comments on any agenda item or other school district related topic 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 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.

Delegates:

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

6. Adjournment

Recommendation: Cecala-Read/Baker approve the adjournment of meeting.
Board action needed: Yes Time: 7:05 pm
(All yes, motion to carry 8-0)

Respectfully submitted,



Mr. Korey Jeffries
Board Secretary/SBA

Next Meeting(s).

October 14, 2026

Board/Committee Meetings as scheduled