Minutes
October 14, 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: 7-2/6:01 pm

C. Flag Salute

D. Adoption of Agenda
Recommendation: Baker/Riley approve the adoption of the agenda, **as presented.**
Board action needed: Yes
(All yes, motion to carry 7-0)

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- **September 2026**

1) **Walter Hill School**
   Grade 6
   - Grace Thornes
   - Ariana Langi

2) **Charles G. Harker School**
   Grade 3
   - Logan Bruynell
   - Ryleigh Beety

   Grade 4
   - Brian Friant
   - Alexander Berdos

   Grade 5
   - Jaxon Melone
   - Elise Williams

3) **Gov. Charles Stratton School**
   Grade 1
   - Viktoria Stefanovic
   - Liam Robles

   Grade 2
   - Matthew Watson
   - Louis Drennan

4) **Margaret Clifford School**
   Kindergarten
   - Rishi Reddy
   - Lily Byrwa
   - Natalie O'Neill
   - Luke Chellew

Cecala-Read arrived to meeting at 6:18 pm making quorum 8-0

B. Strategic Planning- Dr. Charles Ivory

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: Baker/Riley approve to enter into **Executive Session** for the purpose of discussing/reviewing items as noted above.
   Board action needed: Yes Time: 7:08 pm

2) Recommendation: Baker/Dickson approve to return to **Regular Session**.
Board action needed: Yes Time: 7:51 pm
(All yes, motion to carry 8-0)

Approval of Minutes
Recommendation: Baker/Riley approve the regular and/or executive session minutes dated **September 23, 2026, as submitted.**
Board action needed: Yes
(Motion carried 6-0-1- Carroll abstained)

3. Communication

A. Superintendent

"A Community dedicated to inspiring life-long learners"

1) Superintendent Updates
Shout Outs!
- Thank you to BR Williams for donating the use of a bus for Stratton's full day review of Bus Expectations.
- Thank you to all of Stratton's committee members who make a positive impact with their thoughtful suggestions, creative ideas, and time put in to benefit our students.
- NJSLA Test scores were great
- October is National Principals Month
- Congratulations to Gina for earning Master Board Member status

2) District Enrollment

a) Report, **as submitted**

Clifford
Stratton
Harker
Hill

3) Correspondence.

4) OPRA Log

Document (s) Requested	Who Requested	Date Received	Date Completed

Check Register from March 1, 2026 to July 31, 2026	Fillip Freeman	09/21/2026	09/22/2026

B. District Administration

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

Clifford
Stratton
Harker
Hill
Technology
Special Services
Curriculum & Instruction
Maintenance

Public Comments/Visitors- None to Report

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: Baker/Riley approve the following personnel items, as listed:

Name	Position/ Cert	Salary	Budget Acct #	Action	Effective Date
1- Theresa Sisca	Sub LP	$15.92/hour	11-000-262-107-000-01	LP sub	October 15, 2026
2- Hope Brecher, Emmalee Coates	Student Teacher	-	-	Clinical Field Placement under the direction of Eric Biddle and Chris Lewis	Fall 2026/ Tuesday
3- Sarabeth Dudley, Ashley Ferraez	Student Teacher	-	-	Clinical Field Placement under the direction of Courtney Watkins	Fall 2026/ Tuesday
4- Alisa Fritter, Bella Hughes	Student Teacher	-	-	Clinical Field Placement under the direction of Cassie Sholders	Fall 2026/ Tuesday
5- Veronica Groves	Student Teacher	-	-	Clinical Field Placement under the direction Tyla Cielinski	Fall 2026/ Tuesday
6- Kaylynn Hawk, Gina Howell	Student Teacher	-	-	Clinical Field Placement under the direction of Rachel Ogbin	Fall 2026/ Tuesday
7- Julia Jackson	Student Teacher	-	-	Clinical Field Placement under the direction Heather Dougherty	Fall 2026/ Tuesday
8- Elia Morlock, Alexandra Muller	Student Teacher	-	-	Clinical Field Placement under the direction of Eileen Healey	Fall 2026/ Tuesday
9- Abigail Perillo, Kendall Piperata	Student Teacher	-	-	Clinical Field Placement under the direction of Heather Camlin & Lauren Denham	Fall 2026/ Tuesday
10- Staff ID# 4930	BCBA	-	-	FMLA Leave	October 1, 2026- November 2, 2026- Staff member utilizing 7 sick days
11- Christine Rossi	Paraprofessional	Step 6/$25,964	11-214-100-106-000-01-070	New Hire	November 1, 2026
12- Susan Perry	Paraprofessional	Step 7/$26,664	11-212-100-106-000-01-080	New Hire	November 1, 2026
13- Tyler Day	Director of Special Services	$126,000	11-000-240-103-000-01-	New Hire	January 4, 2026- pending completion of ALL state

			0X0		required paperwork
14- Dana Teague	Instructional Supervisor	$53,000	11-000-221-102-00-01-0X0	Advanced Education Achievement - Doctorate	October 15, 2026

B. **Stipends**- Recommendation: Baker/Riley approve the following stipends for the 2026-2027 school year, as listed:

Name	School	Stipend Position	Amount
1- Alayna Pasztalaniec	District	In-Service Presentation November 2, 2026 from 12:30-3:30	$38/hour

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

Name	Workshop	Date & Time	Cost	Estimated Travel Cost
1- Erika Slowicki, Gwen Waggoner, Catherine Reichardt, Alexis Sharparoff, Amy Hay, Alyssa Bononcini	SpeechPathology.com (Annual on Demand PD)	On Demand	$109/person	$0
2- Yuna Park & Diana Kaithern	New Jersey Literacy Leadership Summit	October 29, 2026/8am-2:30pm	$49/person	$0

3- Erin West	Building Strong Foundations: Tier 1 & 2 Structures withing MTSS Rethinking Executive Function Through Whole-Class Design High-Leverage Practices: A Pathway to Inclusive Success Inclusive by Design: Restorative Practices & Trauma-Informed Classrooms Self-Regulation, Co-Regulation, and Classroom Management: Supporting Student Success in an Inclusive Classroom Mastering the IEP: Strategies for Effective Writing	October 21, 2026 October 27, 2026 November 10, 2026 November 20, 2056 December 4, 2026 December 8, 2026	$85/session (6 Sessions)	$0

D. Regular, Payroll, Cafeteria & Addendum Bills
Recommendation: Baker/Riley approve for payment of **October 2026 regular and addendum bills** in the amount of **$921,153.97** and payment of **September 2026** payroll in the amount of **$1,593,450.07**, **as submitted**.

E. Recommendation: Baker/Riley approve the **Line-Item Transfer** for **September 2026, as submitted**.

F. Recommendation: Baker/Riley approve **Tuition Reimbursements** for the 2026-2027 school year**, as submitted.**

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

Natalie Baker-Y	Julie Dickson-Y	Erin Carroll-Y
Laurie Cecala-Read-Y	Kenneth Riley-Y	James McCarrie-Y
Kevin Rodden-Y	Raymond Anderson	Gina Azzari-Y

Curriculum

Committee Meeting Report, (Chairperson) Laurie Cecala-Read

A. Recommendation: Rodden/Riley approve HIB Self-Assessments for the 2025-2026 school year, **as submitted**. (To follow)

- **Clifford**
- **Stratton**
- **Harker**
- **Hill**

B. Recommendation: Rodden/Riley approve Harker Students to participate in the Woolwich Township Clean Communities Program on Saturday October 17, 2026.

C. Recommendation: Rodden/Riley approve Hill STEAM Night on Tuesday February 9, 2027.

D. Recommendation: Rodden/Riley approve Noteworthy Consulting, LLC to present for a total of 5 hours on November 3, 2026 on the topics of Play with Purpose in Preschool and Teaching the Neurodivergent Brain at the cost of $3,000 to be paid through Title II A Funds.

E. Recommendation: Rodden/Riley approve the NJ Coalition for Inclusive Education to present for a total of 6 hours on November 2, 2026 on the topic of Tier 1 and Tier 2 Structures within MTSS at the cost of $2,500.

F. Recommendation: Rodden/Riley approve Dr. April Storm from Null Education Services (NES) to present for the full day of November 2, 2026 on Building Thinking Classrooms in Mathematics at the cost of $9,000 for implementation and travel.

G. Recommendation: Rodden/Riley approve the submission of the IDEA Final Report for the Fiscal Year 2026.

H. Recommendation: Rodden/Riley approve the submission of the ESEA Final Report for the Fiscal Year 2026.

I. Recommendation: Rodden/Riley approve Terri Overbey as the District's Choral Accompanist for the 2026-2027 school year, not to exceed $2,000.

J. Recommendation: Rodden/Riley approve the **2025-2026 Attendance Corrective Action Plan, as submitted.**

K. Recommendation: Approve the submission of the **QSAC DPR, as submitted.**

Board action needed: Yes (Roll Call Required)
(Motion to carry: 8-0 for A-J; 7-0-1 for K (McCarrie abstained)

Natalie Baker-Y	Julie Dickson-Y	Erin Carroll
Laurie Cecala-Read-Y	Kenneth Riley-Y	
Kevin Rodden-Y	Raymond Anderson	Gina Azzari-Y

James McCarrie- Y for A-J; abstained from K

Policy Committee and Community Relations

Committee Meeting Report, (Chairperson) Natalie Baker

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

District Growth and Planning Committee

Committee Meeting Report, (Chairperson) Ken Riley

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: 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 Board of Health & Boro of Swedesboro	Hill Parking Lot	November 28, 2026 from 11am-4pm	Annual Parade staging area

B. Recommendation: Baker/McCarrie approve the **Annual Maintenance Budget Amount Worksheet** (M-1) for the 2026-2027 school year, **as submitted**.

C. Recommendation: Baker/McCarrie approve the submission of the **2026-2027 Comprehensive Maintenance Plan**, **as submitted**.

D. Recommendation: Baker/McCarrie approve the **Health & Safety Evaluation of School Buildings Checklist** for the 2026-2027 School year

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

Natalie Baker-Y	Julie Dickson-Y	Erin Carroll-Y
Laurie Cecala-Read-Y	Kenneth Riley-Y	James McCarrie-Y
Kevin Rodden-Y	Raymond Anderson	Gina Azzari-Y

Public Comments

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.

Mrs. Eileen Healey- SWEA President

- SWEA will reach out to thank Jackie for a few things
- SWEA will reach out about the AD Hoc about the stipends
- SWEA will work with the board on the Health Insurance crisis
- Representatives from the SWEA will be going to the state meeting about the State Funding Formula

2026-2027 Board Goals Action Plan

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: 9:06 pm
(All yes, motion to carry 8-0)

Respectfully submitted,

Korey Jeffries

Mr. Korey Jeffries
Board Secretary/SBA
Next Meeting(s).
November 18, 2026
Board/Committee Meetings as scheduled