

SWEDESBORO-WOOLWICH BOARD OF EDUCATION

COMMUNITY UPDATE

MAY 13, 2017

We want to acknowledge and thank those that attended the May 9th board meeting and provided their comments, questions, and many success stories. The shared information will be incorporated into our review as we analyze the received proposals, investigate alternatives (e.g., review expected surplus, seek to reopen SWEA contract), and select the best option to address the remaining \$500,000 budget deficit.

Most questions raised were previously addressed in the May 5th BOE Community update; however, we wanted to expand on one item.

Are you proposing to layoff 38 teachers as well as the 28 paraprofessionals?

No. As previously indicated, if the district were to retain the current paraprofessional structure, it would be necessary to reduce our certified teaching staff by 4 positions. In addition, it would be necessary to reduce student resources and student programming including, but not limited to, loss of brain pop, Reading A-Z renewal, Reflex Math at Hill, consumable and ELA resources, all non-pay to play clubs, and many reductions within operations and technology.

New Jersey law requires that all staff receive notice of employment by May 15, 2017. Since there will not be a decision with respect to the paraprofessionals until the June 14th meeting, it was necessary for the district to issue letters of non-renewal for reasons of economy, budgetary considerations, etc. by the May 15, 2017 deadline.

Non-tenured teachers were made aware of the process, the legal requirement, and the District's intention to move the non-tenured staff appointments to the June BOE meeting.

We will continue to provide updates as necessary as we continue to work through this difficult decision.

Sincerely,



Craig Frederick
SWBOE President