

THE GLOUCESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Our mission is for all students to be successful, engaged, lifelong learners.

School Committee Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, March 30, 2011

Fuller School Auditorium

9:30 p.m.

Members

Val Gilman, Chairperson
Melissa Teixeira, Vice Chairperson
Kathleen Clancy, Secretary
Roger Garberg
Michelle Sweet
Tony Gross

Administration Present

Interim Superintendent Dr. Joseph Connelly
Assistant Superintendent Brian Tarr
Assistant Superintendent Shayne Trubisz
New Superintendent Dr. Richard Safier
CFO Tom Markham
Cherylann Parker
Tammy Morgan
Gregg Bach

Recorded by Cape Ann TV

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Gilman called the meeting to order at 9:35 p.m. and stated the mission of the Gloucester Public Schools.

II. SALUTE TO THE FLAG – None

III. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS – None

IV. COMMENTS FROM THE CHAIRPERSON – None

V. RECOGNITIONS – None

VI. STUDENT ADVISORY COUNCIL – None present

VII. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Approval of Minutes

School Committee Meeting of March 16, 2011

B. Schedule of Future Meetings

Program Sub-Committee – Friday, April 1, 2011, at 9:45 a.m.

Location: Superintendent's Conference Room

Agenda: To be announced

School Committee – Wednesday, April 13, 2011, at 7:00 p.m.

Location: Kyrouz Auditorium – City Hall

Agenda: To be announced

Building & Finance Sub-Committee – Tuesday, April 12, 2011, at 4:45 p.m.

Location: Superintendent’s Conference Room

Agenda: To be announced

School Committee – Wednesday, April 27, 2011, at 7:00 p.m.

Location: Kyrouz Auditorium – City Hall

Agenda: To be announced

C. Acceptance of Scholarships

1. To accept the Stanley F. Brown Memorial Scholarship in the amount of \$2,500.
2. To accept the Gloucester Republican City Committee Scholarship

D. Acceptance of Grants

1. DESE Grants
 - a. Identifying and Disseminating Effective District and School Practices from Title I Schools that Narrow the Achievement Gap for Students from Low Income Families \$10,000
 - b. Level 3 District and School Assistance \$27,395
 - c. Level 3 District and School Assistance \$ 5,338
 - d. Level 3 District and School Assistance \$ 6,476
 - e. Green in the Middle Curriculum Development \$ 5,000
 - f. Race to the Top – Vertical SIF Implementation \$13,220
2. North Shore Community Health Network Grant
 - Gloucester Grows \$ 9,500

It was unanimously

VOTED: 6 in favor zero opposed, to approve the Consent Agenda as listed above.

VIII. REPORTS/DELIBERATIONS ON EDUCATIONAL ISSUES

Review of School Improvement Plan for 2011/2012 – Veterans Memorial Elementary School – Principal Cherylann Parker briefly explained the process of forming an SIP, including the role of the site based council, and reviewed the SIP for Veterans Memorial School. The following matters were discussed:

- Leveling off of percentage of free and reduced students this year
- Significant drop in MCAS scores last year, what may have caused this, and how Ms. Parker is improving morale
- Whether a 10% increase in goals is realistic
- DIBLES
- Students' lack of vocabulary and stamina to complete longer open response questions and what has been done to address those issues
- Disappointment in participation of Tribal because of organizational shift
- BSRI training and payment for teachers to attend
- Teachers' visit to Beachmont School in Revere and their reactions to the BSRI program
- Open Door Pantry's Mobile Market
- Outreach for parent involvement with the school other than academic involvement

Ms. Parker thanked Janet Allen, who is on the Veterans site based council and has been one of their PTO members, for staying for the meeting. She is a great person to count on.

IX. SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. Special Building & Finance Sub-Committee Report of March 7, 2011** – Chairperson Clancy previously reported on this meeting at the March 7, 2011 School Committee meeting.
- B. Program Sub-Committee Report of March 11, 2011** – Tabled

X. DISCUSSION

- A. School Food Service February Monthly Report** – Dr. Connelly reported that the February report is positive and that February was a better month than January.
- B. Governance Meeting Agenda Preparation for May 21, 2011, with Superintendent-Elect Dr. Richard Safier** – Tabled
- C. Day on the Hill – Report to the School Committee** – Tabled

XI. ACTION

- A. FY 2012 Operating Budget – Tabled**
- B. Administrative Protocol Policy – Tabled**
- C. School Calendar/Modified FY 2011-2012**

On a motion by Ms. Teixeira, seconded by Kathy Clancy, it was unanimously

VOTED: 6 in favor zero opposed, to approve the FY 2011-2012 School Calendar.

Note: Dr. Connelly requested that the committee members read the O'Maley School Improvement Plan and bring it to the next meeting.

XII. OTHER COMMUNICATION

A. For Your Information

1. “Building a Breakthrough Framework for Educator Evaluation in the Commonwealth,” from DESE (electronic copy only)
2. Professional Licensure – Thomas Markham, Chief Finance Officer
3. MASC Testimony in Support of House-36, “An Act Further Strengthening the Commonwealth’s Partnership with its Municipalities”
4. DESE letter (3/17/11) regarding Bullying Prevention and Intervention Plan feedback
5. Letter from Attorney Naomi Stonberg regarding City Charter Review

XIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

On a motion by Ms. Teixeira, seconded by Mrs. Sweet, it was unanimously

VOTED: By Roll Call Vote

Chairperson Gilman – yes
Ms. Teixeira – yes
Kathy Clancy – yes
Mr. Garberg – yes
Mrs. Sweet – yes
Mr. Gross – yes

To enter into Executive Session at 10:15 p.m. to receive an update on contract negotiations with union personnel, specifically nurses, and to enter back into regular session for the purpose of adjournment only.

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Ms. Teixeira, seconded by Mrs. Sweet, it was unanimously

VOTED: 6 in favor zero opposed, to adjourn the School Committee Meeting of March 30, 2011 at 10:35 p.m.

All reference documents and reports are filed in the Superintendent's office.

*Maria Puglisi
Recording Secretary*