

THE GLOUCESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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

School Committee Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, January 24, 2018

District Office Conference Room

2 Blackburn Drive, Gloucester, MA 01930

7:00 p.m.

Members Present

Jonathan Pope, Chairman (7:03 p.m.)
Kathy Clancy, Vice Chairperson
Tony Gross, Secretary
Melissa Teixeira (7:34 p.m.)
Michelle Sweet
Mayor Sefatia Romeo Theken

Administration Present

Dr. Richard Safier, Superintendent
Gregg Bach, Asst. Superintendent
Tom Lafleur, Director of Finance
and Operations

Recorded by Cape Ann TV

- I. **CALL TO ORDER** – Vice Chairperson Clancy called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. and stated the mission of the Gloucester Public Schools.
- II. **SALUTE TO THE FLAG**
- III. **ORAL COMMUNICATIONS** – None.
- IV. **COMMENTS FROM THE CHAIRPERSON** – None.
- V. **RECOGNITIONS** – Vice Chairperson Clancy recognized the GHS hockey team, who spent last Saturday with the Learn to Skate program of Cape Ann Youth Hockey.

(Chairman Pope joined the meeting at 7:03 p.m.)

- VI. **GHS STUDENT ADVISORY COUNCIL** – Caroline Enos, Henry Hardy and Samantha Gross updated the committee on the following events at Gloucester High School: survey on teen tobacco use and vaping in Gloucester, ROTC Ball, swim team win, midterms, and the Docksiders event “Characters, Cookies & Cocoa.”

VII. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Approval of Minutes

- 1. Building & Finance Subcommittee of November 27, 2017
- 2. School Committee of November 29, 2017
- 3. Program Subcommittee of December 7, 2017

B. Approval of Warrants – Cover Sheets

C. Approval of Transfers – December 1 to December 21, 2017

D. Referrals

E. Acceptance of Gifts

1. \$10,000.00 from Walter Herlihy, Director of Brace Cove Foundation
2. \$1,339.26 from Hockmeyer Studios, Inc. to West Parish Elementary School

F. Approval of Scholarships

1. Debra Withers Memorial Scholarship in the amount of \$1,000.00
2. Richard L. Andrews Scholarship in the amount of \$500.00

Chairman Pope removed Item F.1 from the Consent Agenda.

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

VOTED: 5 in favor, 0 opposed to approve the Consent Agenda as noted above.

Walter Herlihy, Director of Brace Cove Foundation, discussed the \$10,000 gift from Brace Cove Foundation for the purpose of providing scholarships for supplemental music lessons for students in Grades 4 to 12. The committee members thanked Mr. Herlihy for the gift and for everything he does for the city.

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

VOTED: 5 in favor, 0 opposed to accept a gift in the amount of \$10,000.00 from Walter Herlihy, Director of Brace Cove Foundation.

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

VOTED: 0 in favor, 5 opposed to reconsider the above vote to accept a gift in the amount of \$10,000.00 from Walter Herlihy, Director of Brace Cove Foundation.

VIII. DELIBERATIONS ON EDUCATIONAL ISSUES/SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

(At this time, the agenda was taken out of order.)

B. Superintendent’s Report – Dr. Safier updated the committee on the following matters:

1. Kindergarten Information Night
2. 2017 School and District Report Cards
3. Coordinated Program Review (CPR) Update
4. District-Wide Typing Initiative
5. Potential Federal Government Shutdown

6. State FY19 Budget Outline
7. Vaping in School – Dr. Safier reviewed information provided by GHS Principal James Cook.

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

VOTED: 5 in favor, 0 opposed to accept the Superintendent’s Report.

IX. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS – None.

X. ACTION

B. Declaration of Surplus Equipment

1. 48” Wood Lathe and 14” Dewalt Radial Arm Saw

After discussion, on a motion by Mr. Gross, seconded by Kathy Clancy, it was unanimously

VOTED: 5 in favor, 0 opposed to declare as surplus a 48” wood lathe and a 14” Dewalt radial arm saw.

2. Three Pianos

On a motion by Mr. Gross, seconded by Ms. Sweet, it was unanimously

VOTED: 5 in favor, 0 opposed to declare as surplus one grand piano and two upright pianos.

(Ms. Teixeira joined the meeting at 7:34 p.m.)

A. Acceptance of GEF Grant

After discussion, on a motion by Chairman Pope, seconded by Ms. Sweet, it was unanimously

VOTED: 6 in favor, 0 opposed to accept a grant from the Gloucester Education Foundation in the amount of \$11,891.56 for the following programs:

· Tech Tub Class Pod Initiative Touch-Screen Program at East Gloucester School	\$ 8,666.56
· 2018 Production of <i>The Jungle Book</i> at East Gloucester Elementary School (additional funding)	1,000.00
· Biomechanics to Prevent Injury at GHS	<u>2,225.00</u>
	<u>\$11,891.56</u>

**VIII. DELIBERATIONS ON EDUCATIONAL ISSUES/SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT
(Cont’d)**

- A. Summative Evaluation of the Superintendent** – Chairman Pope read the committee members’ individual evaluations and noted that the summative evaluation does not contain any comments because the comments were fairly extensive and varied. Ms. Teixeira requested that committee members be given the opportunity to meet with Dr. Safier individually to see if they want to make any changes to their individual evaluations. Mr. Gross suggested that Dr. Safier should also have the opportunity to respond and provide clarification to the comments that he feels misrepresent his performance. Chairman Pope requested that any changes be submitted to him by February 9th and this matter was tabled.

XI. DISCUSSION/OTHER COMMUNICATION/OLD AND NEW BUSINESS

A. MSBA Project Updates

1. East Gloucester/Veterans School – Dr. Safier reported that this project is going before the MSBA Board of Directors on February 14, 2018. If approved on that date, the building committee will then select an Owner’s Project Manager and designer.

B. Thank You Letter to Catherine Spanks – FYI.

C. Readers’ Choice Awards, Wicked Local – Gloucester Preschool #1 Choice for Preschool – FYI.

D. Report on Substitute Teachers – Ms. Sweet requested a report on which classes substitutes are being used in since the beginning of the school year. This matter was referred to the Personnel Subcommittee.

E. Joint School Committee/City Council Meeting – Chairman Pope reported that he spoke with the City Council President to discuss the scheduling of a joint meeting. The meeting is tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, March 6, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. in the O’Maley library.

XII. EXECUTIVE SESSION – On a motion by Ms. Teixeira, seconded by Ms. Sweet, it was unanimously

VOTED: By Roll Call Vote

Chairman Pope – yes
Ms. Sweet – yes
Ms. Teixeira – yes
Mayor Theken – yes
Kathy Clancy – yes
Mr. Gross – yes

To enter into Executive Session at 8:20 p.m. for the purpose of discussing GAEP Level IV grievances and to enter back into regular session for the purpose of adjournment only.

XIII. ADJOURNMENT – On a motion by Mr. Gross, seconded by Ms. Sweet, it was unanimously

VOTED: 6 in favor, 0 opposed to adjourn the School Committee Meeting of January 24, 2018 at 8:25 p.m.

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

*Maria Puglisi
Recording Secretary*