

**THE GLOUCESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

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

**School Committee Meeting Minutes**

Thursday, February 11, 2016  
West Parish School Building Site  
5:30 p.m.

**Members Present**

Jonathan Pope, Chairman  
Kathy Clancy, Vice Chairperson  
Tony Gross  
Michelle Sweet

**Administration Present**

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

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- I. CALL TO ORDER** – Chairman Pope called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.
- II. SALUTE TO THE FLAG** – Waived.
- III. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS** – Susanne Altenburger distributed a packet of information regarding her boat-building project and reiterated the opportunities of hands-on work for students in building and maintaining boats. She also brought up the issue again of moving school bus exhaust pipes to the top of the bus. Finally, she asked about the rating of the new West Parish building, and Chairman Pope stated that it is rated 63 on the LEED scale, making it a Gold LEED building.
- IV. COMMENTS FROM THE CHAIRPERSON** – None.
- V. RECOGNITIONS** – Kathy Clancy recognized Dr. Safier for canceling school on Sunday night instead of Monday morning.
- VI. CONSENT AGENDA**
- A. Approval of Minutes**
1. School Committee of January 13, 2016
  2. Building & Finance Subcommittee of January 20, 2016
  3. Building & Finance Subcommittee of January 21, 2016
  4. Building & Finance Subcommittee of January 25, 2016
  5. Building & Finance Subcommittee of January 26, 2016
  6. School Committee and Executive Session of January 27, 2016
- B. Approval of Warrants** – Cover Sheets
- C. Approval of Transfers**
- D. Referrals**

**E. Donation of Piano to East Gloucester Elementary School**

Chairman Pope removed Items A5 and A6.

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

**VOTED:** 4 in favor, 0 opposed to approve the Consent Agenda as noted above.

**VII. DELIBERATIONS ON EDUCATIONAL ISSUES/SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT**

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

**B. Superintendent’s Report** – On a motion by Kathy Clancy, seconded by Ms. Sweet, it was unanimously

**VOTED:** 4 in favor, 0 opposed to accept the Superintendent’s Report.

**A. District Improvement Plan Draft 2016-2017** – Kathy Clancy requested that Dr. Safier consider adding an action step on the 1:1 initiative regarding parent seminars and/or online training. She would also like to see that high school teachers are being held accountable for responsiveness to parents. Dr. Safier stated that he will speak with Dr. Anderson about including this issue in the School Improvement Plan (SIP). There was a discussion about balancing students’ responsibility and independence with parents’ involvement. Finally, Kathy Clancy requested that the high school SIP address career and college readiness on the part of the guidance department. Acceptance of the District Improvement Plan was tabled until the next meeting.

**VIII. ACTION**

**A. Acceptance of Grant** – Exxon Mobil Education Alliance Program grant in the amount of \$500.00 to GHS

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

**VOTED:** 4 in favor, 0 opposed to accept a grant from Exxon Mobil Education Alliance Program to Gloucester High School in the amount of \$500.00.

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

**VOTED:** 0 in favor, 4 opposed to reconsider the Committee’s vote to approve the above-referenced grant. The motion failed.

**IX. DISCUSSION/OTHER COMMUNICATION/OLD AND NEW BUSINESS**

**A. Letter to School Committee regarding bringing back a girls hockey team at GHS**  
Chairman Pope noted that there will be a new Athletic Director next year. There was a discussion about responding to the letter by stating that the committee is open to the idea, that it will be referred to the Athletic Director, and that the group will receive a progress report shortly.

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

**VOTED:** 4 in favor, 0 opposed to adjourn the School Committee meeting of February 11, 2016 at 5:55 p.m.

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

*Maria Puglisi  
Recording Secretary*