

THE GLOUCESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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

School Committee Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, April 29, 2015

Superintendent's Conference Room – District Office

7:00 p.m.

Members Present

Jonathan Pope, Chairman
Melissa Teixeira, Vice Chairperson
Kathy Clancy, Secretary (7:07 p.m.)
Tony Gross
Michelle Sweet
Jack O'Maley (7:05 p.m.)
Mayor Sefatia Romeo Theken

Administration Present

Dr. Richard Safier, Superintendent
Hans Baumhauer, Director of Finance
and Operations

Recorded by Cape Ann TV

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- I. CALL TO ORDER** – Chairman Pope called the meeting to order at 7:00 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** – None.
- VI. GHS STUDENT ADVISORY COUNCIL** – None present.
- VII. CONSENT AGENDA**
- A. Approval of Minutes**
1. School Committee Public Hearing of April 1, 2015
 2. Building & Finance Subcommittee of April 2, 2015
 3. School Committee Meeting and Executive Session of April 8, 2015
 4. Building & Finance Subcommittee of April 15, 2015
- B. Approval of Warrants** – Cover Sheets
- C. Approval of Transfers** – March 15, 2015 to April 5, 2015
- D. Referrals**
- E. Acceptance of Gloucester Education Foundation Grant** – \$18,200.00 to support the proposed summer literacy program

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

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

VIII. DELIBERATIONS ON EDUCATIONAL ISSUES/SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

A. Calendar Update: Upcoming Events in Schools – Dr. Safier stated that this list of events was put together quickly and that a more formatted list will be provided to the committee shortly.

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

1. Summer Literacy/Enrichment Program – Dr. Safier reported that this program will be held at St. Ann’s and that students will be selected based upon the principals’ recommendations. He also noted that there will be a pre-test and post-test assessment to see if there has been any progress. If students maintain an 85% attendance rate in the six-week program, they will receive a free week at YMCA Camp Windward.

(Mr. O’Maley joined the meeting at 7:05 p.m.)

(Kathy Clancy joined the meeting at 7:07 p.m.)

2. HWM Budget Summary
3. School Committee and Fingerprint Checks
4. Board of Education to Hold PARCC Public Forums – Dr. Safier indicated that if the board votes PARCC down, MCAS will undergo some form of adjustment in light of the demands of the Common Core Standards. He noted that the district has not been surveyed about its experience with PARCC this year but stated that PARCC consists of an extraordinary amount of testing in a relatively short period of time (between March and June).
5. Project Consultant: Creating a 21st Century High School in Gloucester
6. Resignation of Director of Finance and Operations

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

VOTED: 7 in favor zero opposed, to accept the Superintendent’s Report.

IX. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Building & Finance Subcommittee Meeting of April 15, 2015 – Chairperson Clancy reported that the Building & Finance Subcommittee discussed a plan prepared by Michele Rogers of Dore & Whittier that addresses the need for a timeout room and

a behavioral room at Plum Cove. Dr. Safier reported that the cost of having Dore & Whittier prepare the plans is significantly higher than anticipated. However, Chairman Pope noted that Tammy Morgan indicated that a parent who is a registered architect may be able to prepare the plans.

After discussion, on a motion by Kathy Clancy, seconded by Ms. Teixeira, it was unanimously

VOTED: 7 in favor zero opposed, to approve the plan developed by Dore & Whittier known as “Option B” for Plum Cove Elementary School.

X. ACTION

- A. Approval of “Option B” Plan Developed by Dore & Whittier for Plum Cove Elementary School – See Item IX.A.**

XI. DISCUSSION/OTHER COMMUNICATION/OLD AND NEW BUSINESS

- A. MSBA Project Update –** Dr. Safier reminded the School Committee that the May 7th building committee meeting will take place at the West Parish site and the School Committee is invited to attend and take a tour. He noted that the site is still active and that proper clothing and footwear is required.

Dr. Safier reported that framing on the third floor as well as underground plumbing has begun on Building B, utility work in the driveway is ongoing, the gas line installation will not take place for 6 to 8 weeks, and the building inspector has requested an alarm for the door leading from the gym to the main lobby.

There was a brief discussion about the lights at the site. Chairman Pope noted that the walls have been put up so the lights can no longer be seen, and the cost of the electricity is included in the project.

- B. Email (4/15/15) from Triton Regional School District**
- C. Email (4/9/15) from Kathryn Goodick**
- D. Public Hearing on Schools –** Chairman Pope noted that this public hearing was postponed until after the budget is finalized. Kathy Clancy suggested that she work with Dr. Safier on a draft of background information that will help explain why the committee is addressing this matter at this time.
- E. Dating Violence Program –** Kathy Clancy stated that this program at the high school which included Lauren Astley’s father’s promotion of awareness of breakup violence was very impressive.

XII. EXECUTIVE SESSION – On a motion by Kathy Clancy, seconded by Mr. O’Maley, it was unanimously

VOTED: By Roll Call Vote

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

To enter into Executive Session at 7:40 p.m. for the purpose of discussing collective bargaining and to enter back into regular session for the purpose of adjournment only.

XIII. ADJOURNMENT – On a motion by Chairman Pope, seconded by Ms. Sweet, it was unanimously

VOTED: 7 in favor zero opposed, to adjourn the School Committee Meeting of April 29, 2015 at 8:27 p.m.

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

*Maria Puglisi
Recording Secretary*