

**THE GLOUCESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

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

**School Committee Meeting Minutes**

Wednesday, April 25, 2018  
District Office Conference Room  
2 Blackburn Drive, Gloucester, MA 01930  
7:00 p.m.

**Members Present**

Jonathan Pope, Chairman  
Kathy Clancy, Vice Chairperson  
Tony Gross, Secretary  
Melissa Teixeira  
Michelle Sweet  
Joel Favazza (7:18 p.m.)

**Administration Present**

Dr. Richard Safier, Superintendent  
Gregg Bach, Asst. Superintendent

*Recorded by 1623 Studios*

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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** – Mr. Bach reported that several local residents toured parts of Gloucester High School, including Kurt Lichtenwald’s classroom and Eric Leigh’s biology classroom, where they saw a presentation of a collaborative effort with a Swiss high school on the extraction of DNA.
  
- VI. **GHS STUDENT ADVISORY COUNCIL** – Samantha Gross and Henry Hardy updated the committee on the following events at Gloucester High School: Senior Banquet, Senior Prom, JROTC trip to Daytona Beach for Drill Team Nationals, Junior Event, and the ALICE assembly and training drill. Mr. Gross requested a report from the students on the ALICE drill at the next meeting.
  
- VII. **CONSENT AGENDA**
  - A. **Approval of Minutes**
    - 1. School Committee of February 28, 2018
  
  - B. **Approval of Warrants**

**C. Approval of Transfers**

**D. Referrals**

**E. Approval of Out-of-State Field Trip Request**

1. GHS to Whitney Museum of American Art in New York, New York on Friday, May 18, 2018

**F. Acceptance of Gifts**

1. Projector from Susan Kelly of Stacy Boulevard, LLC
2. \$500.00 from University of Michigan to GHS

Chairman Pope removed Item C from the Consent Agenda.

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

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

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

- A. Superintendent’s Goals** – Dr. Safier reviewed his Professional Practice, Student Growth, and District SMART Goals for calendar year 2018 and noted that they are aligned with the District Improvement Plan.

*(Mr. Favazza joined the meeting at 7:18 p.m.)*

The committee discussed preparation for the Next Generation MCAS, including keyboarding instruction, and the new middle school science curriculum. Ms. Sweet suggested adding a vocational program goal next year, and Dr. Safier indicated that he can amend this year’s District Improvement Plan to add a goal for that program. After discussion, Chairman Pope referred a review of the vocational program to the Program Subcommittee.

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

**VOTED:** 6 in favor, 0 opposed to accept the Superintendent’s goals.

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

1. Athletic Director Final Interviews
2. ALICE Drill at GHS
3. Doors and Locks at Beeman and Plum Cove

4. City Council Order #CC2018-010 – Dr. Safier reported that VOIP phones for every room at Plum Cove, Beeman, East Gloucester and O’Maley are being priced out (approximately \$40,000). He also stated that a full intercom system is being installed at GHS, which will require renovations, and O’Maley will be next. Communication satellite offices for the police department at GHS and O’Maley are also in the works, which could act as incident command posts depending on the circumstances of a particular incident. Camera and door access are also being reviewed.

Finally, Dr. Safier reported that the city has provided a school resource officer to be stationed at the middle school on a part-time basis. Mr. Favazza believes that this should have been approved by the School Committee, and Chairman Pope expressed concern that the committee was not informed about it. Dr. Safier stated that it is his understanding that the new SRO at O’Maley has gone through the same training that SRO Scola has gone through and would have the same type of positive presence. Kathy Clancy stated that we should communicate with families about what is going on, and there was a discussion about entering into a contract with the new School Resource Officer.

5. Coordinated Program Review
6. Mass. NAEP Scores

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

**VOTED:** 6 in favor, 0 opposed to accept the Superintendent’s Report.

## **IX. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS**

- A. **Building & Finance Subcommittee of April 25, 2018** – Chairman Gross reported that the Building & Finance Subcommittee discussed lunch prices, food service debt, and a special budgetary transfer at its meeting of April 25, 2018.

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

**VOTED:** 6 in favor, 0 opposed to authorize the CFO to request a special budgetary transfer from the City Council in the amount of \$238,807.46 for out-of-district expenses to be paid through the School Choice Program.

**X. ACTION**

- A. Acceptance of School Choice Students for the 2018-2019 School Year** – After discussion, on a motion by Ms. Teixeira, seconded by Kathy Clancy, it was unanimously

**VOTED:** 6 in favor, 0 opposed to accept school choice students for the 2018-2019 school year.

**B. Acceptance of Grants**

1. SPED 240 Grant in the amount of \$4,838.00 – On a motion by Kathy Clancy, seconded by Ms. Sweet, it was unanimously

**VOTED:** 6 in favor, 0 opposed to accept the SPED 240 grant in the amount of \$4,838.00.

2. Increase in FY17 DESE Title II, Part A Grant – On a motion by Kathy Clancy, seconded by Ms. Sweet, it was unanimously

**VOTED:** 6 in favor, 0 opposed to accept the increase in the FY17 DESE Title II, Part A grant in the amount of \$388.00, totaling \$129,986.00 (originally \$129,598.00).

3. Increase in FY18 DESE Title II, Part A Grant – On a motion by Kathy Clancy, seconded by Ms. Sweet, it was unanimously

**VOTED:** 6 in favor, 0 opposed to accept the increase in the FY18 DESE Title II, Part A grant in the amount of \$190.00, totaling \$119,409.00 (originally \$119,219.00).

- C. Approval of the FY19 Budget for Submission to the Mayor** – This vote was taken on April 24, 2018.

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

**A. MSBA Project Updates**

1. East Gloucester/Veterans School – Chairman Pope reported that a walk-through of East Gloucester and Veterans took place for the firms who responded to the RFS for the Owner’s Project Manager position. The responses to the RFS will be received on May 17 and will be distributed to the selection committee on May 18. The selection committee will then narrow down the responses to two or three respondents to be interviewed.
2. GHS Roof – Chairman Pope reported that there are some issues with the marine coatings on the roof top units.

- B. Newell Stadium Track** – Mr. Favazza requested an update on the condition of the track. Chairman Pope reported that there is no electricity to the bathrooms and concession stand.
- C. Referral Process** – Chairman Pope stated that he would like to tighten up the process of referring matters to subcommittee and whether subcommittees can address matters that have not been referred. He will review the policy regarding subcommittees and report back.

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

**VOTED:** 6 in favor, 0 opposed to adjourn the School Committee Meeting of April 25, 2018 at 8:19 p.m.

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

*Maria Puglisi  
Recording Secretary*