

THE GLOUCESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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

School Committee Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, May 25, 2016

District Office – Conference Room

7:00 p.m.

Members Present

Jonathan Pope, Chairman (8:17 p.m.)
Kathy Clancy, Vice Chairperson
Joel Favazza, Secretary
Melissa Teixeira
Tony Gross (8:27 p.m.)
Michelle Sweet
Mayor Sefatia Romeo Theken

Administration Present

Dr. Richard Safier, Superintendent
Dr. Arthur Unobskey, Asst. Superintendent
Tom Lafleur, CPA, Director of Finance
and Operations
Debra Lucey, O'Maley Principal
Dr. Telenia Imel, West Parish Principal

Recorded by Cape Ann TV

- I. **CALL TO ORDER** – Vice Chairperson Clancy called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
- II. **SALUTE TO THE FLAG**
- III. **ORAL COMMUNICATIONS** – None.
- IV. **COMMENTS FROM THE CHAIRPERSON** – None.
- V. **RECOGNITIONS** – Dr. Safier recognized the opening of the Gloucester Biotechnology Academy at 55 Blackburn Drive, which will provide a professional opportunity for students who graduate from high school to participate in a one-year program free of charge, at the end of which they will be a certified research technology assistant in the biotechnology field.

Dr. Safier introduced Zack Palmer, his mother, Lori Wieckowski, and his teacher Elena Bergin. Zack reported that he won two medals in the Special Olympics for the turbo javelin throw and the 100-yard dash. He stated that his next event will be held at Boston University in June. Dr. Safier recognized his dedication, strength and perseverance.

Kathy Clancy recognized the district and the Gloucester Education Foundation for the Arts Festival that was held on May 14th. She stated that many people commented to her on how great the musical performances were and how amazing the music program is.
- VI. **GHS STUDENT ADVISORY COUNCIL** – None present.
- VII. **CONSENT AGENDA**
 - A. **Approval of Minutes**
 1. School Committee of April 27, 2016

2. School Committee & Executive Session of May 11, 2016

B. Approval of Warrants – Cover Sheets

C. Approval of Transfers – 4/22/16 to 5/9/16

D. Referrals

E. Approval of Grants

1. DESE Enhancing Supports for Students in Poverty Grant in the amount of \$11,286.00
2. DESE District and School Assistance Grant in the amount of \$1,250.00
3. Gloucester Education Foundation Grant in the amount of \$30,169.66 (\$4,169.66 for the 2016 Summer Literacy Program and \$26,000.00 for the GHS Learning Commons Creation Laboratory)

F. Acceptance of Gifts

1. Target Take Charge of Education – \$100.00 to Gloucester High School and \$50.00 to Beeman Memorial Elementary School
2. Three Lantern Marine – \$1,350.00 to Beeman Memorial Elementary School

Vice Chairperson Clancy removed Items A.2 and E.3.

On a motion by Ms. Teixeira, seconded by Ms. Sweet, 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. Photos as seen on “Superintendent’s Corner” – Dr. Safier presented a slide show of photos of the new West Parish School, as seen on “Superintendent’s Corner.” He stated that the West Parish open house for the community will be held on Sunday, August 28th at 2:00 p.m.

B. School Improvement Plans

1. West Parish Elementary School – Principal Telena Imel reviewed the West Parish School Improvement Plan.
2. O’Maley Innovation Middle School – Principal Debra Lucey reviewed the O’Maley School Improvement Plan. The committee discussed the mandatory extended day program, PARCC practice tests, and the transition from O’Maley to the high school with respect to the math and science curriculum.

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

VOTED: 5 in favor, 0 opposed to accept the School Improvement Plans of West Parish Elementary School and O'Maley Innovation Middle School.

C. West Parish Elementary School Opening/Celebration Update – Ms. Teixeira inquired about the budget for the open house on August 28th. Dr. Safier indicated that once the plans have been conceptualized, it can be determined what budget support will be necessary. He reminded the committee that it has a contingency account that can be used. Dr. Imel reported that WT Rich has volunteered to pay for the ice cream social and that the ribbon cutting ceremony is anticipated for September 21st.

D. Superintendent's Report – Dr. Safier updated the committee on the following matters:

1. GHS Roof Repair – Dr. Safier reported that the MSBA voted today to approve the GHS roof repair. His understanding is that an owner's project manager will be assigned, after which we will find a designer and go through the feasibility study and schematic design. Two votes will be required by both the School Committee and City Council, one for the design and the other for the full cost of the project. Dr. Safier noted that the city is considering the need to replace the roof over the auditorium sooner rather than later in light of the fact that the pace of the MSBA process would not allow the work to be done before next winter. Therefore, it is conceivable that the School Department may take responsibility for financing a design, with the city then looking for a loan authorization to get that portion of the roof done. Dr. Safier noted that it may be appropriate to ask the MSBA if we could use the people we already know and trust (KBA and Dore & Whittier) for this project.
2. GHS Principal Search Process
3. Prom Season Safety Event
4. Academic Recognition Night
5. Guidance on Civil Rights of Transgender Students
6. Senate Ways and Means Budget

(Chairman Pope joined the meeting at 8:17 p.m.)

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.

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

X. ACTION

- B. Approval of Gloucester Education Foundation Grant (removed from Consent Agenda)** – Samantha Whitney, GHS Librarian, discussed the GHS Learning Commons Creation Laboratory, and Dr. Safier discussed the summer literacy program.

After discussion, on a motion by Kathy Clancy, 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 \$30,169.66 (\$4,169.66 for the 2016 Summer Literacy Program and \$26,000.00 for the GHS Learning Commons Creation Laboratory).

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

VOTED: 0 in favor, 6 opposed to reconsider the vote to accept the above-referenced grant from the Gloucester Education Foundation in the amount of \$30,169.66. The motion failed.

XI. DISCUSSION/OTHER COMMUNICATION/OLD AND NEW BUSINESS

- A. MSBA Project Update** – See VIII.D.1.
- B. Letter from Governor Baker and Lt. Governor Polito** – Chairman Pope read the letter.
- C. Letter from Friends of the Gloucester Council on Aging** – Chairman Pope read the letter.

(Mr. Gross joined the meeting at 8:27 p.m.)

- D. School Committee Meeting Location** – Mr. Favazza requested that the committee reconsider where its meetings are held, since the Blackburn building is not accessible by foot or bicycle and the seating arrangements are not ideal. He suggested holding meetings in the Friend Room at the Sawyer Free Library or at the high school library, both of which are centrally located, easily accessible to the public, and have more room for seating. The committee discussed this matter and it was referred to the Building & Finance Subcommittee.

IX. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. Building & Finance Subcommittee Meeting of March 16, 2016** – Chairman Gross reported that the Building & Finance Subcommittee discussed the food service debt and the DPW ticket system at its meeting of March 16, 2016. Kathy Clancy reminded the committee of their appearance before the City Council Budget & Finance Committee on May 31st at 5:30 p.m. at City Hall.

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

VOTED: By Roll Call Vote

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

To enter into Executive Session at 8:39 p.m. for the purpose of discussing a proposed settlement with AFSCME-B and an upcoming GTA arbitration, and to enter back into regular session for the purpose of voting on the settlement with AFSCME-B and adjournment.

X. ACTION (Continued)

A. Approval of Tentative Agreements between the Gloucester School Committee and AFSCME-B – After discussion, on a motion by Kathy Clancy, seconded by Ms. Sweet, it was

VOTED: 5 in favor, 1 opposed (Mr. Favazza), 1 present (Mayor Theken) to approve the Tentative Agreements between the Gloucester School Committee and Council #93, Local #687, American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, AFL-CIO. (See attached.)

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

VOTED: 7 in favor 0 opposed, to adjourn the School Committee Meeting of May 25, 2016 at 9:03 p.m.

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

*Maria Puglisi
Recording Secretary*

JULY 1, 2015 – JUNE 30, 2018

**AFSCME CLERICAL, UNIT B
TENTATIVE AGREEMENTS**

BETWEEN THE

GLOUCESTER SCHOOL COMMITTEE

AND

COUNCIL #93, LOCAL #687,
AMERICAN FEDERATION OF STATE, COUNTY,
AND MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES, AFL-CIO

1. Agreed that the new contract will include newly developed job descriptions and they be attached as an addendum to the contract.
2. Agreed the term of the contract begins on July 1, 2015 and terminates on June 30, 2018.
3. Agreed salary increases will be as follows:
July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016 – 2% increase;
July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017 – 2% increase; and
July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018 – 2% increase.

For AFSCME B

Date

For School Committee

Date