

THE GLOUCESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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

School Committee Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, November 19, 2014

Superintendent's Conference Room – District Office

7:00 p.m.

Members Present

Melissa Teixeira, Vice Chairperson
Kathy Clancy, Secretary
Tony Gross
Michelle Sweet
Jack O'Maley

Administration Present

Dr. Richard Safier, Superintendent
Gregg Bach, Assistant Superintendent
Hans Baumhauer, Director of Finance
and Operations
Patricia Wegmann, Director of Special
Education

Also Present

Paul McGeary, City Council President (7:16)

Recorded by Cape Ann TV

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- I. **CALL TO ORDER** – Vice Chairperson Teixeira 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** – Vice Chairperson Teixeira wished Chairman Pope a speedy recovery.
 - V. **RECOGNITIONS** – Kathy Clancy recognized Dr. Safier and the Gloucester Education Foundation for the educational forum held on Monday night.
 - VI. **GHS STUDENT ADVISORY COUNCIL** – Lily Sanfilipo and Liana Hendershott introduced themselves and updated the committee on the following events at Gloucester High School: Jr. ROTC's participation in Veteran's Day ceremony, semi-formal at Danversport Yacht Club, all-state cross country team, drama production of "A Chemical Imbalance," Art Club silent auction, food drive for Open Door, fundraiser for Paul Russo, Thanksgiving pep rally, field hockey all-stars, and financial aid night. Kathy Clancy mentioned Lillian Lograsso's Extravaganza fundraiser to raise money for students going to Italy and France in the spring, which will take place on Friday at Cruiseport.
 - VII. **CONSENT AGENDA**
 - A. **Approval of Minutes**
 1. School Committee of November 12, 2014

- B. Approval of Warrants – Cover Sheets**
- C. Approval of Transfers**
- D. Referrals**
- E. Acceptance of Gloucester Education Foundation Grant -- \$8,610.00 for elementary and middle school music program and Word Generation program at O'Maley Innovation Middle School**
- F. Approval of Out-of-State Field Trip Requests**
 - 1. GHS Junior ROTC Program to Parris Island, SC from Monday, February 16 to Friday, February 20, 2015 (vacation week)
 - 2. GHS Docksidiers to Disney World, Orlando, FL from Saturday, March 14 to Friday, March 20, 2015

Vice Chairperson Teixeira removed Items A.1, C and D from the Consent Agenda.

On a motion by Kathy Clancy, 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. Special Education Strategic Planning –** Dr. Safier presented a slide show on the strategic plan that is being developed in response to the Walker Report. Ms. Wegmann discussed the child study process and the makeup of the child study teams, language-based programs, and parent education via SEPAC. Dr. Safier discussed response to intervention strategies, entrance and exit criteria, and expansion of the co-teaching model to Grade 3 at Veterans. Mr. Gross requested data on the number of students moving off of IEPs.

(City Council President Paul McGeary joined the meeting at 7:16 p.m.)

- B. Professional Development Report –** Mr. Bach presented a slide show detailing the workshops attended by teachers and paraprofessionals between August and October. He reported that ALICE training will begin on December 9th for middle and high school teachers. On January 23, 2015, an ALICE training session will be held for all other staff (secretaries, food service workers, paraprofessionals, custodians, etc.). Training for elementary school teachers has not yet been scheduled.
- C. FY16 Budget Priorities –** Dr. Safier presented a slide show on some of the priorities for the FY16 budget, including the expansion of co-teaching at Veterans, a K-8 ELA coordinator to oversee elementary teacher leaders, special education teacher(s) at Beeman, West Parish Learning Center for Grade 5 at O'Maley, increase of social

service staff at Beeman and O’Maley, a grants manager, and year-round secretaries at the elementary schools.

(City Council President McGeary left the meeting at 8:11 p.m.)

D. Superintendent’s Evaluation Process Planning – Dr. Safier noted that he has provided committee members with documents in connection with the evaluation process and stated that he will attempt to get his materials to the committee by December 3rd. Vice Chairperson Teixeira noted that although Dr. Safier’s contract states that his evaluation must be done by the end of the year, he has agreed to extend it to the first School Committee meeting in January.

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

1. GPS Placed on College Board’s 5th Annual AP District Honor Roll for Significant Gains in Student Access and Success
2. Education Forum and Technology – Kathy Clancy thanked Cape Ann TV for recording this event.
3. Education Evaluation Data 2013-14
4. Healthy Gloucester Collaborative Town Hall Forum
5. Looming Mid-Year Budget Cuts (9C)
6. Chapter 70 Foundation Budget Review Committee – This matter was referred to the Building & Finance Subcommittee to draft written comments for submission to the Foundation Budget Review Committee.
7. Kindergarten Open House
8. High School Open House – Mr. Gross suggested holding an open house at O’Maley for Grade 5 parents and students. Kathy Clancy stated that the open houses should include current students and parents describing their experiences and noted that they are open to the general public. Vice Chairperson Teixeira suggested advertising the open houses in the newspaper.
9. Upcoming High School Play: “Chemical Imbalance”

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

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

IX. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. Building & Finance Subcommittee Meeting of November 19, 2014** – Chairperson Clancy reported that the Building & Finance Subcommittee discussed the outstanding meal payment balances and elementary facilities at its meeting of November 19, 2014.

On a motion by Kathy Clancy, seconded by Vice Chairperson Teixeira, it was unanimously

VOTED: 5 in favor zero opposed, to request from the Mayor the operating and maintenance costs of Beeman Memorial School, East Gloucester Elementary School, Plum Cove School, and Veterans' Memorial Elementary School for FY14.

X. ACTION

- A. Request for Operating and Maintenance Costs of Elementary Schools** – See Item IX.A.

XI. DISCUSSION/OTHER COMMUNICATION/OLD AND NEW BUSINESS

- A. MSBA Project Update** – Dr. Safier reported that the project is under budget and on time. He indicated that bids for contracts are due on November 25, 2014 and that there is a camera on the site.

XII. ADJOURNMENT – On a motion by Mr. O'Maley, seconded by Ms. Sweet, it was unanimously

VOTED: 5 in favor zero opposed, to adjourn the School Committee Meeting of November 19, 2014 at 8:50 p.m.

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

*Maria Puglisi
Recording Secretary*