

THE GLOUCESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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

Personnel Subcommittee Meeting Minutes

Thursday, April 2, 2020

HELD VIA ZOOM

4:30 p.m.

Members Present

Melissa Teixeira Prince, Chairperson

Kathy Clancy, Vice Chairperson

Jonathan Pope, Member

Also Present

Dorothy Presser, MASAC

Laura Wiessen

I. CALL TO ORDER – Chairperson Prince called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m. and noted that a quorum of the School Committee was present at the meeting.

II. REPORTS/DELIBERATIONS/DISCUSSION

A. Superintendent Search Screening Committee – Chairperson Prince noted that the submittal of screening committee applications is open until April 7th and that members of certain groups are still needed. Ms. Presser recommended doing some recruiting to fill the empty slots on the committee. She indicated that if there is more than one applicant for a certain slot, the School Committee can make a decision on the applicants' qualifications based on the letters they provided or simply put the names in a hat and pick one.

Mr. Pope reported that multiple teachers have applied to be on the screening committee, including the president and vice president of the GTA, and expressed concern about putting both of those individuals on the screening committee. He noted that the vice president is the only teacher at the high school that applied; however, multiple teachers from the elementary level have applied, of which the GTA president is one. Ms. Presser stated that it is not unusual for the union president to be on the screening committee and noted that sometimes the School Committee will let the teachers select which of them will be on the screening committee. Mr. Pope indicated that there is some contention with the union right now regarding online learning, notably the issuance of a cease and desist order. Ms. Presser stated that another way to go is to decide by longevity or whatever else makes sense to the School Committee. Chairperson Prince requested that Mr. Pope send a list of all of the applicants to her, Kathy Clancy and Ms. Presser.

Ms. Presser stated that the School Committee should make sure it has a well-balanced screening committee that will represent the different constituency groups well and ensure that there is a balance between educators and non-educators. She cautioned that the community member chosen for the screening committee should not also be a parent. Mr. Pope noted that the mayor had requested that the police chief, fire chief and DPW Director interview the finalists and provide feedback. Ms. Presser stated that that is not unusual but it is more of a conversation than an interview.

There was a discussion about conducting interviews with the finalists and site visits virtually. Ms. Presser reported that several superintendents have been appointed without the School Committee meeting them in person (all done via Zoom).

Finally, Ms. Presser reported that some applications are coming in from superintendent candidates and noted that there is still three weeks left to apply.

III. ADJOURNMENT – On a motion by Kathy Clancy, seconded by Mr. Pope, it was unanimously

VOTED: By Roll Call Vote

Mr. Pope – yes
Chairperson Prince – yes
Kathy Clancy – yes

To adjourn the Personnel Subcommittee Meeting of April 2, 2020 at 5:05 p.m.

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

*Maria Puglisi
Recording Secretary*