

THE GLOUCESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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

Program Subcommittee Meeting Minutes

Thursday, May 1, 2014

Superintendent's Conference Room – District Office

5:00 p.m.

Members Present

Michelle Sweet, Chairperson
Melissa Teixeira, Vice Chairperson
Jack O'Maley

Administration Present

Dr. Richard Safier, Superintendent
Gregg Bach, Asst. Superintendent (5:04)

I. CALL TO ORDER – Chairperson Sweet called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. and stated the mission of the Gloucester Public Schools.

II. REPORTS/DELIBERATIONS/DISCUSSION

A. Athletic and Cheerleading Booster Organizations Policy, File KJAA – Dr. Safier noted that the existing policy refers only to athletic and cheerleading booster organizations but that there are other booster organizations, as well, such as the drama club. Therefore, he revised the policy to include all booster organizations.

Dr. Safier went through the revisions made to the existing policy, i.e. changing the wording to reflect extracurricular and athletic programs. Chairperson Sweet noted that after looking at some other districts' booster organization policies online, she is happy with our streamlined policy.

Ms. Teixeira questioned where the booster money comes from and goes to. Chairperson Sweet explained, from her personal experience with the lacrosse booster club, that the club decides what fundraisers they will hold in order to pay for their banquet, gifts, sweatshirts, equipment, etc. The money from the fundraisers then goes into the booster club's checking account, and the treasurer is responsible for keeping track of it, in the same way the PTOs operate. She does not believe booster clubs are 501(c)(3) organizations.

Dr. Safier noted that the policy requires booster organizations to provide an annual accounting of their income and expenses, but that has never been done. He stated that the district is now notifying the boosters that they must comply with the policy since they are using the school name. He will send out another reminder on June 1st and possibly follow up with phone calls.

Ms. Teixeira questioned how the policy will be enforced since the district has no governing authority over the booster organizations. She proposed that the district

sign contracts with the organizations but at the same time indicated that she does not want to discourage anyone from raising money for kids.

Chairperson Sweet proposed that the policy include consequences for noncompliance. Dr. Safier stated that if a booster organization does something that is inconsistent with the educational process, the district would tell them they cannot use the GPSD name and would sever its association with them.

Ms. Teixeira proposed that this matter be added to the Building & Finance Subcommittee's annual agenda to review the booster clubs' financial reports every September.

On a motion by Mr. O'Maley, seconded by Ms. Teixeira, it was unanimously

VOTED: 3 in favor zero opposed, to recommend to the full School Committee that we approve the revised Booster Organizations policy, File KJAA, as presented.

III. ACTION – See Item II.A.

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

VOTED: 3 in favor zero opposed, to adjourn the Program Subcommittee Meeting of May 1, 2014 at 5:15 p.m.

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

*Maria Puglisi
Recording Secretary*