

THE GLOUCESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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

Program Subcommittee Meeting Minutes

Monday, May 6, 2013

Superintendent's Conference Room – District Office

7:00 p.m.

Members Present

Roger Garberg, Vice Chairperson
Kathy Clancy
Jonathan Pope (alternate)

Administration Present

Dr. Richard Safier, Superintendent
Gregg Bach, Assistant Superintendent

I. CALL TO ORDER – Vice Chairperson Garberg called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. and stated the mission of the Gloucester Public Schools.

II. REPORTS/DELIBERATIONS/DISCUSSION

A. Proposed Change of Notification Date for Kindergarten Choice Requests –

Dr. Safier reported that 177 kindergarten students have registered for next year and there are another 35 at Pathways and the preschool that should be registering. He indicated that students typically register over the summer and, therefore, the district does not want to promise choice to kindergarten students before there is a clear sense of the configuration in each building.

With respect to the Admission of Students to Elementary Schools Policy, File JF, Dr. Safier requested that the notification date of June 1st be changed to August 1st for kindergarten only (paragraph 5.3). Mr. Bach indicated that the principals proposed changing the date to August 10th due to delays in the registration process. After discussion, it was the consensus of the subcommittee to add at the beginning of paragraph 5.3 of the policy, “With the exception of kindergarten” and to add the following sentence at the end of the paragraph: “For kindergarten students, the review and determination will be completed between August 1st and August 10th of each year.”

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

VOTED: 3 in favor zero opposed, to recommend to the full School Committee that we adopt the Admission of Students to Elementary Schools Policy, File JF, as amended by the Program Subcommittee on May 6, 2013.

B. School Committee Annual Meeting Agenda – Dr. Safier reviewed the additions to the draft School Committee Annual Meeting Agenda as recommended during the April 8th Governance Workshop. The subcommittee discussed the following matters:

- Changing Special Education Report from one in February to one in November and a second one in April
- Move assessment of superintendent from June to August
- Move handbook approval from August to June – Any changes can be included as an addendum.

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

VOTED: 3 in favor zero opposed, to recommend to the full School Committee that we adopt the School Committee Annual Meeting Agenda – 2013/2014, as amended.

C. Sawyer Medal Policy Updates – Vice Chairperson Garberg reviewed the changes made to the policy. (See revised policy attached.)

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

VOTED: 3 in favor zero opposed, to recommend to the full School Committee that we approve the Sawyer Medal Policy, File KCDA, as amended.

III. ACTION – See Items II.A, II.B and II.C above.

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

VOTED: 3 in favor zero opposed, to adjourn the Program Subcommittee Meeting of May 6, 2013 at 7:46 p.m.

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

*Maria Puglisi
Recording Secretary*

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File: KCDA

SAWYER MEDAL

From the Will of Samuel Sawyer: “I give and bequeath to the said City Government the sum of Three Thousand Dollars, in trust, to be invested as aforesaid and the income only to be applied through the hands of the School Committee in providing medals, to be awarded to meritorious scholars in the High and Grammar Schools, courtesy and exemplary conduct to be considered.”

O’Maley Innovation Middle School

Sawyer Medals will be awarded to no more than 10 students in the graduating class of the O’Maley Innovation Middle School who stand highest in the class and who satisfy the following criteria:

1. Students will have attended the Gloucester Public Schools for at least one year immediately preceding their graduation.
2. Students will have an average of at least 90% and a record of satisfactory school citizenship consistent with the SAILS program.

The average scholarship for any given year is found by obtaining the average of five grades. The first four grades are the averages for the year in Math, History, English and Science. The fifth grade is found by obtaining the average of all specialist courses, which include art, performing arts, health/physical education, and foreign languages and/or math remediation. MCAS or other tests may be used to break ties.

Students will be presented their medals at a School Committee ceremony with invitations to parents/guardians and the press to give public recognition to this academic honor.

Gloucester High School

Sawyer Medals will be awarded to as many as two students in each of Grades 10 through 12 and five students in Grade 9 who stand highest in the class and who satisfy the following criteria:

1. Students will have attended the Gloucester Public Schools for at least one year prior to the year of the award. (Transfer students who have completed one full year at Gloucester High School are eligible for Sawyer Medals.)
2. Students must have an average of at least 90% and there must be no ties.

3. Students must have a record of satisfactory school citizenship.
4. Students may not have received a Sawyer Medal in prior years (in either O'Maley or in GHS).

Sawyer Medals may be awarded to five ninth graders who stand highest in their class and to a male and female student in each upper class who have the highest academic average. The award for all students will be based on a cumulative average.

Students in Grade 9, 10 and 11 will be presented their medals at a School Committee ceremony with invitations to parents/guardians and the press to give recognition to this academic honor.

At the graduation ceremony, all winners of the Sawyer Medal who are members of the graduating class will be publicly recognized.