

THE GLOUCESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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

Program Subcommittee Meeting Minutes

Thursday, September 25, 2014

Superintendent's Conference Room – District Office

5:00 p.m.

Members Present

Michelle Sweet, Chairperson
Melissa Teixeira, Vice Chairperson
Jack O'Maley (5:11 p.m.)

Administration Present

Dr. Richard Safier, Superintendent
Gregg Bach, Asst. Superintendent

I. CALL TO ORDER – Chairperson Sweet called the meeting to order at 5:05 p.m. and stated the mission of the Gloucester Public Schools.

II. REPORTS/DELIBERATIONS/DISCUSSION

A. Student Discipline Policy, File JK – Dr. Safier suggested a revision to the third paragraph of the existing policy with respect to the purpose of disciplinary action.

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

VOTED: 2 in favor zero opposed, to recommend to the full School Committee that we revise the Student Discipline policy, File JK, as presented.

(Mr. O'Maley joined the meeting at 5:11 p.m.)

B. Student Conduct Policy, File JIC – Dr. Safier recommended that the current policy be replaced with the proposed policy, which is an exact replication of Chapter 222. The committee discussed mediation, restorative justice, in-school suspension, and discretion with respect to expulsion. Dr. Safier noted that the student handbooks will need to be revised to reflect the new policy. Mr. Bach reported that there were 36 suspensions at the high school and 59 at the middle school last year.

After discussion, on a motion by Ms. Teixeira, seconded by Mr. O'Maley, it was unanimously

VOTED: 3 in favor zero opposed, to recommend to the full School Committee that we adopt the proposed Student Conduct policy, File JIC, as presented to replace the same policy currently contained in the School Committee Policy Manual.

- C. Student Absences and Excuses Policy, File JH** – Dr. Safier reviewed the proposed policy and recommended replacing the current policy with the proposed policy. He noted that the attendance policies in the student handbooks will need to be revised to reflect the new policy. The new attendance policies will also be distributed to students.

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

VOTED: 3 in favor zero opposed, to recommend to the full School Committee that we adopt the proposed Student Absences and Excuses policy, File JH, as presented to replace the same policy currently contained in the School Committee Policy Manual.

- D. Computer Network and Internet Acceptable Use Policy for Students, File IJNDB**
The committee reviewed and made some minor revisions to the proposed policy. Chairperson Sweet requested that the title of the policy be moved to the top of the first page.

After discussion, on a motion by Ms. Teixeira, seconded by Mr. O’Maley, it was unanimously

VOTED: 3 in favor zero opposed, to recommend to the full School Committee that we adopt the Gloucester Public School’s Student Responsible Use Policy, File IJNDB, as presented, which consists of two parts, namely Grades 2-5 and Grades 6-12, to replace the Computer Network and Internet Acceptable Use Policy for Students, File IJNDB, currently contained in the School Committee Policy Manual.

III. ACTION – See Items II.A-D.

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

VOTED: 3 in favor zero opposed, to adjourn the Program Subcommittee Meeting of September 25, 2014 at 5:44 p.m.

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

*Maria Puglisi
Recording Secretary*