

Glocester Town Hall
1145 Putnam Pike
Chepachet, RI 02814

MINUTES

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call

Meeting Called to Order by Chair, Ms Keeling at 6:30 pm

Present: Mr. Rizzo, Ms. Henry, Ms.Keeling, and Ms. Ferreira

Absent: Ms. Joyce & Mr. Dupuis

Also Present: Dr. Palazzo, Attorney Piccirilli

3. Pledge of Allegiance
4. Student/Staff Recognition

No recognitions at this time

DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING:

5. Approval of School Committee Minutes (August 20, 2024)

- a. Budget Sub Committee, Open and Executive Sessions

Motion by Mr. Rizzo supported by Ms. Henry to approve the minutes of the Budget Sub Committee meeting on August 20, 2024

MOTION PASSED: 4-0-0

Motion by Mr. Rizzo supported by Ms. Ferreira to approve the minutes of the Open meeting on August 20, 2024

MOTION PASSED: 4-0-0

Motion by Mr. Rizzo supported by Ms. Henry to approve the minutes of the Executive Session meeting on August 20, 2024

MOTION PASSED: 4-0-0

6. Approval of Bills - (August)

Motion by Ms Henry supported by Mr. Rizzo to approve the monthly bills dated August 1 - August 31, 2024 in the amount of **\$271,386.66**

MOTION PASSED: 4-0-0

7. Finance Update

Dr. Palazzo stated that it is in the packet. State aid is also addressed

- a. Revenue & Expense Monthly

8. Superintendent's Report-Personnel: Leaves/Resignations/Non-Renewals/ Appointments/Recalls and other Personnel Actions – Informational

Dr. Palazzo recognized the Title I after school program “Creative Learners” at West Gloucester Elementary. Ms. McPhee, Enrichment Teacher, described how the program works.

9. School Report

a. West Gloucester Elementary School

Principal Ms. Zambarano stated that the open house was well attended; approximately 80% of families attended. The family picnic was last week and the Flu clinic will be September 24, 2024.

b. Fogarty Memorial Elementary School

Principal Ms. Strik thanked Gary Gras for having the pathway paved to make it more accessible. Fogarty met with the special olympics Unified Program and they are going to use one block to start a unified team. PTO asked to be part of the Feinstein school “Be the I in KINDNESS”.

Dr. Palazzo stated that she attended both open houses and they were well received.

10. Facilities Update

Mr. Gras updated the committee on the boiler at West Gloucester. He has chosen Coyne Mechanical. Replacement has been priced out. Range will be \$270,000. Demolition has started. Should have a new boiler within the next two weeks. Estimated start up time is 5 to 6 weeks.

Also the West Gloucester water tank has rising water levels. Indicators are original to the building. NorthEast water came to price out. Approximately \$23,000. – Health and Safety Grant.

Ms. Ferreira asked if water bottles are still being provided. Mr. Gras stated that water bottles will be used until water is treated by North East water and RIDE. State will mandate this, but should help fund it.

Paving at Fogarty is now ADA compliant. The School Committee asked that Mr. Tremble from GPW be thanked.

11. Transportation – Update on Bus Routes - Bus Coordinator

No Updates – Ms. Heather Busald was not present.

12. Consolidation of Schools

Discussion was brought to look at pros and cons and different possibilities of school consolidation ie (lower grades at one school and higher grades at the other). Set up a committee to include parents, union, school committee members, superintendent, principal, etc. Include the bus coordinator. Dr. Palazzo/Ms. Dubois will send out communication to see who may want to be a part of the committee.

Ms. Keeling mentioned that the social/emotional issues are much more prevalent now.

13. School Committee Meeting Venue/Date Change

Motion by Ms. Henry supported by Ms. Ferreira to approve the School Committee meetings venue/date changes as presented in the packet.

MOTION PASSED: 4-0-0

October 15, 2024 canceled – change to **October 29, 2024**

November 19, 2024 - no meeting scheduled

December 3, 2024

Meetings will start at 6 pm at Ponaganset High School

14. Enrichment Activities at Both Schools

Ms. Ferreira would like more activities for students after school. She mentioned Girls on the Run.

15. Town Council Update - Update on activities relating to the School Department

Ms. Keeling mentioned that at the last town council meeting Beth Beltram (Business Manager) stated that we are in a deficit. Town council is aware; continue to make them aware. Ms. Henry stated that the town of Glocester is in charge of funding the schools. Jon Burlingame is a good advocate and will continue to be.

16. Public Comment – Relating to Current or Future Agenda Items

NONE

17. Seek to Convene to Executive Session to Discuss and/or Vote on the following matters:

- a. Per RI General Law 42-46-5(a)(2) LEGAL ADVICE
- b. Per RI General Law 42-46-5(a)(8) PRIVACY OF STUDENTS/ RECORDS
 - i. *Homeschool*
 - ii. *Transportation Appeal*

Motion by Ms Henry supported by Mr. Rizzo to Convene in Executive Session to Discuss and/or Vote on the Following Matters

- a. Per RI General Law 42-46-5(a)(2) LEGAL ADVICE
- b. Per RI General Law 42-46-5(a)(8) PRIVACY OF STUDENTS/ RECORDS
 - iii. *Homeschool*
 - iv. *Transportation Appeal*

18. Reconvene to Open Session

Return to public session at 7:40 pm and announcement of votes, if any

Two (2) votes were taken

Motion by Ms Ferreira supported by Mr. Rizzo to reconvene to open session.

MOTION PASSED: 4-0-0

19. Vote to Seal the Minutes of Executive Session

Motion by Mr Rizzo supported by Ms Keeling to seal the minutes of executive session.

MOTION PASSED: 4-0-0

20. Communications From/To Members of the School Committee and/or School District

NONE

21. Future Agenda Items – Identification of Future Agenda Items

- Active Grant Pursuer

Ms. Ferriera asked if there were other grants from the state. Mr. Rizzo inquired if there is someone actively looking for grants. Dr. Palazzo stated there is no one in the region or Gloucester at this time.

22. Adjournment

Motion by Mr. Rizzo supported by Ms. Henry to adjourn Public Meeting at 7:42 pm

MOTION PASSED: 4-0-0