

Glocester School Committee  
Glocester Town Hall  
1145 Putnam Pike  
Glocester, RI 02857

May 16, 2023  
6:30

## MINUTES

### 1. Call to Order

The meeting of the Glocester School Committee was called to order by Chair, Ms. Keeling, at 6:30 p.m.

### 2. Roll Call:

Present: Ms. Keeling, Ms. Joyce, Mr. Dupuis, Ms. Henry, Mr. Rizzo, Ms. Ferreira  
Also present: Ms. Dubois

### 3. Pledge of Allegiance

## DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING:

### 4. Approval of Minutes from the April 4, 2023 School Committee Meeting

Motion by Mr. Dupuis, seconded by Ms. Henry, to approve the Open Session minutes from the April 4, 2023 School Committee meeting as presented.

Motion passed 5-0-1 with Ms. Joyce abstaining.

### 5. Approval of Bills

Motion by Mr. Dupuis, seconded by Ms. Joyce, to approve the Check Register dated April 30, 2023 in the amount of \$297,998.38.

Motion passed 6-0-0

### 6. Superintendent's Report - Informational

### 7. Finance Director's Report

### 8. Town Council Update

### 9. Accomplishments/Recognitions of Fogarty Memorial and West Glocester Schools

### 10. Update on Capital Projects

Mr. Gras reported that an RFP has been issued to replace a boiler and new doors have been installed at West Glocester.

11. Approval of Revised FY 2024 School Budget

Motion by Mr. Dupuis, seconded by Ms. Joyce, to approve the revisions to the FY 2024 school budget as presented. Motion passed 6-0-0

Ms. Keeling reported that the school department's original 2023-2024 budget included a 2.5% increase; however, due to fiscal issues, the Town required the school budget for 2023-2024 be reduced to a .5% increase.

12. Approval of 2023-2024 School Calendar

Motion by Mr. Dupuis, seconded by Ms. Joyce, to approve the 2023-2024 school calendar as presented. Motion passed 6-0-0

13. Introducing American Sign Language into the Curriculum

The committee discussed ways to begin to introduce American Sign Language at the elementary level, such as teaching a word a week, as well as teaching students the unified pledge. The intent is to provide elementary students with a foundation so that they may build on potential ASL classes offered at the middle and high school in the future. Ms. Dubois will explore possibilities with teachers and staff at the elementary level.

14. K-5 Health Curriculum and Communication

Ms. Ferreira asked about ways to make the curriculum more transparent to the community. In addition to posting curricula and syllabi on the webpage, it was suggested that content teachers attend a school committee meeting to share how they are teaching subject/curriculum expectations and standards. Ms. Zambarano felt that providing the committee with "scope and sequence" by subject would give them a clearer understanding of what is being taught.

15. Homeschool Community, Communication and Resources

Ms. Dubois explained that that the school district is now offering home school families a curriculum (*Pearson Connection Academy*), which can be modified to meet the individual learning needs of each child in addition to offering tutoring as needed. Ms. Dubois further clarified that home school families are welcome to borrow books and other resources from the schools.

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

17. Seek to Convene to Executive Session per RI General Laws 42-26-5(a) (2) Legal Advice Regarding Transportation Contract (3) School Safety

Motion by Ms. Joyce, seconded by Mr. Dupuis, to convene to Executive Session per RI General Laws 42-26-5(a) (2) Legal Advice Regarding Transportation Contracts; (3) School Safety

Motion passed 6-0-0

18. Reconvene to Open Session

19. Vote to Seal the Minutes of Executive Session

Motion by Mr. Dupuis, seconded by Ms. Joyce, to seal the minutes of Executive Session.

Motion passed 6-0-0

Ms. Keeling reported that in Executive Session, the committee discussed school safety and a transportation contract. No votes were taken.

20. Vote on Transportation Contract

Motion by Ms. Joyce, seconded by Mr. Dupuis, to approve the terms to terminate the transportation contract with Jaques Bus Lines as presented.

Motion passed 6-0-0

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

22. Future Agenda Items – Identification of Future Agenda Items

Ms. Henry will check with the Town Council on their availability to schedule a budget subcommittee meeting.

23. Adjournment

Motion by Mr. Dupuis, seconded by Mr. Rizzo, to adjourn at 8:21pm.

Motion passed 6-0-0