

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

August 15, 2023
6:30

**APPROVED
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, Mr. Piccirilli

3. Pledge of Allegiance

DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING:

4. Approval of Minutes from the June 20, 2023 School Committee Meeting

Motion by Mr. Dupuis, seconded by Ms. Henry, to approve the Open and Executive Session minutes from the June 20, 2023 School Committee meeting as presented.

Motion passed 6-0-0

5. Approval of Bills

Motion by Mr. Dupuis, seconded by Mr. Rizzo, to approve the Check Register dated July 31, 2023 in the amount of \$196,262.31 and the check register dated June 30, 2023 in the amount of \$320,540.06.

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. Capital Projects Update

Mr. Gras reported that installing a new boiler at Fogarty is underway, the old storage tank has been removed, and the new water heater is in place. Additionally, 300 feet of the entrance to West Glocester was repaved, as well as some of the

entrance to Fogarty, using available DPW funds, which is a savings of \$31,000. The best quote for replacing the PA systems in both schools is \$70,000 each from Shanix Technology. Also, Mr. Gras has arranged for RI Energy to conduct energy audits at both schools.

11. Transportation Update

Ms. Busald, Transportation Coordinator, reported that she has been learning the transportation software program, which has been very time consuming; but she is almost done scheduling bus routes, and the number of students on the busses is fairly evenly distributed. Ms. Busald and the committee agreed that cameras on the busses would be a good deterrent to undesirable behavior, as well as document any incidents occurring on the bus.

12. Truant/Residency Officer Position

Motion by Mr. Dupuis, seconded by Ms. Henry, to approve the position of Truant/Residency Officer as recommended by the Superintendent.

Motion passed 6-0-0

Ms. Dubois explained that Gloucester Police Department can no longer provide these services. Gloucester and the Region will share this position for roughly 10 hours a week.

13. Approval of Revised 2023-2024 School Calendar

Motion by Mr. Dupuis, seconded by Mr. Rizzo, to approve the revised 2023-2024 school calendar as presented.

Motion passed 6-0-0

14. Reaffirmation of Affirmative Action Policy

Motion by Mr. Dupuis, seconded by Ms. Joyce, to reaffirm the Affirmative Action Policy.

Motion passed 6-0-0

15. K-5 Health Curriculum and Communication

This will be on the agenda for the meeting in September.

16. Introducing American Sign Language into the Curriculum

The committee discussed ways to begin to introduce ASL into the curriculum. Ms. Dubois is exploring options with Mike Posner, an ASL Consultant.

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

18. Seek to Convene to Executive Session per RI General Laws 42-26-5(a) (3) School Safety (2) Legal Advice Regarding Transportation Contract; Litigation Update *Town of Barrington et al vs State of Rhode Island*. (8) Privacy of Student Records – Home School Requests

Motion by Mr. Dupuis, seconded by Ms. Henry, to convene to Executive Session per RI General Laws 42-26-5(a) (3) School Safety (2) Legal Advice Regarding Transportation Contract; Litigation Update *Town of Barrington et al vs State of Rhode Island*. (8) Privacy of Student Records – Home School Requests
Motion passed 6-0-0

19. Reconvene to Open Session

20. Vote to Seal the Minutes of Executive Session

Motion by Ms. Joyce, seconded by Mr. Dupuis, to seal the minutes of Executive Session.
Motion passed 6-0-0

Chair reported that in Executive Session the committee discussed and. Two votes were taken.

21. Vote on Transportation Contract

Motion by Mr. Dupuis, seconded by Ms. Joyce, to authorize the negotiating team to move forward with the transportation contract within the parameters of the numbers discussed by the committee and attorney.
Motion passed 6-0-0

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

23. Future Agenda Items – Identification of Future Agenda Items

- K-5 Scope and Sequence for Health Curriculum
- Introducing American Sign Language into the Curriculum
- School Resource Officer

24. Adjournment

Motion by Mr. Dupuis, seconded by Ms. Joyce, to adjourn at 7:53 pm.

Motion passed 6-0-0

Kathryn Ritter-Smith, Clerk