

Ponaganset High School Library
137 Anan Wade Road
Glocester, RI 02814

MINUTES

- 1. Call to Order
- 2. Roll Call

Meeting Called to Order by Chair, Ms Keeling at 5:31 pm
Present: Mr. Rizzo, Mr. Joyce, Ms. Keeling, Ms. Joyce, Mr. Dupuis
Absent: Ms Ferreira
Also present: Dr. Palazzo, Attorney Piccirilli
(Ms. Ferreira arrives at 6:20 pm)

- 3. Seek to Convene to Executive Session to Discuss and/or Vote on the following matters:
Motion by Ms. Joyce supported by Mr. Dupuis to Convene in Executive Session to Discuss and/or Vote on the Following Matters:

MOTION PASSED: 5-0-0

- a. Per RI General Law 42-46-5(a)(8) Privacy of Student Records (Homeschool)
- b. Per RI General Law 42-46-5(a)(2) Pending Litigation/Legal Advice
 - i. Potential Litigation
 - ii. 24-057K T. DOE v. Foster/Glocester RSD - RE: Transportation Issue with School District
 - iii. Northwest Regional Special Education

Return to public session and announcement of votes, if any

One vote was taken in Executive Session

- 4. Reconvene to Open Session
Motion by Mr. Dupuis supported by Ms. Joyce to reconvene to open session.

MOTION PASSED: 5-0-0

- 5. Vote to Seal the Minutes of Executive Session
Motion by Mr. Dupuis supported by Ms. Joyce to seal the minutes of executive session.

MOTION PASSED: 5-0-0

- 6. Pledge of Allegiance

- 7. School Spotlight
 - a. West Glocester Elementary School
Student was not in attendance to present
 - b. Fogarty Memorial Elementary School
Fogarty students addressed the committee about what was happening or planned at Fogarty. They had a STEM event at PMS for all the girls in grade 5; West Glocester and Paine school went also. The students stated that it was an amazing event. Dr. Palazzo stated she received positive feedback from all schools. Another student said that Fogarty includes all students. She said they are doing an inclusion week and it will end with PHS students coming to their school for Friendship Friday and Shine Bright Celebration.

DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING:

8. Approval of School Committee Minutes (February 4, 2025)

a. Open and Executive Sessions

Motion by Mr. Dupuis supported by Ms. Joyce to approve the minutes of the Open meeting on February 4, 2025

MOTION PASSED: 5-0-0

Motion by Mr. Dupuis supported by Ms. Joyce to approve the minutes of the Executive Session meeting on February 4, 2025

MOTION PASSED: 5-0-0

9. Approval of Bills - (February)

Motion by Mr. Dupuis supported by Ms. Joyce to approve the monthly bills from February 1, 2025 to February 28, 2025 in the amount of \$ _____

Motion was withdrawn and it was voted to table until the April meeting when February amounts can be provided.

MOTION PASSED: 5-0-0

10. Finance Update

a. Revenue & Expense Monthly

Tabled until April school committee meeting

11. Budget Update

a. 2025-26 Proposed Budget

Motion by Mr. Rizzo supported by Mr. Dupuis to approve the 2025-26 Proposed Budget as presented in the packet minus the % of salary increases.

MOTION PASSED: 6-0-0

Mr Rizzo states that a budget will be put forth that will accurately support students.

Ms. Ferreira arrives at 6:20 pm

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

Dr. Palazzo reported there were no personnel updates. The next PD day is March 14th and work will continue in literacy that date.

13. Approval of 2025-26 Gloucester School Calendar

Motion by Mr. Dupuis supported by Ms. Joyce to approve the 2025-26 Gloucester School Calendar as presented in the packet.

Dr. Palazzo explained to the committee that she is in the process of getting permission for early release days due to losing the 3 Right to Read PD days in the 2024-25 calendar. She asked that the vote be tabled until the April school committee meeting.

Mr. Dupuis rescinded his motion. - No Vote Taken

14. Principal Update

a. West Gloucester

Ms. Zambarano stated that Kindergarten registration will be March 11th at the town hall. The School Improvement Team has been meeting and their plan has been submitted. March Madness has been scheduled for March 28th at PHS. This year it will be tWest Gloucester vs. Fogarty. Both schools are looking forward to it.

b. Fogarty Memorial

Ms. Strik stated the students reported.

15. Facilities Update

Mr. Gras reported that the schools are good at the moment.

16. Policy Regulation Update

Tabled until April School Committee meeting

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

No update at this time.

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

Mr. Walt Steere remarked that he could not believe there was not a discussion in regard to the budget

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

None at this time.

20. Future Agenda Items – Identification of Future Agenda Items

- Policy Regulation Update
- 2025-26 Gloucester School Calendar
- Budget Update FY26
- Finance Update (from March 4 School Committee)
- Approval of Bills - (February)

21. **Adjourn Meeting**

Motion by Mr. Dupuis supported by Ms. Joyce to adjourn Public Meeting at 6:28 pm

MOTION PASSED: 6-0-0