

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 6 pm

Present: Mr. Rizzo, Ms Ferreira, Ms. Keeling, Ms. Joyce, Mr. Dupuis

Absent: Mr. Joyce

Also present: Attorney Piccirilli

3. Pledge of Allegiance

DISCUSSION AND/OR PUBLIC ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING:

4. Approval of School Committee Minutes (August 5, 2025)

a. Open and Executive Sessions

Motion by Mr. Dupuis supported by Mr. Rizzo to approve the minutes of the Open meeting on August 5, 2025

MOTION PASSED: 5-0-0

Motion by Mr. Dupuis supported by Mr. Rizzo to approve the minutes of the Executive Session on August 5, 2025

MOTION PASSED: 5-0-0

5. Approval of Bills - (AUGUST)

Motion by Mr. Dupuis supported by Ms Ferreira to approve the monthly bills dated AUGUST 1, 2025 to AUGUST 30, 2025 in the amount of **\$756,358.00**

MOTION PASSED: 5-0-0

Mr. Joyce Arrives - 6:03 pm

6. Finance Update (August 2025)

a. Revenue & Expense Monthly

No report

7. Principal's Report

Ms. Strik, Principal from Fogarty Memorial School commented that the faculty and staff were very impressed with the Facilities and custodial staff on the clean and tidy building upon their return. Parents and students commented also. The opening of school went smoothly.

Ms. Soccio, Principal from West Glocester also reported a smooth opening to school. Kindergarten started today. Open house is scheduled for September 4. The families can visit classrooms and there will also be a food truck. West Glocester, along with Fogarty is also a Feinstein school.

8. Superintendent's Report

- a. Personnel Report – - Resignations, Appointments, Retirements, Leaves, Lay Offs, Job Sharing, Recalls and Other Personnel Actions – Informational

Ms. Lang, Special Education teacher being moved with the students to West Glocester from Fogarty, resigned on Friday August 22. A new special ed teacher was posted and hired. Three TA's were recalled for the start of school.

- b. Opening of School

Dr. Palazzo shared Legislative updates which included science curriculum being pushed to June, September 11 remembrance, Cell phone use policy which will need to be developed prior to August 2026.

9. Increase in School Meals

Motion by Mr. Dupuis supported by Mr. Rizzo to approve the increase in student meals by \$0.25 (Breakfast \$1.25/Lunch \$2.75).

MOTION PASSED: 6-0-0

10. 2025-26 Budget Update

The budget that was in the packet was from August 12. Meeting today, we are not starting school in a deficit. There are students to be placed out of district.

11. Legislative Liaison Sub Committee Update

No Update

Ms. Keeling stated that any unfunded mandates that are set up can be brought to the school committee.

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

None. Mr. Walt Steere commented that there was no action taken by the town council.

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

Faculty from both schools commented.

Ms. Erin McPhee stated schools are up and running, but not smoothly. Have people in new buildings. No contract. No discussion on raises for teachers. She has received stacks of grievances. Teachers are violating their contracts. Questioned if any of the \$430,000 is going to staff. Need to invest in our youth.

Mr. Nolan Flynn, 5th grade Fogarty. Concerned with his class size of 26 students. No individualized support in specials. There is only 1 door accessible near his classroom.

Mr. Jason Whitford - Capital Project 5 year plan. Have to have money in account for emergency.

Ms. Lindsay Miller, PE Teacher at West and Fogarty. Stated job is not sustainable. Being pulled in different directions w/o a TA.

Ms. Erin McPhee there are changes of the work conditions, roles are being blurred, smooth over and make it work.

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

Motion by Mr. Dupuis supported by Mr Rizzo to Convene in Executive Session to Discuss and/or Vote on the following matters.

MOTION PASSED: 6-0-0

- a. Per RI General Law 42-46-5(a)(8)ii: **PRIVACY OF STUDENTS/ RECORDS**
 - i. *Homeschool*
- b. Per RI General Law 42-46-5(a)(2) **Legal Advice/Pending Litigation**
 - i. *2025-26 Budget - Glocester School Committee v Town of Glocester, RIDE Case No. 25-052K*
 - ii. *24-057S & 24-084S T. DOE v. Glocester RSD - RE: Transportation Issue with School District*
- c. Per RI General Law 42-46-5(a)(2) **Union Negotiations**
 - i. *Certified & Non-Certified*
 - ii. *Unfair Labor Practice Case No. ULP-6429 by ESP/NEARI*
 - iii. *Unfair Labor Practice Case No. ULP-6428 by Glocester Teachers Assoc/NEARI*

Return to public session at 6:57 pm and chair announced 1 vote was taken: Homeschooling

15. Reconvene to Open Session

Motion by Mr. Dupuis supported by Mr Rizzo to reconvene to open session.

MOTION PASSED: 6-0-0

16. Vote to Seal the Minutes of Executive Session

Motion by Mr. Dupuis supported by Mr Rizzo to reconvene to open session.

MOTION PASSED: 6-0-0

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

No communication at this time.

18. Future Agenda Items – Identification of Future Agenda Items

No new agenda items

19. Adjourn Public Meeting

Motion by Mr. Dupuis supported by Ms Keeling to adjourn Public Meeting at 6:59 pm

MOTION PASSED: 6-0-0