

APPROVED MINUTES

1) Call to Order

2) Roll Call

Meeting Called to Order by Chair, Mrs Keeling at 5:30 pm

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

Absent: Mr Joyce, Mr. Dupuis

Also Present: Attorney Piccirilli, Dr. Palazzo

3) Pledge of Allegiance

4) Public Comment – Relating to Open Session Agenda Item

No public comment at this time.

5) Seek to Convene in Executive Session to Discuss and/or Vote on the Following Matters (5:32 pm)

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

MOTION PASSED: 4-0-0

a. Per RI General Law 42-46-5(a)(8) Homeschooling

b. Per RI General Law 42-46-5(a)(2) Collective Bargaining

1. Glocester Teachers Association - Interest Arbitration - August 20, 2026

c. Per RI General Law 42-46-5(a)(2)(7) Legal Advice/Pending Litigation

1. Legal Advice re: Bus Contract

Return to public session at 6:13 pm and Chair announced that 1 vote was taken (Homeschooling)

6) Reconvene to Open Session

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

MOTION PASSED: 4-0-0

7) Vote to Seal the Minutes of Executive Session

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

MOTION PASSED: 4-0-0

Discussion and/or Action on the following

8) Approval of Posted Unapproved Meeting Minutes (August 4, 2026)

a) Open and Executive Session Meeting

Motion by Ms. Joyce supported by Mr. Rizzo to approve the posted unapproved minutes of the Open meeting on August 4, 2026

MOTION PASSED: 3-0-1

Ms Ferreira abstained

Motion by Ms. Joyce supported by Mr. Rizzo to approve the minutes of the Executive Session meeting on August 4, 2026

MOTION PASSED: 3-0-1

Ms Ferreira abstained

9. Approval of Bills - (August)

Motion by Ms. Joyce supported by Mr. Rizzo to approve the monthly bills dated August 1, 2026 to August 31, 2026 in the amount of \$189,862.74

MOTION PASSED: 4-0-0

10. Interest Arbitration Award - Glocester Teachers Association v Glocester School Committee

Motion by _____ supported by _____ to approve the _____

VOTE: _____

No Motion Needed.

Mediation unsuccessful. Binding arbitration. 0% increase for 2025-26. Arbitrator was Vincent Ragosta July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2029 - 3 year contract - Arbitrator stated 3% for each year.

11. Amendment to/or Extension of Bus Contract

Motion by _____ supported by _____ to approve _____

VOTE: _____

In July the state legislator passed a law that must pay prevailing wages. The school committee chair will contact the town council president and the Auditor General. Hopkins has been a reliable bus contractor for over 60 years. Analysis has always shown that Hopkins would be the best company for our district. They have always given the best price. Need to work with the town council to figure out the next steps. **Table the vote.**

12. Bus Coordinator Update on transportation

Bus Coordinator Heather Busalt updated the committee. Still in the process of making all bus stops safe. The bus coordinator worked with GPD to get signage. Updated the bus stops. The bus company was able to work together with some families to rectify bus issues.

13. Finance Update (AUGUST 2026)

1. Revenue & Expense Monthly

Met with the interim Financial Manager, Lori Chirico. Not updated, Still in process of transition.

14. FY 27 Budget Update

Met with Lori Chirico - in process of updating.

15. Approval to Increase Milk Price by \$.20

Motion by Ms. Joyce supported by Mr. Rizzo to approve the increasing the cost of milk by \$0.20 (from \$.50 to \$.70)

MOTION PASSED: 4-0-0

16. Opening of School - Principal Update

a) West Glocester Elementary

b) Fogarty Memorial School

Principal Ms. Soccio from West Glocester and Principal Ms. Strik from Fogarty presented together to give an overview of the summer and opening of school. First they wanted to thank Gary Gras and the facilities department along with custodians for preparing the classrooms and making both buildings look great. Their opening went smoothly and they discussed the RI Recycling project and that they will continue to be Feinstein Schools. Next month they will have the students report.

17. Superintendent's Report

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

Motion by Ms. Joyce supported by Mr. Rizzo to approve the Superintendent's Report as amended in the packet.

MOTION PASSED: 4-0-0

1. Approval of Nurse Contract

Motion by _____ supported by _____ to approve the Nurse Contract as presented in the packet.

VOTE _____

ITEM #17A1

Tabled the vote.

18. Intensive Special Education Program Update - West Glocester Elementary

Dr. Palazzo discussed the Intensive Special Ed Program at the West Glocester Elementary school. Brad Wilson, Director of Special Education updated the committee on the program located at West Glocester Elementary. Students are with peers as much as possible -- inclusive environment. Parents/families are happy that they are able to keep their students in the district. Saving on outplaced tuition and busing.

19. Learn 365 Grant - Round 5

Glocester was awarded an additional \$35,000. Need to submit by September 15th on how it will be used. Extra support, math and ELA.

20. Policies

- A. 2nd Reading & Adoption: Electronic Device Policy #JICJ

Motion by Ms. Joyce supported by Mr. Rizzo to approve the 2nd Reading & Adoption: Electronic Device Policy #JICJ as presented in your packet.

MOTION PASSED: 4-0-0

- B. 2nd Reading & Adoption: Parent & Family Engagement Policy #KBF

Motion by Ms. Joyce supported by Mr. Rizzo to approve the 2nd Reading & Adoption: Parent & Family Engagement Policy #KBF as presented in your packet.

MOTION PASSED: 4-0-0

21. Facilities Update

No update. Members wanted the facilities department to know what a great job they are doing.

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

None at this time.

23. Communication to/from School Committee Members

None at this time.

24. Future Agenda Items

None at this time.

25. Public Comment – Relating to Open Session Agenda Item

Ms. Heidi Andrews, Gloucester questioned bringing special ed students with possible behavior issues to West Gloucester. Safety to our students may be an issue.

Mr. Walt Steere, Gloucester asked if the teachers contract that was discussed is settled.

26. Adjourn Public Meeting

Motion by Ms. Joyce supported by Mr. Rizzo to adjourn Public Meeting at 6:45 pm

MOTION PASSED: 4-0-0