

**Foster-Glocester School Committee
Ponaganset High School**

**December 2, 2014
7:00 p.m.**

MINUTES

1. Call to Order

Meeting called to order by Co-Chair, Ms. Joyce at 7:00 p.m.

2. Roll Call

In attendance were: Mr. Cervasio, Ms. Joyce, Ms. Carroll, Ms. Ejnes, Ms. Keeling, Ms. Pezza, Ms. Reichert, Mr. Steere, and Ms. Swanson. Also present were: Dr. Barnes, Mr. Anderson, Ms. Sinwell and Ms. Haines.

3. Pledge of Allegiance

Discussion and/or vote on the following:

4. Teacher and/or Student Recognition

Joe Mazzone was recognized as RI Technology Teacher of the Year 2014.

5. Approval of Minutes

Motion by Ms. Carroll, supported by Ms. Pezza, that the actions of the school committee during its meeting of November 4, 2014, Open and Closed, be approved as presented.

Motion passed 9-0-0

6. Approval of Bills

Motion by Ms. Carroll, supported by Ms. Reichert, to approve the bills as listed on the Monthly Expenditure Report dated November 25, 2014 in the amount of \$601,538.17.

Motion passed 9-0-0

7. Business Manager's Report

Ms. Haines added the 2016 budget is being developed and that the 2014 audit will be available in January.

8. Director of Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment Report

Ms. Sinwell reported that Ted Cotter, Science teacher at the high school, is participating in an externship at Brown University. Dr. Barnes added that Mr. Cotter is also teaching in the Bio/Science Academy.

9. Superintendent's Report -Personnel: Resignations, Appointments, Retirements, Leaves, and Other Personnel Actions

Motion by Ms. Pezza, supported by Ms. Swanson, to approve the Superintendent's recommendation to approve retirements, resignations and appointments, and to deny the request for a leave of absence.

Motion passed 9-0-0

10. Revisions to Building Use Policy & Fee Structure - 1st Reading

Motion by Ms. Pezza, supported by Ms. Carroll, to approve the revisions to the Building Use Policy & Fee Structure as a 1st Reading. Motion passed 9-0-0

Dr. Barnes explained that the following language, as developed by the subcommittee that reviewed and revised the policy, will be added prior to the second reading in January," The fees as outlined in the fee structure may only be waived with the approval of the School Committee."

11. Revision to Transportation Policy - 2nd Reading

Motion by Ms. Pezza, supported by Ms. Swanson, to approve the revisions to the Transportation Policy as a second reading. Motion passed 7-2-0 with Mr. Cervasio and Ms. Keeling voting no.

Mr. Cervasio pointed out the importance of having a late bus for students to receive special help, and warned that a future school committee comprised of different members could vote not to fund a late bus because of budget problems in the town and that would not be in the best educational interest of students. Ms. Carroll explained that the revised policy still includes three late busses; any changes have to come before the sitting school committee, as do revisions to all policies.

Ms. Ejnes made a motion, supported by Ms. Keeling, to amend the motion to include," To maintain equity among students, should either of the elementary districts discontinue late bus service for students from its town, the Region may withhold funds from the state transportation pass through to provide the service."

Ms. Swanson explained that that language was deleted from the policy because the feeling is that funds coming back from the state towards transportation should go to the sending elementary districts, as they are responsible for funding transportation. Ms. Ejnes explained that when the legislature looked at transportation pass through funds, it was a recognition that regional districts are spread out, making it difficult for students to stay late. It was not intended as a revenue for towns to use for bussing; it was intended to go to regional school districts to insure that students get the services that they need. Mr. Cervasio added that the only assurance that students from both towns will receive the transportation services they need is for the Superintendent to

have the ability to hold back the pass through money from the State.

Ms. Carroll and Ms. Swanson requested to move the question.
Vote required 2/3 vote in the affirmative.

Motion failed 5-4-0

After further discussion, Ms. Carroll requested a roll call vote on Ms. Ejnes' motion.

Motion to amend the main motion failed by roll call vote 3-6-0 with Ms. Joyce, Ms. Carroll, Ms. Pezza, Ms. Reichert, Mr. Steere and Ms. Swanson voting no.

12. Virtual and Online Learning Policy - 1st Reading

Motion by Ms. Pezza, supported by Ms. Swanson, to approve the Virtual Courses Policy as a 1st Reading.

Motion passed 9-0-0

Dr. Barnes explained that he had drafted the policy based on state law and regulations passed by RIDE that stipulates that each district create a policy.

13. Fuel to Heat Agriculture Building

Dr. Barnes reported that the greenhouse has been winterized and shut down for the winter and classes were scheduled for the spring. He also said that they are now tracking the cost of heating that building and will report in the spring.

14. Grants for Lacrosse

Dr. Barnes reported that Mr. Marcello has reached out to both Mr. Howard and to Bryant University and is committed to writing a grant. Dr. Barnes will report on this at the January meeting.

15. Meeting dates for 2015

Motion by Ms. Ejnes, supported by Ms. Pezza, to approve the meeting dates for the Foster-Glocester Regional School Committee for 2015 as presented.

Motion passed 9-0-0

16. Northwest Special Education Annual Agreement Renewal

Motion by Ms. Ejnes, supported by Ms. Carroll, to approve the agreement as presented.

Motion passed 9-0-0

17. Seek to Convene to Executive Session per RI General Laws 42-46-5 (a) (2) Collective Bargaining - Negotiations Certified Teachers and Education Support Personnel

Motion by Ms. Pezza, supported by Ms. Ejnes, that the

Committee recess into Executive Session to consider per RI General Laws 42-46-5 (a) (2) Collective Bargaining - Negotiations Certified Teachers and Education Support Personnel. Motion passed 9-0-0

Motion by Ms. Carroll, supported by Ms. Keeling, to seal the minutes of executive session. Motion passed 9-0-0

Ms. Joyce reported that in Executive Session the committee discussed collective bargaining and no votes were taken.

18. Ratification of Teachers' Collective Bargaining Agreement
Motion by Ms. Ejnes, supported by Ms. Carroll, to table this item. Motion passed 9-0-0

19. Communications

Ms. Joyce reported that the RI Wrestling Association is interested in holding the state youth wrestling championship on March 8 in the high school gym. Also, she attended a Whole Child Initiative meeting and they would like for school districts to pass policies regarding this. Dr. Barnes offered to draft a policy.

20. Future Agenda Items

- 2014 Audit
- Virtual and Online Learning Policy - 2nd Reading
- Building Use Policy and Fee Structure - 2nd Reading
- Lacrosse Grant
- Whole Child Initiative Policy
- Discussion of the Charter Regarding Regional Transportation

21. Public Comment

22. Adjourn

Motion by Ms. Carroll, supported by Ms. Pezza, to adjourn the meeting at 8:47 pm. Motion passed 9-0-0

Kathryn Ritter-Smith, Clerk