THE GLOUCESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Our mission is for all students to be successful, engaged, lifelong learners

Program Subcommittee Meeting Minutes

Monday, September 14, 2026
GHS Library and via Zoom
32 Leslie O. Johnson Road, Gloucester, MA 01930
6:15 pm

Members Present
Laura Wiessen, Chairperson
Heather Dagle
Andrea Liacos

Administration Present
Amy Pasquarello, Superintendent

This meeting was conducted with the School Committee in person and the public participating in person and remotely via Zoom.

I. CALL TO ORDER - Chairperson Wiessen called the meeting to order at 6:16 pm

Effective August 16, 2023, the public is welcome to attend in person. Alternatively, the public may attend through the zoom link below. Meeting notice will reflect if the meeting is Zoom only. As the recent amendments to the open meeting law allows, the School Committee may continue to hold meetings remotely. Please note the in-person meeting will not be suspended or terminated if technological problems interrupt the remote connection. If you are calling in on a phone, you can press Star 9 (*9) to request to speak. If you are watching on a computer or device, there is a "raise hand" button that you can tap or press to request to speak. Please use either of these options during oral communications to be recognized to speak.

II. REPORT DELIBERATIONS/DISCUSSION

A. File ACL - Interacting with Law Enforcement Officers Engaged in Civil Law Enforcement (Protect Act)

Superintendent Pasquarello presented and the subcommittee discussed a new policy "File ACL - Interacting with Law Enforcement Officers Engaged in Civil Law Enforcement (Protect Act)". Superintendent Pasquarello explained that the new policy was based on recent guidance from Governor Maura Healey's Office. She stated that the policy was reviewed by the Massachusetts Association of School Committees, adapted from the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, effective as of August 2026.

The policy outlined steps for staff to follow, including contacting administrators and legal counsel if necessary. Superintendent Pasquarello noted that the procedures that follow the policy are similar to what is in place. Ms. Liacos asked that procedures not be published with personal contact information and not encourage videotaping by bystanders.

On a motion by Ms. Liacos, seconded by Chairperson Wiessen, it was unanimously

VOTED: To recommend to the full School Committee Policy File ACL - Interacting with Law Enforcement Officers Engaged in Civil Law Enforcement (Protect Act)

See below link to the meeting recording:
https://gloucester-ma-gov.zoom.us/rec/share/vSx_otT7SYVUJ4N6UKqoPRFl817ztB3Iyo-Dv4jzfhZffbEVRBmLw3qTq--6gfZG.a2i0L7I_KNtWMIVV

III. ADJOURNMENT - On a motion by Chairperson Wiessen, seconded by Ms. Liacos, it was unanimously

VOTED: To adjourn the Program Subcommittee meeting of September 14, 2026, at 6:25 pm.

All reference documents and reports are filed in the Superintendent's office. Also, the recording of this meeting can be found on the district's website.

Stephanie Delisi
Recording Secretary