

THE GLOUCESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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

School Committee Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, September 23, 2026

Gloucester High School Library and via Zoom
32 Leslie O. Johnson Road, Gloucester, MA 01930
6:00 p.m.

Members Present

Kathleen Clancy, Chairperson
William Melvin, Vice Chairperson (*Arrived 6:39 pm*)
Laura Wiessen, Secretary
Heather Dagle
Andrea Liacos
Melissa Teixeira Prince

Administration Present

Amy Pasquarello, Superintendent
Dr. Catherine Tucker, Assistant Superintendent

Members Absent

Paul Lundberg, Mayor

*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 Clancy called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m. and stated the mission of the Gloucester Public Schools.

Effective August 16, 2023, the public is welcome to attend meetings in person. Alternatively, the public may attend through the Zoom link provided on the agenda. The meeting notice will reflect if the meeting is via Zoom only. As the recent amendments to the Open Meeting Law allow, 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.

See below link to the meeting recording:

https://gloucester-ma-gov.zoom.us/rec/share/6TXkgAThFMgmwmtafSKc3rez3FC-56jCc29sNjTx0NaDtIPG_q_SEDPJXWjvtvtM.l3_tNWjizi2N6sLk

II. SALUTE TO THE FLAG/MOMENT OF SILENCE

III. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS — None

IV. COMMENTS FROM THE CHAIRPERSON — None

V. RECOGNITIONS — None

VI. GHS Student Advisory Council — Mackayla Allen, President, and Julia Palk, Secretary, were present and updated the committee on the first two weeks of school.

VII. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Approval of Meeting Minutes

1. School Committee Minutes of September 9, 2026

B. Approval of Warrants

C. Approval of Transfers

D. Approval of Donation

E. Acceptance of Gifts

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

VOTED: To approve the consent agenda as noted above.

VIII. DELIBERATIONS ON EDUCATIONAL ISSUES/SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

A. Superintendent’s Report

Superintendent Pasquarello presented and the committee discussed a slideshow of her report “*Everyday Matters. Everybody Belongs. Everybody Learns.*” She gave an update on the following:

- First Day of Preschool
- Beeman Sparkle Day
- East Veterans First Day of Kindergarten, 5th Grade Soccer, and Cafeteria Clean Up

- Plum Cove Week One Pictures
- West Parish 5th Grade Fun on Lannon
- O'Maley Targeted Learning Time and SAILS
- National School Lunch Program - DESE Federal and State Guidelines on providing lunch on early release day and must be eaten at school
- MSBA Visits Beeman and Plum Cove
- Superintendent's Listen and Learn Meeting Dates

See below link to recorded presentation of Superintendent's report

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1H09ECJif0euB-wSyXaucU28qL8nDxC27/view>

B. Partner Presentation: GEF Annual Presentation — Emily Siegel

Ms. Emily Siegel, Executive Director, was present and reported on the Gloucester Education Foundation's (GEF) recent grants to support various programs across the district in the amount of \$293,000, and the GEF's ongoing \$3 million capital campaign for the O'Maley Courtyard Renovation Project.

Superintendent Pasquarello and the committee acknowledged the tremendous relationship and partnership with the Gloucester Education Foundation.

C. Professional Development Plan Update

Assistant Superintendent, Dr. Tucker presented and the committee discussed a detailed Professional Development Plan covering upcoming district-wide professional development days and specific training initiatives.

See below link to the meeting recording/presentation:

https://gloucester-ma-gov.zoom.us/rec/share/6TXkgAThFMgmwmtafSKc3rez3FC-56jCc29sNjTx0NaDtIPG_q_SEDPJXWjvtvtM.l3_tNWjizi2N6sLk

IX. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Program Subcommittee Meeting of September 14, 2026

Chairperson Laura Wiessen reported that the subcommittee met to discuss Policy File ACL - Interacting with Law Enforcement Officers Engaged in Civil Law Enforcement (Protect Act). A vote to accept the policy was taken under Action.A.

See below link to the Program Subcommittee meeting recording:

https://gloucester-ma-gov.zoom.us/rec/share/nC-4Bk6xg0ECrECJbcdOVzRlzZIRXQOF-oXPk_FYfmgpPiTPSZijPTIobzyz37UT.KQ9Gq69bIQPCmM5X

B. Building and Finance Subcommittee Meeting of September 16, 2026

Chairperson Melissa Prince reported and the subcommittee met to discuss the the following agenda items: DPW Closed and Open Tickets; FY25 End-of-Year Report Audit; Special Education Out-of-District Tuition and Transportation; Staff Update; Budget Transfers; Content Planning; and GHS Library Technical Issues - School Committee Meeting Location.

See below link to the Building & Finance Subcommittee meeting recording:

https://gloucester-ma-gov.zoom.us/rec/share/yoww7RnizfElqRbEqQLPn5pYJOILUus4gLejraSmA2B2X_hHslGoiLaIK94y9TIU.1aGa6V8euUMG-t9r

X. ACTION

A. First Reading of Policy ACL - Interacting with Law Enforcement Officers Engaged in Civil Law Enforcement (Protect Act)

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

VOTED: To approve the first reading of Policy ACL - Interacting with Law Enforcement Officers Engaged in Civil Law Enforcement (Protect Act), as presented and waive the second reading.

D. Acceptance of Grants

1. GEF O'Maley Academy Grant of \$30,000
2. GEF Grade 4-8 Band Grant of \$30,000
3. GEF Medical Assisting Staffing Grant of \$64,000
4. GEF K-8 STEM Coordinator Grant of \$100,000
5. GEF Science Central Wilson Intern Grant of \$5,000
6. GEF GHS Engineering Lab Grant of \$50,000
7. GEF Gender Equity in STEM Club Grant of \$14,000

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

VOTED: To approve the above listed grants, as noted

8. FY27 FC709 MA Fresh Corp - Coordination and Optimization of Resources & Partnerships Grant of \$6,750

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

VOTED: To approve the above grants as noted.

XI. DISCUSSION/OTHER COMMUNICATION/OLD AND NEW BUSINESS — None

XII. ADJOURNMENT

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

VOTED: To adjourn the School Committee Meeting of September 23, 2026, at 7:37 pm.

All reference documents and reports are filed in the Superintendent's Office. A zoom recording of this meeting is available on the Gloucester Schools website (Also linked in these minutes).

*Stephanie Delisi
Recording Secretary*