

MINUTES

- 1) Call to Order
- 2) Roll Call

Meeting Called to Order by Co-chair, Ms. Joyce at 7:02 pm

Present: Ms. Joyce, Ms. Keeling, Mr. Dupuis, Mr. Mara, Mr. Joyce, Ms. Cook
Ms. Pezza, Ms. Ferreira, and Mr. Rizzo

Also Present: Attorney Piccirilli, Dr. Renee Palazzo

- 3) Pledge of Allegiance
- 4) Student and Staff Recognition
 - a) Construction Management Students "Rory's Library Playhouse"
Tabled until September school committee meeting.
 - b) PHS Valedictorian & Salutatorian
 - c) Members of the RIMEA All-State Ensembles
 - d) American Choral Directors Association All-Eastern Honor Choir Participant
 - e) Southern New England Honor Band Participants

The school committee congratulated all of the Music and Band students that were recognized. Ms. Keeling shared with the committee the accolades of both the valedictorian and salutatorian. The Committee congratulated the Salutatorian, Molly Sousa and also the Valedictorian, Brendan Desrosiers, who was not able to attend.

- 5) Public Comment Related to Open Session Agenda Items

No one at this time.

Discussion and/or Public Action on the following

- 6) Approval of Meeting Minutes (May 28, 2026)

- a) Open and Executive Session Meeting

Motion by Mr. Dupuis supported by Ms. Cook to approve the minutes of the Open meeting on May 28, 2026

MOTION PASSED: 8-1-0

Ms. Pezza abstained

Motion by Mr. Dupuis supported by Ms. Cook to approve the minutes of the Executive Session meeting on May 28, 2026

MOTION PASSED: 8-1-0

Ms. Pezza abstained

- 7) Approval of Monthly Bills (May)

Motion by Mr. Dupuis supported by Ms. Cook to approve the monthly bills dated May 1, 2026 to May 31, 2026 in the amount of \$1,165,053.07

MOTION PASSED: 9-0-0

- 8) Finance Update –Budget and Finance

- a) Revenue & Expense Monthly (MAY)

Revenue 96% and Expenses 85%

- 9) 2026-H 8531 Relating to Education - Compulsory Attendance

Ms. Ferreira discussed the new proposal from RIDE re: homeschooling (page 4 of 7, line 11 through 14). At this time it is being held for further study.

- 10) Charter Review / Enabling Legislation Research

Mr. Dupuis asked the committee to start a charter review. Who can be on it? Asked the Attorney to do research.

11) Superintendent's Report

- a) Personnel - Resignations, Appointments, Retirements, Leaves, Lay Offs, Job Sharing, Non-Renewals, Recalls and Other Personnel Actions – Informational

Motion by Mr. Dupuis supported by Ms. Cook to approve the Superintendent's Report as presented in the packet.

MOTION PASSED: 9-0-0

12) Semi-Annual Bullying Report - PHS & PMS

Ms. Pezza had questions regarding report that Dr. Palazzo clarified.

13) Policies

- a) 1st Reading - Personal Electronic Device Policy

Motion by Mr. Dupuis supported by Ms. Cook to approve 1st Reading - Personal Electronic Device Policy as presented in the packet.

MOTION PASSED: 9-0-0

Mr Carnevale stated all schools must have a policy and it will go into effect August 30, 2026. Will add this policy to the next Policy sub committee meeting just to review and then submit a 2nd reading to the entire school committee on August 4, 2026.

- b) 2nd Reading - Artificial Intelligence (AI) Policy

Motion by Mr. Dupuis supported by Ms. Cook to approve 2nd Reading - Artificial Intelligence (AI) Policy as presented in the packet.

MOTION PASSED: 9-0-0

14) Capital Project Update

- a) Approval of bid for PMS & PHS Water Heater

Motion by Mr. Dupuis supported by Mr Rizzo to approve the bid by Phalanx in the amount of \$217,860.00 to replace the water heater at Ponaganset Middle School as presented in the packet.

MOTION PASSED: 9-0-0

Motion by Mr. Dupuis supported by Mr Mara to approve the bid by Phalanx in the amount of \$428,140.00 to replace the water heater at Ponaganset High School as presented in the packet.

MOTION PASSED: 9-0-0

- b) Approval of Alliance Environmental Group to perform a concept - level options evaluation

Motion by Mr. Dupuis supported by Mr Rizzo to approve an evaluation by Alliance Environmental Group.

MOTION PASSED: 8-0-1

Ms. Pezza voted no

New fuel source - above or below ground tank. Ms Pezza asked to go out to bid for this. Capital projects subcommittee members stated Alliance is going to go out and give their best recommendation.

- c) Approval of resurfacing/repairing PHS tennis courts

Motion Mr. Dupuis supported by Ms. Cook to approve resurfacing/repairing PHS tennis courts

MOTION PASSED: 9-0-0

Mr. Mara stated that the courts need to be repaired to be safe. Cost is \$123,193 for six courts. Mr. Essex stated there are 1700 feet of cracks.

15) Facilities Update

Mr. Essex stated that the end of year went smoothly and a successful graduation.

16) Sub Committee Structure & Calendar

Ms. Ferreira would like the sub committees to be a standing meeting. Will work a calendar during the summer to organize this. Add to August agenda.

17) Update Fiscal Strategy and Advocacy Working Group

No update. Keep as a standing agenda item.

18) Review advisory opinion from Commissioner of Education regarding Financial Regional Meeting motion to cut \$882,853 in expenditures and \$154,351 from Maintenance of Effort for FY 26-27.

Ms. Joyce asked Attorney Piccirilli to explain this agenda item. Both solicitors from the towns of Foster and Glocester asked for an advisory opinion regarding the \$154,351. Attorney Piccirilli asked for an advisory opinion regarding the \$882,853. The Commission responded quickly with an advisory opinion regarding both.

Mr. Daniels from Foster, Mr. Steere from Glocester and Mr. King from Glocester commented on the advisory opinion and budget.

19) Communication between School Committee Members

Agenda item should be: *Communication to/from School Committee Members.*

Add a Communication piece on Bullying and Procedure for students and parents. Action Plan.

20) Agenda Items requested by School Committee Members

Sub Committee Structure & Calendar

Homeschooling

Add: Communication Process with Parents/Guardians

Added Public Comment here.

Mr. Steere from Glocester, Ms. Greathouse from Glocester and Mr. Worthy from Glocester discussed advisory opinion, tax payer vote at FTM and forensic audit.

21) Vote to Convene in Executive Session at 9:14 pm to Discuss and/or Vote on the Following Matters

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

MOTION PASSED: 9-0-0

- a) Per RI General Law 42-46-5(a)(2) - Collective Bargaining
 - i) Update on Negotiations ESP (Non cert) & NEARI (Teacher)
- b) Per RI General Law 42-46-5(a)(2) Legal Advice & Pending Litigation
 - i) Update - Potential Litigation regarding alleged teacher misconduct/Internal Investigation
 - ii) Request for Interpretation and Approval Pursuant to RI Gen Law 16-7-23(a) Maintenance of Effort and Nonrecurring Debt Service
 - iii) RIDE complaint 25-074A RE: Warwick v. Foster Glocester et. al - CTE Petition
 - iv) Dominique Nicolas v Foster Glocester et al.
 - v) D. DeLuca vs. Town of Scituate, Foster Glocester Regional School District, Town of Foster, Town of Glocester, Northwest Special Education and Employees Retirement System of RI
 - vi) NEAPon vs. Foster Glocester School Committee - Two (2) Arbitrations
 - (a) Class Covers
 - (b) Class Size Overage
- c) Per RI General Law 42-46-5(a)(1) - Job Performance

(Any discussion of the job performance of an individual provided that such person or persons affected shall have been notified in advance in writing that they may require that the discussion be held at an open meeting

Return to public session at 10:36 pm and announcement of votes, if any

Chair announces no votes were taken

22) Reconvene to Open Session

Motion by Ms. Pezza supported by Ms. Joyce to reconvene to open session.

MOTION PASSED: 9-0-0

23) Vote to Seal the Minutes of Executive Session

Motion by Ms. Pezza supported by Ms. Cook to seal the minutes of executive session.

MOTION PASSED: 9-0-0

24) Public Comment Related to Open Session Agenda Items

N/A

25) Adjourn Meeting

Motion by Ms. Pezza supported by Mr. Dupuis to adjourn Public Meeting at 10:37 pm

MOTION PASSED: 9-0-0