

**GROTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
GROTON, CONNECTICUT**

(*Attachments are available upon request from the Superintendent's Office.)

Committee of the Whole

October 16, 2017

A meeting of the Committee of the Whole of the Groton Board of Education was held on October 16, 2017 in Room 11 of the School Administration Building.

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Kim Shepardson Watson, Board Chairperson, at 6:05 p.m.

PRESENT

ABSENT

Mrs. Kim Shepardson Watson, Chairperson
Dr. Andrea Ackerman, Vice Chairperson
Mrs. Katrina Fitzgerald
Mrs. Gretchen Newsome
Mrs. Rosemary Robertson (arrived at 7:25 p.m.)
Mrs. Rita Volkmann
Mr. Jay Weitlauf

Mr. Gary Baker
Mrs. Lee White

Dr. Michael Graner, Superintendent of Schools
Ms. Susan Austin, Assistant Superintendent of Schools
Mr. Ken Knight, Business Manager
Mr. Sam Kilpatrick, Director of Buildings and Grounds
Mr. Daniel Gaiewski, Student Representative
Mrs. Beth Horler, GEA President
Mr. Douglas Manfred, GEA Vice President
Mrs. Portia Bodolon, Parent

1. Approval of Minutes of October 10, 2017

MOTION: Volkmann, Ackerman; to approve the minutes of October 10, 2017.

PASSED – UNANIMOUSLY

2. NSBA Conference

Mrs. Watson noted that Mrs. Volkmann wanted to attend the NSBA Conference to be held in Texas in April 2018. The Board would pay her registration and LEARN would pay for her room and flight to the conference.

3. Class Size Enrollments, K-12

Dr. Graner reviewed the class size enrollments for elementary, middle school and the high school levels. The Board held an extensive discussion of the class sizes, small and large. Dr. Graner noted that at present the class sizes are stable.

4. Final Questions regarding MYP candidacy

Mrs. Watson asked if Board members had any additional questions regarding the MYP candidacy. Mrs. Fitzgerald shared her feeling on the need of separating MYP from the Diploma program.

5. Report regarding remedial services at the middle school level [ATTACHMENT #1]

Ms. Austin gave an overview of the SRBI program noting that while there is a regular education approach to intervention, there is collaboration with special education, and needs are met case by case.

6. Object Code Summary

Mr. Knight noted that he and Dr. Graner were working through the budget and have made adjustments to the summary page that now reflects the changes at each Object Code level. Once all the object codes are adjusted, Dr. Graner and Mr. Knight will report the current object code summary to the Board. Dr. Graner stated that he will be putting a freeze on spending tomorrow. He also noted that the Governor has offered another compromise. Lastly, he noted that there is a projected \$500,000 deficit at present just in the salary account.

7. Update regarding School Site Budgets [ATTACHMENT #2]

Mr. Knight gave an overview of S. B. Butler's site budget as an example of all the other school's budgets and answered any questions the Board had.

8. Health Insurance Report

Mr. Knight stated that the insurance agent is still working on breaking out the Town and the Board's portions of the monthly Health Insurance report. He further noted that the problem appears to be a software glitch.

9. Update regarding Copier Contract

Mr. Knight noted that Mr. Colclough had completed a review of the district's copiers and informed him that a lease for 14 copiers had expired September 30, 2017. However, he has found another lease proposal for 5 years for 15 copiers, one of which is a reallocation from PV, for slightly less than what we are now paying. This new proposal will allow 2 big copiers in each school.

10. Groton 2020

Mr. Kilpatrick noted that the selection committee, Gary Schneider, Rick Norris, John Burt, Jack Butkuss, and himself will be interviewing candidates for the Construction Manager and finalizing the selection by Wednesday of this week.

11. Status of CB Portables

Mr. Kilpatrick stated that the portables have been placed at CB; have been bolted down; and the final step is the handicap ramp, which should be finished by the end of the week. He also noted that he will be inviting the Fire Marshall and the Inspector to view the work.

12. Referral List and Suggested Agenda Items

The Board reviewed the Referral List.

Mrs. Fitzgerald made a referral to the Policy Committee to review the Public Use of Buildings policy.

Mrs. Volkmann made a referral to the COW of a discussion of changing CK to a STEM School.

13. Suggested Agenda Items

Mrs. Watson stated that at a future COW meeting the following would be on the agenda:

- FHS College Level Classes Report
- Middle School Schedule
- High School Schedule

14. Adjournment

MOTION: Ackerman, Weitlauf; to adjourn at 8:30 p.m.

PASSED - UNANIMOUSLY