

**GROTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
GROTON, CONNECTICUT**

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

Committee of the Whole

March 19, 2018

A meeting of the Committee of the Whole of the Groton Board of Education was held on March 19, 2018 in Room 11 of the School Administration Building.

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Andrea Ackerman, Board Vice Chairperson, at 6:08 p.m.

PRESENT

Dr. Andrea Ackerman, Vice Chairperson
Mrs. Katrina Fitzgerald
Mrs. Jane Giulini
Mrs. Rita Volkmann
Mr. Jay Weitlauf
Mrs. Lee White

ABSENT

Mrs. Kim Shepardson Watson, Chairperson
Mrs. Gretchen Newsome
Mrs. Rosemary Robertson

Dr. Michael Graner, Superintendent of Schools
Ms. Susan Austin, Assistant Superintendent of Schools
Mr. Samuel Kilpatrick, Director of Buildings and Grounds
Mr. Ken Knight, Business Manager
Miss Cindy Fan, Student Representative
Mrs. Portia Bodolon, RTM Member
Mrs. Rachael Franco, Town Council Member

1. Approval of Minutes of March 19, 2018

MOTION: White, Volkmann: To approve the minutes of March 19, 2018.
PASSED – UNANIMOUSLY

2. After School Enrichment Program Update [ATTACHMENT #1]

Ms. Austin gave an update of the After School Enrichment Program noting that funds have been appropriated and the following is occurring:

- STEM, Arts, Health, and Physical Health
- Additional Literacy and Math
- Performing Arts Components
- STEM Robotics
- Crazy 8's games
- STEM Biomedical
- Rubic Cube
- Reading, Writing Math
- Hiking Club at the elementary level and CMS
- CC is offering a Running for Girls Club

Ms. Austin noted that once the list is complete, she will send it out to Board members.

3. FY 18 Budget Update [ATTACHMENT #2]

Mr. Knight gave an overview of the FY 18 budget.

Dr. Graner noted that the Town Council will be holding a Public Hearing on the budget on March 28, 2018, at 7:00 p.m., at the Senior Center.

4. Eastern Point Beach Concession Stand Agreement

Dr. Graner stated that Mr. Koschmieder put in a bid to operate the Eastern Point Beach Concession Stand and was awarded the bid to run the Concession Stand. He has begun plans to staff it for the summer.

5. Discussion regarding IB Program Tuition [ATTACHMENT #3]

Dr. Graner noted that two (2) requests has been received from out of district students to participate in the IB Program. Dr. Graner shared the current Tuition Rate chart and his ideas for marketing the IB Program and noted that the Board could establish a rate for participation in the IB Program which would add revenue to the Town.

Mr. Weitlauf noted that private schools, i.e. Wakefield, RI, has a tuition rate of \$14,070.

Mrs. Volkmann noted that elementary Magnet school rates should be broken out.

Mrs. Fitzgerald shared 2 private school rates: Cheshire Academy (day school) \$41,000 and Whitby \$22,000 to \$37,000.

Dr. Graner stated that the Board could set an amount or a reduced amount as a marketing strategy.

Mrs. White stated the we should always be marketing the IB Program.

Mrs. Fitzgerald stated the rate for IB participation should be the same as regular education participation.

Mrs. Volkmann stated that 11th and 12th grade IB students should pay for taking the test.

Dr. Ackerman stated that the IB Program tuition should reflect its value as an outstanding instructional program.

A referral was made for discussion of IB students paying for taking the test and to invite the Guidance staff as well as staff from colleges.

6. SBAC Update

Ms. Austin gave an overview of the SBAC testing noting that the timeframe for taking the test is April 30, 2018 to May 25, 2018. She further noted that the Math Performance test is given prior to the April vacation; SBAC Readiness is integrated in the curriculum; administrators and teachers are committed to the SBAC testing. Ms. Austin noted the recent workshop she and a number of teachers attended and that teachers received additional tools on how to give the test.

7. Regional PD Update

Ms. Austin gave an overview of the March 9, 2018 Regional PD and from the online survey that teachers felt it was a successful day.

- The high school: More Than Words and breakout session
- The middle school: CMS started with the Mystic Art Center and then inquiry instruction
WSM started with inquiry instruction and then worked on socially/emotional/climate culture
Elementary level worked with a Math Specialist; sessions were held at CB and NEA
- Regionally, special area teachers went to workshops throughout the region with their area colleague's.

Dr. Graner noted that the State SAT test day is Wednesday (there is a snow day); Ms. Fan shared that 9th and 10th graders will be taking the practice PSAT Wednesday.

8. Winter Literacy Assessment [ATTACHMENT #4]

Ms. Austin gave an overview of the Winter Literacy Assessment.

9. Referral List and Suggested Agenda Items

Mrs. Volkmann noted the following referrals:

- Students paying for the IB test
- Tuition breakout
- Tuitions for out-of-district students, middle school and high school level

10. Executive Session

MOTION: Weitlauf, Fitzgerald: To go into Executive Session at 7:30 p.m. for the purpose of discussing the Food Service Director compensation and to invite Dr. Graner, Ms. Austin, and Mr. Kilpatrick to attend.

PASSED – UNANIMOUSLY

The Food Service Director compensation was discussed. No action was taken.

MOTION: Weitlauf, White: To return to Open Session at
8:35 p.m.

PASSED – UNANIMOUSLY

11. Adjournment

MOTION: White, Weitlauf: To adjourn at 8:40 p.m.
PASSED - UNANIMOUSLY