

**GROTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
GROTON, CONNECTICUT**

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

Regular Meeting

May 29, 2018

The regular meeting of the Groton Board of Education was held on May 29, 2018, in the Band Room of Fitch High School.

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Andrea Ackerman, Vice Board Chairperson, at 6:05 p.m.

The first order of business was the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag by Martha Schwarzkopf.

PRESENT

ABSENT

Mrs. Kim Shepardson Watson (arrived at 6:15 p.m.)
Dr. Andrea Ackerman
Mrs. Jane Giulini
Mrs. Gretchen Newsome
Mrs. Rita Volkmann
Mrs. Lee White
Mr. Jay Weitlauf

Mrs. Katrina Fitzgerald
Mrs. Rosemary Robertson

Dr. Michael Graner, Superintendent of Schools
Ms. Susan Austin, Assistant Superintendent of Schools
Mr. Samuel Kilpatrick, Director of Buildings and Grounds
Miss Cindy Fan, Student Representative
Mr. Daniel Gaiewski, Student Representative

B. RECOGNITION AND PARTICIPATION AND DELEGATIONS

1. Teacher of the Year and Outstanding Educators

Dr. Graner and Board Members presented awards to Outstanding Educators and Groton's Teacher of the Year:

CB Jennifer Harren
CC Emily Calkins
CK Leigh Sammons
MM Jackie Rege
NEA Maggie Dewey
CMS Katie Lucy
WSM Laura Irace
FHS Stacy Norieka

SB Megan Kasparek (Groton's Teacher of the Year)

B. RECOGNITION AND PARTICIPATION AND DELEGATIONS – cont.

2. CAFE Student Leadership Awards

Dr. Graner and Mrs. Watson presented a letter of appreciation to the 22 Annual CAFE Student Leadership winners:

FHS Daniel Gaiewski
FHS Cindy Fan
CMS Alayna Woodhams
CMS Colin Anderson
WSM Elviany Quiroz
WSM Thurman Banks

3. O’Neill’s 13th Annual Young Playwrights Festival

Dr. Graner and Mrs. Watson acknowledge the winner of the O’Neill’s 13th Annual Young Playwrights Festival:

WSM Anslie Dybala
FHS Clara Gerrish
FHS James Ziemski

4. Friends of Education and Support Personnel Awards

Dr. Graner and Board members presented letters of appreciation to the Friends of Education and Support Personnel:

CK Deborah Baldwin
CB Michael Gore
CB Rita Coyner
CC Heather Cobb
CC Kenny Hall
MM Ann Monahan
MM Susan Belcher
NEA Tina Shine
NEA Jennifer Millas
SB Bill Heuschneider
SB Amber Haugeter
CMS Joshua Spatafor
CMS Alexandra Huber
WSM Melissa Bybee
WSM Christine Cabral
FHS Marque Setevage
FHS Michael Doyle
Maintenance Joseph Montgomery

C. COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS

1. Mike Whitney, 112 Deerfield Ridge Drive, noted the influx of students from PV to NEA and asked the Board to be mindful of class sizes when filling vacancies for the upcoming year.

II. RESPONSE TO COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS

NONE

III. STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

The Student Representatives reported:

- On Monday, April 30, 2018, Senator Richard Blumenthal of Connecticut visited FHS and talked with students about issues of gun violence and school safety.
- All AP and IB exams are over.
- On Thursday, May 24, 2018, Underclassmen Awards Night took place at 6:30 p.m. in the FHS Auditorium. Congratulations to everyone who received an award.
- Seniors Updates:
 - The Senior trip will take place on Thursday, May 31, 2018, to Holiday Hill.
 - The Senior Prom is on Saturday, June 9, 2018, at the Mystic Aquarium.
 - Graduation rehearsals will take place on Wednesday, June 20, 2018, Thursday, June 21, 2018, and Friday, June 22, 2018.
 - The Senior and Faculty breakfast is on Friday, June 22, 2018, at 7:30 a.m.
- Juniors Updates:
 - The Junior Prom was awesome and thank you to the advisors and all the volunteers that helped make it possible!
- Sophomores updates:
 - On Sunday, June 3, 2018, the class will be hosting a Car Wash Fundraiser at Johnson's Hardware from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
 - On Saturday, June 9, 2018, the class will have a Pancake Breakfast at Applebee's from 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. Tickets are \$10.00
 - The Sophomore class will be selling carnations during Graduation.
- The National Honor Society induction ceremony will take place on Wednesday, May 30, 2018, at 6:00 p.m., in the FHS Auditorium.
- The Honor Cord Assembly will be on Thursday, June 7, 2018, at 6:30 p.m., in the FHS Auditorium.
- The Senior Athletic Awards will take place on Monday, June 11, 2018, at 6:30 p.m., in the FHS Auditorium.
- The Senior Awards and Scholarships night is on Thursday, June 14, 2018, at 6:30 p.m., in the FHS Auditorium.
- The Class of 2022 Athletic Orientation will be held on Tuesday, June 5, 2018, at 6:30 p.m., in the FHS Auditorium.
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III. STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT – cont.

- The Fitch Athletic Department will be hosting their 2nd Annual Abbot's Lobster in the Rough on Friday, June 15, 2018, from 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., at Abbott's Lobster in Noank, Connecticut. Tickets are \$75.00 and can be purchased at the Main Office or by emailing FHS's Athletic Director, Marc Romano, at mromano@groton.k12.ct.us
- Final Exams are as follow:
 - Seniors:
 - 6/13 = 4A & 1A
 - 6/15 = 2A & 3A
 - 6/18 = 3B & 4B
 - 6/19 = 1B & 2B
 - 6/20 = Make-up Exams
 - Underclassmen:
 - 6/18 = 3B & 4B
 - 6/19 = 1B & 2B
 - 6/20 = 3A & 4A
 - 6/21 = 1A & 2A
 - 6/22 = Make-up Exams
- The last day of school for students is Friday, June 22, 2018 and it will be an Early Dismissal day.
- Graduation is scheduled for Friday, June 22, 2018, at 6:00 p.m., at Dorr Field.

IV. SUPERINTENDENT AND ADMINISTRATION REPORTS

1. Alliance District Update

Ms. Austin noted that the Alliance District funds has been received.

A. REPORTS AND INFORMATION FROM THE STAFF

1. Assistant Superintendent Report

Ms. Austin stated that a Dedication of the Art Gallery will be held on June 11, 2018, at 5:30 p.m.

2. Business Office Report [ATTACHMENT #1]

➤ **Health Insurance Report**

Dr. Graner noted the Health Insurance Report dated May 29, 2018.

3. Director of Buildings and Grounds Report

- **Groton 2020:** Mr. Kilpatrick noted that Perkins Eastman is the Architect and they have met with the Supt., Asst. Supt, Principals, and the staff of each school; Mr. Kilpatrick will be meeting with the Architect tomorrow.

- **Water Testing Update:** Mr. Kilpatrick noted that a water testing plan for further testing has been submitted to Ledge Light and the State Department of Health. Both Ledge Light and the State Department of Health have indicated that the district may move forward with the testing as submitted. He also noted that two (2) additional recommendations has been received regarding the process for testing on alternate days.

IV. COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. Finance/Facilities Committee:
There was no report.
2. Policy Committee:
There was no report.
3. Curriculum Committee:
Dr. Ackerman noted that the Curriculum Committee met and had a presentation from Leslie Forbes on the proposed courses for the Magnet Schools. Dr. Ackerman stated that the Curriculum Committee will meet again on June 18, 2018 and that Carmita Hodge and Amy McKenna will be invited to attend to discuss their proposed program for the high school.
4. Negotiations Committee:
Mrs. Watson noted that the Negotiations Committee will be meeting on June 6, 19, 20, 2018, at 4:30 p.m., on the Secretaries contract.
5. LEARN:
Mrs. Volkmann noted that the LEARN Board met at the Marine Science School. It was suggested that the Maine Science School should be part of the Groton Public Schools. She noted that the Maine School has a number of UCONN courses i.e., Horticulture and that she hoped that courses of this nature can be brought to the high school in the future. Mrs. Volkmann noted that she participated with the evaluation of Dr. Howley.
6. Town & City Councils/RTM/Board Liaison Committee:
Mrs. Watson noted that she is waiting for other bodies to be assigned to this committee before a meeting date is set.
7. GEA/AGSA/BOE Liaison Committee:
Mrs. Watson noted that GEA/AGSA/BOE Liaison Committee will be meeting on May 30, 2018, at 4:15 p.m., at Par Four.
8. Groton Scholarship:
There was no report.

IV. **COMMITTEE REPORTS** – cont.

9. CABE
There was no report.
10. Trails Liaison:
There was no report.

V. **ACTION ITEMS**

A. **CONSENT CALENDAR**

1. **RESOLUTION ACCEPTING BOARD MINUTES**

RESOLVED, that the regular meeting minutes of April 23, 2018, is hereby accepted and approved.

2. **RESOLUTION ACCEPTING GIFTS**

- Lisa Lambert has made a donation of \$500.00 to the Charles Barnum Hiking Club.
- Surplus Unlimited in Norwich, CT has donated approximately 200 whiteboards to the school district.
- CMS PTO has received a \$1,500.00 grant from Charter Oak to replace damaged books in their library.

MOTION: Volkman, Ackerman: To approve the Consent Calendar.
PASSED - UNANIMOUSLY

B. **OLD BUSINESS**

NONE

Mr. Weitlauf left at 8:10 p.m.

C. **NEW BUSINESS**

1. Discussion and possible action regarding the approval of policy P 5145.12 Search and Seizure. **[ATTACHMENT #2, 3]**

MOTION: White, Giuliani: To approve as a first reading policy P 5145.12 Search and Seizure.
PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

C. NEW BUSINESS – cont.

2. Discussion and possible action regarding the approval of policy P 6172 Alternative Education Programs. **[ATTACHMENT #4]**

MOTION: Volkmann, White: To approve as a first reading policy P 6172 Alternative Education Programs.
PASSED - UNANIMOUSLY

3. Discussion and possible action regarding middle school arts/humanities magnet courses.

MOTION: Giulini, White: To approve the development of the middle school arts/humanities magnet courses.
PASSED – UNANIMOUSLY

4. Discussion and possible action regarding the approval of the proposed weighted GPA for the classes of 2019 and 2020. **[ATTACHMENT #5]**

MOTION: Ackerman, White: To approve the proposed weighted GPA for the classes of 2019 and 2020.
YES – Watson, Ackerman, Giulini, Newsome, White;
ABSTAINED – Volkmann
PASSED

A. LETTERS, COMMUNICATIONS, AND COMMENTS

1. Mrs. Giulini noted that she walked in the Noank/Mystic Memorial Day Parade and shared how great it was.
2. Dr. Ackerman noted:
 - a. That she attended the elementary theme meetings.
 - b. That she attended the meeting with Senator Blumenthal.
 - c. That the Martin Luther King scholarship applications are in the guidance offices and the deadline for their return is June 30, 2018.
 - d. That she attended the State Military Child Council meeting.
 - e. That she had the pleasure of seeing a former FHS graduate become an Ensign at the Coast Guard Academy.
 - f. She noted the art work at the New Art Gallery in Central Office.

A. LETTERS, COMMUNICATIONS, AND COMMENTS – cont.

3. Mrs. White noted:
 - a. That she attended the FHS Robotics competition.
 - b. That she attended the meeting with Senator Blumenthal.
 - c. She asked if the art work on display would be for sale.

4. Mrs. Volkmann noted:
 - a. That she attended the FHS Robotics competition.
 - b. That she attended the groundbreaking ceremony held in New London.
 - c. That she is looking forward to the Awards assembly at the high school.

VII. ADVANCE PLANNING

A. Future Meeting Dates and Calendar Items

As noted in the agenda.

B. Suggested Agenda Items

NONE

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Ackerman, White:

To adjourn at 8:48 p.m.

PASSED – UNANIMOUSLY