

**GROTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
GROTON, CONNECTICUT**

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

Committee of the Whole

August 8, 2016

A meeting of the Committee of the Whole of the Groton Board of Education was held on August 8, 2016 in Room 11 of the School Administration Building.

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Mrs. Kim Watson, Board Chairperson, at 6:28 p.m.

PRESENT

ABSENT

Mrs. Kim Shepardson Watson, Chairperson
Dr. Andrea Ackerman, Vice Chairperson
Mr. Gary Baker
Mrs. Katrina Fitzgerald
Mrs. Gretchen Newsome
Mrs. Rosemary Robertson
Mrs. Rita Volkmann
Mr. Jay Weitlauf
Mrs. Lee White

Dr. Michael Graner, Superintendent of Schools
Mrs. Denise Doolittle, Director of Pupil Personnel Services
Mr. Samuel Kilpatrick, Director of Buildings and Grounds
Mr. Don Meltabarger, Business Manager

1. Approval of Minutes of July 11, 2016

A motion was made by Mrs. Volkmann and seconded by Mrs. Robertson to approve the minutes of July 11, 2016.

PASSED - UNANIMOUSLY

2. Update regarding the School Facilities Projects

Dr. Graner gave an overview of the School Facilities Projects. He also noted a RTM meeting on Wednesday, August 10, 2016, at the Senior Center beginning at 7:30 p.m. regarding the proposed Referendum.

3. Report of the Ad Hoc Middle School Program Committee

Dr. Ackerman noted that the Ad Hoc Middle School Program Committee would be meeting on August 23, 2016.

4. Proposed Teacher Leader Framework

Dr. Graner noted that he, Mrs. Horler, Mr. Croxton, and Ms. Austin had hope to meet to meet to discuss ways to promote teacher leadership roles within the district. This item was deferred to the September COW meeting.

5. Update regarding the August 2, 2016 Curriculum Meeting

Mrs. Volkmann noted that the committee discussed:

- A review of grades of 4-8 Social Studies curriculum;
 - A review of the number of courses for the high school;
 - A discussion of a proposed process for developing and reviewing curriculum.
- Dr. Ackerman observed that the Groton Public Schools had a Curriculum Council in past years to review curricula.

A referral was made to the Curriculum Committee regarding a Leadership Committee (Curriculum Council) and development framework as well as having new courses presented by October/November.

Mrs. Volkmann stated that the next Curriculum Meeting will be September 6, 2016.

6. Update on Spring Literacy Data

Dr. Graner stated that he has received the 11th grade data and that the high school staff is doing an analysis of those data.

7. Update regarding Noank Nibbles

Mrs. Doolittle gave a slide show of Noank Nibbles. She also noted that the Transition Academy is under construction at the Central Office. Mrs. Doolittle noted that Noank Nibble has partnerships with local businesses, Elisa Coppleman, the owner, is working with the Transition Academy students to prepare and sell spices at local markets and at the Farmers Market in Westerly.

Mrs. Watson requested an update on the program at a regular meeting of the Board of Education in January.

8. Discussion of the Joint Town/Board funding for the FHS School Resource Officer

Dr. Graner stated that this item is going to the Finance/Facilities Committee next week for review; proposed paying half of the SRO's salary and benefits while working for the schools.

9. Discussion of budget sustainability

Mrs. Watson explained her concerns with budget sustainability. It was suggested that the Finance/Facilities Committee develop a checklist of budget sustainability. A referral was made to the Curriculum Council regarding ways to look at curriculum cost.

Mrs. Newsome left at 7:53 p.m.

10. Update regarding the CC asbestos project

Mr. Kilpatrick noted that the work is being completed on time and below budget for the CC asbestos project. He shared the progress of the project and encouraged the Board member to stop in to view the project results.

11. Update regarding the August 1, 2016 Policy Committee meeting.

Mrs. White stated that the Policy Committee members have taken different sections of the Policy Manual to review and/or revise. She noted that CAFE came up with a list of policies the Committee should consider for revision.

12. Review and revise the master Meeting Template and Referral List

The Board reviewed the Referral list and removed:

- R2015-28 Discussion of the equitable distribution of funds for groups that need travel funds
- R2015-29 Discussion of the tracking of all after school programs and their needs
- R2016-57 Discussion of Resource Officers at the middle school level
- R2016-61 Review and discussion of BOE policies and procedures and revisions

The Board moved the following to the COW:

- R2015-37 Review the implementation of writing workshop and how grammar is taught

The Board added the following to the COW:

- SAT report and Action Plan

13. Adjournment

A motion was made by Dr. Ackerman and seconded by Mrs. Fitzgerald to adjourn at 8:18 p.m.

PASSED - UNANIMOUSLY