

**GROTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
GROTON, CONNECTICUT**

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

Committee of the Whole

January 9, 2017

A meeting of the Committee of the Whole of the Groton Board of Education was held on January 9, 2017 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 6:07 p.m.

PRESENT

ABSENT

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

Mrs. Gretchen Newsome

Dr. Michael Graner, Superintendent of Schools
Ms. Susan Austin, Assistant Superintendent of Schools
Mr. Samuel Kilpatrick, Director of Buildings and Grounds
Mrs. Laurie LePine, Director of Human Resources
Mr. Don Meltabarger, Business Manager
Mrs. Beth Horler, GEA President
Mr. Larry Croxton, GEA Vice President
Mr. Doug Manfred, Fitch High School
Mr. Michael Porter, Fitch High School
Ms. Erin McGuire, Assistant Principal, Fitch High School

1. Approval of Minutes of December 12, 2016

MOTION: Ackerman, Robertson: To approve the minutes of December 12, 2016.

PASSED – UNANIMOUSLY

2. Report from CABE/CAPSS Convention participations.

Participants at the CABE/CAPSS Convention gave a brief overview of the conferences they attended:

- Ackerman – She attended a workshop lead by attorneys entitled, “Does Race Matters”;
- Austin – She also attended the workshop lead by attorneys entitled, “Does Race Matters”;

- White – She attended the workshop with student representatives on Boards of Education;
- Fitzgerald – She attended several workshops:
 - Recent legislative changes on Board policies
 - How to conduct an effective investigation
 - Title IX Coordinators do not need to be in all schools
 - Lighthouse Project
 - Nutmeg Board of Education
- Robertson – She attended:
 - Recent legislative changes on Board policies
 - Utilizing Media
 - Roles and Responsibilities of Board Members
- Graner – He attended:
 - Leading for Equitable Classrooms
 - Ensuring Equity and Excellence for all Connecticut Students (Strategic planning format of the State BOE)

3. Discussion of the FY 17 ECS Grant Reduction [ATTACHMENTS #1]

Dr. Graner explained a possible way to absorb the ECS reduction of \$247,481 from the present budget.

Mrs. Volkmann stated that she feels it needs to be made known to the municipality what the impact will be relative to the Board absorbing the ECS reduction from the present budget.

It was the consensus of the Board to support the Superintendent's suggestion on how to absorb the ECS reduction from the present budget. (7-1)

Dr. Graner stated that he will talk to Principals to determine the impact to students relative to absorbing the ECS reduction from their site budgets and then he will share the detailed list with the Board prior to the meeting with the Town Council/RTM on January 17, 2017.

4. FY 18 Budget Work Session

Dr. Graner reviewed the proposed FY 18 Budget versus FY 17 Budget and FY 16 Actual.

5. Discussion of the Board's participation in the joint Town Council/RTM/BOE meeting (January 17, 2017)

Dr. Graner and Mrs. Watson stated that they would be suggesting the ECS reduction and the Strategic Plan be added to the agenda of the joint Town Council/RTM/BOE meeting on January 17, 2017. Mrs. Fitzgerald suggested the CIP be added to the agenda. Dr. Graner suggested that Board members forward any additional items to him by Thursday.

6. **Preview of Strategic Planning Retreat (January 19, 2017)**

This item was tabled.

7. **Adjournment**

MOTION: Ackerman, Volkmann: To adjourn at 8:30 p.m.

PASSED - UNANIMOUSLY