

**GROTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
GROTON, CONNECTICUT**

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

Committee of the Whole

March 13, 2017

A meeting of the Committee of the Whole of the Groton Board of Education was held on March 13, 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 6:05 p.m.

PRESENT

Mrs. Kim Shepardson Watson, Chairperson
Dr. Andrea Ackerman, Vice Chairperson
Mrs. Katrina Fitzgerald
Mrs. Gretchen Newsome
Mr. Jay Weitlauf
Mrs. Lee White

ABSENT

Mr. Gary Baker
Mrs. Rosemary Robertson
Mrs. Rita Volkmann

Dr. Michael Graner, Superintendent of Schools
Ms. Susan Austin, Assistant Superintendent of Schools
Mr. Sam Kilpatrick, Director of Buildings and Grounds
Mrs. Laurie LePine, Director of Human Resources
Mrs. Beth Horler, GEA President
Mr. Larry Croxton, GEA Vice President
Mr. Seth Danner, Principal, Charles Barnum School
Mr. Doug Manfred, Fitch High School

1. Approval of Minutes of February 22, 2017

MOTION: Ackerman, White: To approve the minutes of February 22, 2017.

PASSED – UNANIMOUSLY

2. Review of the Communications Committee Charge

Mrs. Watson noted that in talking with the person assigned to the Communications Committee, it became apparent that there may be a need to develop a job description for this position. It was also clear that this individual needed direction and should report any progress to the Board.

It was determined that the original Communications Committee would meet and discuss these issues and bring any recommendations to the full Board.

3. Update regarding the Shared Services Task Force

Mrs. Watson stated that she, Mrs. White, Mrs. Fitzgerald, Mr. Weitlauf, and Mrs. Robertson have been meeting with Mayor Flax, Mrs. Morton, and Mr. Grim to review shared services to reduce overhead between the Town and the Board of Education. She noted some areas identified, Tech and Public Works.

4. Budget Review

Dr. Graner noted that there is currently no alternative budget proposal to the Governor's budget; there may be no firm budget before June 1st. He suggested that the Board may want to come up with contingency plans.

It was the consensus of the Board to cancel the March 20, 2017 COW meeting in order for Board members to attend the ECS Forum scheduled for that night beginning at 6:00 p.m. at Fitch High School.

8. Adjournment

MOTION: Fitzgerald, Weitlauf: To adjourn at 7:18 p.m.

PASSED - UNANIMOUSLY