

GROTON BOARD OF EDUCATION
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

AD HOC MIDDLE SCHOOL PROGRAM REVIEW COMMITTEE
JANUARY 23, 2017 @ 9:00 A.M.
CENTRAL OFFICE, ROOM 11

Members Present: Andrea Ackerman, Katrina Fitzgerald, Jay Weitlauf (by phone)

Members Absent: Gretchen Newsome

Also Present: Michael Graner, Susan Austin, Terry Henkle, Peter Bass, John Jones,
Matt Brown, Kelley Donovan

1. Call to Order - Chairman Ackerman called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.
2. Report on MYP School Visit to King/Robinson Inter-district Magnet School - The committee members who visited the school provided feedback regarding the MYP Program for ninth and tenth graders. Chairman Ackerman then led a dialog focusing on the advantages/disadvantages of implementing the MYP Program. The committee members identified six primary benefits which the program provides:
 - Interdisciplinary collaboration
 - Personalized topics promoting engagement
 - Positive impact on all students, not just academically gifted
 - Demonstration of knowledge
 - Unifying principle for new middle school
 - Structure to teach children how they learn best

Jay Weitlauf mentioned the possibility of considering other programs. Dr. Graner noted that the MYP was a component of the Groton 2020 plan.
3. Next Steps
 - February 14 (early release day) - speak with IB teachers at FHS
 - Visit Kelley Donovan's class and one other IB class
 - March 13 - Theory of Knowledge lesson for Board of Education at C.O.W. meeting
4. Next Meeting Date - not established

The meeting adjourned at 10:38 a.m.