

GROTON BOARD OF EDUCATION
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

AD HOC BOARD OPERATIONS COMMITTEE
OCTOBER 13, 2016 @ 5:30 P.M.
CENTRAL OFFICE, ROOM 11

Members Present: Kim Shepardson Watson, Rosemary Robertson, Katrina Fitzgerald

Members Absent: Jay Weitlauf

1. Call to Order - Kim Shepardson Watson called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.
2. Review August 29, 2016 Meeting Minutes - the minutes were reviewed and approved as presented.
3. Review Progress/Discuss Findings
 - Referrals - The Committee discussed suggestions that came from CAFE. Katrina then referred to Rule 3.7E of the Agenda Construction section from the Board's Rules of Procedure manual. The recommendation from the Committee is that the Board should revert back to the procedure which states that a Board member sends a request for referral to the Chairperson in writing. The Chairperson then reviews the request and sends it to all Board members. At a designated time, the full Board decides whether the request goes on the referral list or by consensus the item gets dropped.
 - Central Repository - the Committee will introduce this item at the retreat. If there is Board interest, IT Director Dennis Colclough will be invited to explain program options which may facilitate a central repository.
4. Develop a Plan to Present to the Board at the Retreat
 - Meeting Structure - the following are the recommendations that the Committee will bring to the Board retreat concerning meeting structure (i.e.: how the Board conducts its meetings and ways to cut down on the redundancy):
 - Meetings will occur on every Monday except the 5th Monday of the month.
 - a) The first and third Mondays will be a Committee of the Whole meeting. Each one of these meetings will have specific tasks. This is to help staff plan on what meetings they have to attend.
 - b) The second and fourth Mondays will be regular Board meetings. The fourth Monday can be our more traditional meeting where we have student representation, special recognition, visitors, and Board members reporting out on committees. This allows the Curriculum Committee and the Finance/Facilities Committee to be folded into the Committee of the Whole. This will also be an exciting extension of the Curriculum Council which is currently being proposed. The one committee that will need to remain separate is the Policy Committee. The recommendation is that the Policy Committee meet for an hour or so prior to the Committee of the Whole meetings. Negotiations will also be a stand-alone committee.

4. Develop a Plan to Present to the Board at the Retreat - cont'd

- The Board should follow more closely Rule 3.7C of the Agenda Construction section from the Board's Rules of Procedure manual which states that an annual calendar of anticipated agenda items be reviewed quarterly by the whole Board and that the Chairperson and the Superintendent review more frequently.

The Ad Hoc Committee suggests piloting the recommended meeting structure beginning January 2017 to the fall retreat and put suspension on any regulations that are impacted.

The meeting adjourned at 7:05 p.m.