

**GROTON BOARD OF EDUCATION
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
AD HOC MAGNET SCHOOL COMMITTEE
TUESDAY, AUGUST 4, 2015
10:00 A.M.
CENTRAL OFFICE, ROOM 5**

Members Present: Andrea Ackerman, Katrina Fitzgerald, Jay Weitlauf

Also Present: Susan Austin, Doreen Marvin, Director of Development at LEARN

The meeting was called to order by Katrina Fitzgerald at 10:10 a.m.

1. Presentation by Doreen Marvin

- Doreen presented the *Pillars of Magnet Schools* which includes:
 - **Diversity** is a cornerstone to offering students a global educational experience. Schools, through recruitment and lotteries, strive to have student populations that are reflective of the community. Culturally competent educational environments model empathy, respect, and working collaboratively with a variety of persons.
 - **Innovative Curriculum and Professional Development** is developed to assure theme-based relevant instruction to students. Effective teaching strategies, emulating from best practices, are implemented through the inclusion of the school's theme. Curriculum is based on high quality rigorous standards that prepare students for higher education and career success.
 - **Academic Excellence** is demonstrated through a commitment to multi-dimensional instruction focused on learner needs. Multiple assessment strategies are employed to monitor student learning, progress, and success. High expectations are clearly articulated and personalized supports are in place to address the interests and aspirations of all students.
 - **High Quality Instruction Systems** are rooted in well-prepared, well-educated professional educators. Teachers and administrators who are student-centered, collaborative, and inquisitive prepare learners to be world ready, workforce ready, and higher education ready.
 - **Parent and Community Partnerships** are mutually beneficial, offer a system of support, shared ownership, and a caring spirit and are designed to enhance a theme integrated educational environment. Partnerships with parents are essential for a rich educational experience for students. Community partnerships include a diverse array of stakeholders including business, health and human services, and policy makers to support the education of all students.
- The committee reviewed the research found on www.magnet.edu found under resources and publications, which included Creating Successful Magnet School Programs, Creating Strong District School Choice Programs, Creating Successful K-8 Magnets, and Creating Successful High School Magnets.
- Suggestion to seek MSAP grant due February 2016 for implementation in September 2016.
- The committee discussed the current programs offered at GPS, including the IB diploma program, Project Lead the Way, and CKMS STEaM, and discussed expanding these programs K-12 (see attached). Also discussed was providing an ARTs magnet at NEA and investigating other possibilities, i.e. dual language, marine science elementary/middle school.
- Investigate partnership possibilities with New London and LEARN.
- Research Intradistrict magnet start up while Interdistrict magnet moratorium exists with state.

The meeting adjourned at 12:00 noon.

Magnet Extension Chart

Level	Arts*	IB	STeAM	Potential Ideas
High School	Fitch	Fitch Diploma Program Fitch Career Program	Project Lead the Way	Collaboration with Marine Science Magnet School
Middle School	Middle School	Middle Years Program Grades 6-10	Project Lead the Way = Science Center	Language/International Studies** Marine Sciences
Elementary School	NEA	Primary Years Program Grades K-5	CK = Engineering is Elementary	Language/International Studies** Marine Sciences

* Performing Arts & Fine Arts

** Potential partners with LEARN