

GROTON BOARD OF EDUCATION  
SPECIAL FINANCE/FACILITIES COMMITTEE MEETING  
MONDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2018  
5:00 P.M.  
TOWN HALL ANNEX, CR 3

**Members Present:** Jay Weitlauf, Jane Giulini, Katrina Fitzgerald (via phone)

**Also Present:** Susan Austin, Ken Knight, Sam Kilpatrick, Mike Graner

Chairman Weitlauf called the meeting to order at 5:07 p.m.

1. Review November 13, 2018 Meeting Minutes – The minutes were approved as presented.
2. Treehouse Scholarship Fund – This topic was tabled until the February meeting because the committee would like to determine the financial status of the Treehouse fund halfway through the school year to determine if unexpended funds are available for a scholarship program.
3. Update re: Repair/Replacement of Interactive White Boards – After discussing the report from Dennis Colclough, the committee requested that he provide additional information regarding the active panels at the next Finance meeting. The committee is also recommending that the full Board approve \$10,500 for short throw projectors.
4. Update re: FY 19 Minimum Budget Requirement – Dr. Graner explained that he will meet with the Town Council on December 18 to request an adjustment of the FY 19 budget to reflect the additional ECS grant.
5. Discussion of Non-union Salaries, Wages, and Stipends – The committee approved a 2% salary/wage increase in the FY 20 budget as a placeholder for the non-union hourly and stipend positions as well as the Central Office staff.
6. Facilities Update - NEA and Water Testing – Dr. Graner explained that the NEA air quality concerns are being addressed by the engineers from Fuss & O’Neill; in regards to the water quality issues, the staff continues to repair and replace piping per recommendations of the State Health Department.
7. Discussion re: Solar Installation on New Middle School – The committee discussed the possibility of installing solar panels on the new middle school. Several community members have recommended solar panels, and those recommendations will be shared with the Permanent School Building Committee. Dr. Graner noted that solar panels are not reimbursable via the state construction grant.
8. Review of Budget Draft – Ken Knight distributed the budget books to the committee members and oriented them to the format of the budget document. Ken and Dr. Graner requested that the book be reviewed and any suggestions for revision be forwarded to Dr. Graner.

The meeting adjourned at 6:03 p.m.