

**GROTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
GROTON, CONNECTICUT**

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

**Special Meeting**

**January 22, 2019**

A special meeting of the Groton Board of Education was held on January 22, 2019 in Room 11 of the School Administration Building, for the purpose of conducting a budget worksession.

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Mrs. Kim Watson, Board Chairperson, at 7:00 p.m.

**PRESENT**

Mrs. Kim Shepardson Watson, Chairperson  
Dr. Andrea Ackerman, Vice Chairperson  
Mrs. Jane Giulini  
Mrs. Katrina Fitzgerald  
Mrs. Gretchen Newsome  
Mrs. Rosemary Robertson  
Mrs. Rita Volkmann  
Mrs. Lee White

Ms. Susan Austin, Assistant Superintendent of Schools  
Mr. Ken Knight, Business Manager  
Mr. Sam Kilpatrick, Director of Buildings and Grounds  
Mr. Daniel Gaiewski, Student Representative

**ABSENT**

Mr. Jay Weitlauf

**1. Budget Worksession – Special Education**

Mrs. Doolittle, Mrs. Macklin, and Mr. Carter reviewed the following sections of the proposed budget:

Pages 5-40 & 5-41	1205 Preschool 3-5 – Mrs. Macklin noted that preschool was a 50/50 model in 3 schools: CC/MM/SB; she explained the type of program in each school
Pages 5-42 & 5-43	Mrs. Volkmann requested a full time nurses' aide be restored at SBB. 1210 Summer School Mrs. Doolittle noted that the majority of this program is funded by the IDEA grant
Pages 5-44 & 5-45	1220 Other Special Instruction ELL Program
Pages 5-46 & 5-47	1204 Special Education – Mrs. Doolittle noted the proposed staff in the district: CB – 3 resource teachers & 1 academy CC – 3 resource & 2 academy CK – 3 resource MM – 3 resource & 1 self-contained NEA – 3 resource SB – 2 resource & 3 ABA for Autism CMS – 5 resource & 2 self-contained (ABA & multi-handicapped)

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		WSM – 6 resource & 2 academy FHS – 10 resource, 1 multi-handicapped, 2 New Beginning Alternative Academy 1 district-wide Tutor for the multi- handicapped classroom at FHS
Pages 5-48 & 5-49	1250 Blind – Mrs. Doolittle noted that this position is split with Waterford Public School	
Pages 5-54 & 5-55	1280 Hearing Impaired – Mrs. Doolittle that this teacher also teaches American Sign Language at FHS and coordinates repairs to equipment at FHS	
Pages 5-56 & 5-57	1310 High School Completion – Mr. Carter reviewed the program	
Pages 5-58 & 5-59	1320 Adult Education – Mr. Carter noted that this program is provided by New London Public School and has a grant to support it	
Pages 5-64 & 5-65	2101 Support Services – Special CO – Mrs. Doolittle noted this program covers the special education central office staff; she explained the responsibilities of each supervisor, herself, and the secretaries	
Pages 5-66 & 5-67	2110 Social Work Services – Mrs. Doolittle noted that there are 3 at the elementary level (CB & CC) and one at the high school; social work services are also provided at Title I school (WSM & CC) funded by the Title I grant; in addition, Military Family Liaison work workers are provided at the Military schools ( WSM, CB, & MM) through the DoD funds	
Pages 5-68 & 5-69	2120 Guidance Services – Mrs. Doolittle noted that there are 3 counselors at each middle school that follow the students from grade to grade and 6.6 counselors at FHS - the .6 counselor provides career counseling	
Pages 5-70 & 5-71	2130 Health Services – Mrs. Doolittle noted that this program provide services to the School Based Health Center at FHS and includes the services for Dr. Blefeld as well as funds for VNA services on field trips	
Pages 5-72 & 5-73	2140 Psychological Services – Mrs. Doolittle noted that there is one psychologist at each of the elementary schools and 2 at WSM in the academy classes and 2 at FHS in the New Beginnings classes	
Pages 5-74 & 5-75	2150 Speech and Hearing Services – Mrs. Doolittle noted the programs at each of the schools: 1 SLP per school 2 SLP at MM 2 SLP at SBB for Preschool and self-contained classes	

2. Adjournment

**MOTION:** Robertson, Giulini:

To adjourn at 8:13 p.m.

**PASSED – UNANIMOUSLY**