

**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 Public Hearing.

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Mrs. Kim Watson, Board Chairperson, at 6:06 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

**ABSENT**

Mr. Jay Weitlauf

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

**1. Public Hearing**

Mrs. Watson and Ms. Austin gave an overview of the proposed budget. [ATTACHMENT #1]

**CITIZEN COMMENTS:**

- Mr. Jeff Bresnahan, 2286 Gold Star Highway, expressed the need for a full-time Athletic Director.
- Mrs. Portia Bordolon, 159 Shennecossett Parkway, addressed the achievement gap should be closed; that the district should be concerned both academically as well as athletically; need for remedial support; the need for an ROTC Program; that students should not have to pay to attend a game; and the need for Promethean Board repairs.
- Mrs. Heather Palardy, Gold Star Highway, noted that counselors practiced peer remediation instead of guiding students. She also noted the need for mores support for parents from counselors.
- Mrs. Michelle Gaiewski, 136 Ocean View Avenue, address her support for the continuation of the SRO at the high school and overall school safety.

Mrs. Watson closed the Public Hearing at 6:45 p.m.

# Groton Public Schools

## Superintendent's Proposed 2019-2020 Budget



### Board of Education

Kim Shepardson Watson, Chairperson

Andrea Ackerman, Vice Chairperson

Katrina Fitzgerald

Jane Giuliani

Gretchen Newsome

Rosemary Robertson

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## Overview of FY19 Budget Reductions

School Site Budgets and Operational Supplies:

\$3,456,199 → \$2,810,065      -\$646,134

Total Equipment Account:

\$490,896 → \$44,183      -\$446,713

Allocation of District Health Insurance Reserve:

-\$651,652

**Total Budget Reduction:      -\$1,744,499**

# Highlights

- Maintain effective class size
- Restore school site budget to FY18 level
- Enhance Literacy Program
  - Writers Workshop
  - Readers Workshop
  - Classroom Libraries K-12
- Implement math workshops to increase rigor and relevance
- School Resource Officer - Town/BoE Funded
- Upgrading of aging classroom technology & district infrastructure
- Retain all curricular & extracurricular programs
- Online learning program for enrichment and remedial support



# Highlights (cont'd)

- Support for elementary magnet schools
- Continue high school 1 to 1 computer program
- Enhance Vocational Program for 18-21 year olds
- Support Planning & Implementation for Next Generation Science Standards
- Continue elementary after school enrichment programs; expand into middle school
- Maintain high quality child care program before/after school



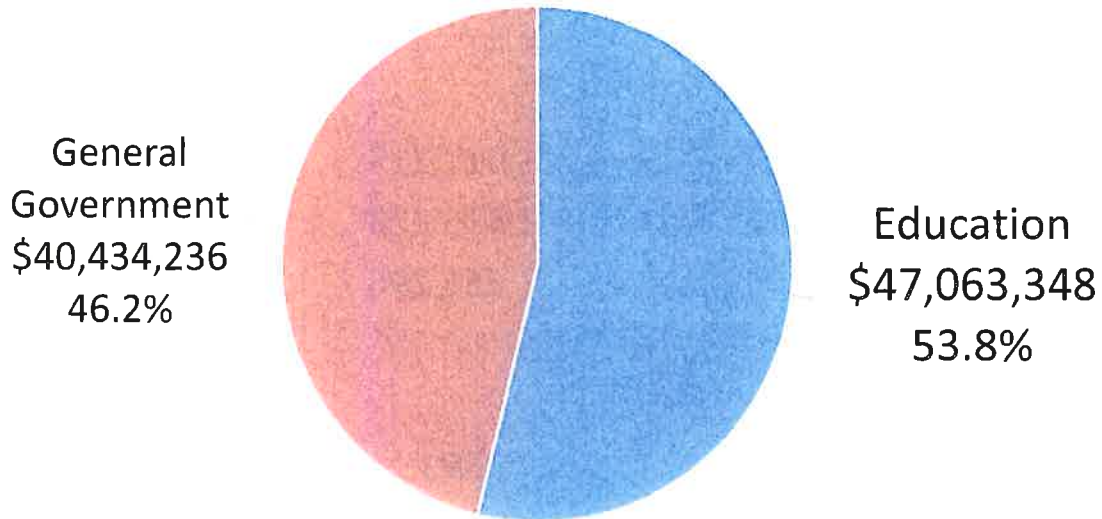
# Budget History

<u>School Year</u>	<u>Budget Total</u>	<u>Budget Increase</u>	<u>% Increase</u>
2011-2012	72,645,500	-	0.00%
2012-2013	72,645,500	-	0.00%
2013-2014	73,662,715	1,017,215	1.40%
2014-2015	75,098,943	1,436,228	1.95%
2015-2016	76,730,239	1,631,296	2.17%
2016-2017	76,468,239	(262,000)	(0.35%)
2017-2018	76,468,239		0.00%
2018-2019	76,485,922	17,683	0.02%
Eight Year Average (2012-2019)			0.65%

# Proposed Budget

	<u>FY19 Budget</u>	<u>Proposed FY20 Budget</u>	<u>Increase (Decrease)</u>	<u>%</u>
Salaries	47,996,095	48,852,072	855,977	1.8%
Benefits	11,779,052	11,785,660	6,608	.1%
Purchased Services	1,813,232	1,865,316	52,084	2.9%
Property Services	815,101	811,508	(3,593)	(.4%)
Trans, Ins, Comm. Tuition	11,188,198	11,357,665	169,467	1.5%
Supplies	2,810,065	3,438,904	628,839	22.4%
Equipment	44,183	282,645	238,462	539.7%
Dues & Fees	<u>39,996</u>	<u>74,866</u>	<u>34,870</u>	<u>87.2%</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>76,485,922</b>	<b>78,468,636</b>	<b>1,982,714</b>	<b>2.59%</b>

# FY19 Taxes Collected = \$87,497,584

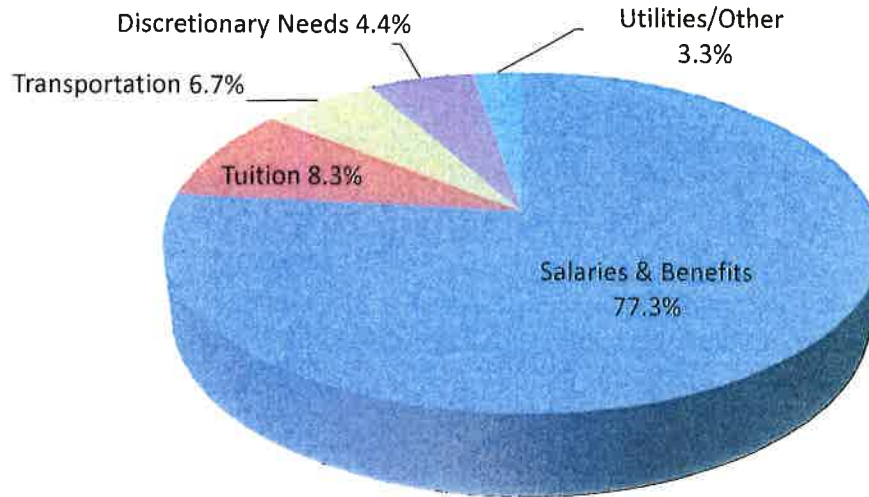


## FY19 Revenues

Education Cost Sharing (ECS)	24,898,096
Other State Funds	310,262
Federal Impact Aid	3,214,533
SPED Excess Cost	800,000
Medicaid	93,000
Other Sources	<u>89,000</u>
	29,404,891

Total Town FY19 Budget Expenditure	125,856,730
Balance to be raised from taxes (per town approved budget book)	87,497,584
Board of Education Budget	76,468,239
Grants (ECS, Impact Aid, Other)	(29,404,891)
Balance needed to be raised for BoE budget from Town of Groton taxpayers	47,063,348

# GPS Budget Categories



Salaries & Benefits	60,637,732	77.3%
Tuition/Contracted Services	6,503,231	8.3%
Transportation	5,240,553	6.7%
Discretionary Needs	3,414,093	4.4%
Utilities/Ins./Tel/Network	2,673,027	3.3%

# Class Size Enrollment

	<u>Enrollment</u>	<u>Core Subject FTE</u>	<u>Average Class Size</u>
<b>Elementary Schools</b>			
Pre-school	145	7.0	20.7
Pre-K/Speech	64	4.0	16.0
K	353	20.0	17.7
1	342	17.0	20.2
2	342	17.0	20.1
3	295	15.0	19.7
4	323	16.0	20.2
5	308	16.0	19.3
<b>Cutler Middle School</b>			
6	188	8.0	23.5
7	161	8.0	20.1
8	149	8.0	18.6
<b>West Side Middle School</b>			
6	162	8.0	20.3
7	174	8.0	21.8
8	139	8.0	17.4
<b>High School</b>			
English	1,077	16	17
Science		12	18
Social Studies		10	19
World Language		8	16
Math		13	17

# Board of Education Grants Revenue

	<u>Time Period</u>	<u>FY19</u>
<b><i>Categorical Grants</i></b>		
Title I (Improving basic services for at-risk students CK,CC,WSMS)	Annual	963,853
Title II (Professional Development)	Annual	130,998
Title III (English Language Learners)	Annual	14,459
Title IV (Student Support & Academic Enrichment)	Annual	71,978
Carl Perkins (Vocational Education)	Annual	58,310
School Readiness (Early Childhood)	Annual	528,121
IDEA (Federal Special Education grant)	Annual	1,122,058
Bilingual Education (Bilingual education)	Annual	1,989
DOD Supplemental Impact Grant (Tech. Equip)	Annual	260,000
<b><i>Total Categorical Grants</i></b>		<b>3,151,766</b>
<b><i>Competitive Grants</i></b>		
MSAP (Magnet School Assistance Program)	FY18-22	
• MYP (IB Middle Years Program, WSMS, CMS)		130,900
• STEM (STEM Magnet, WSMS)		346,550
• Arts/Humanities (Arts/Humanities Magnet, CMS)		336,050
DoDEA-Math Grant K-12 (Math grant for military schools)	FY16-20	274,660
DoDEA-Literacy Grant K-8 (Literacy grant for military schools)	FY18-22	195,577
DoDEA-STEM Grant K-5, 9-12 (STEM grant for military schools)	FY19-23	217,419
<b><i>Total Competitive Grants</i></b>		<b>1,501,156</b>
<b>Total Grants</b>		<b>4,652,922</b>

Mission Statement: Teaching & Learning

BoE Goals: Provide Dynamic Rigorous Curriculum

Ensure Effective and Engaging Instruction

Embrace Excellent Learning Environment

