

**GROTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
GROTON, CONNECTICUT**

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

**Special Meeting**

**February 25, 2019**

A special meeting of the Groton Board of Education was held on February 25, 2019 in the CR I of the Town Hall Annex, 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 7:16 p.m.

**PRESENT**

Mrs. Kim Shepardson Watson, Chairperson  
Dr. Andrea Ackerman, Vice Chairperson  
Mrs. Jane Giulini  
Mrs. Rita Volkmann  
Mrs. Lee White  
Mr. Jay Weitlauf

Dr. Michael Graner, Superintendent of Schools  
Ms. Susan Austin, Assistant Superintendent of Schools  
Mr. Ken Knight, Business Manager  
Mr. Sam Kilpatrick, Director of Buildings and Grounds

**ABSENT**

Mrs. Katrina Fitzgerald  
Mrs. Gretchen Newsome  
Mrs. Rosemary Robertson

**1. Budget Worksession**

The Board of Education discussed the 4 alternative budget scenarios to the Superintendent's budget proposal of a 2.56% increase that were developed after the budget workshop on February 11, 2019. [ATTACHMENT #1] Dr. Graner and Mr. Knight presented budgets with an increase of 1.9%, 1.5%, 1.0% and zero increase. The Board discussed the use of both the Health Insurance Reserve [ATTACHMENT #2] and the DoD Supplemental Impact Aid Grant [ATTACHMENT #3] to offset the needed increase. At the end of the meeting, the Board reached a consensus to support a budget with a 1.24% increase. The final vote on the budget will be taken at the Special Meeting on February 26, 2019.

**2. Adjournment**

**MOTION:** Ackerman, White:

To adjourn at 8:25 p.m.

**PASSED – UNANIMOUSLY**

Attachment #1

Groton Public Schools  
FY20 Budget Alternatives

FY20 Budget, supt 2/12/19 78,441,774  
 FY19 Budget, adopted 76,485,922

Increase/(Decrease) 1,955,852 2.56%

	1.9% Alternative	1.5% Alternative	1.0% Alternative	0% Alternative
Current Budget Increase from Supt Budget	1,955,852 2.56%	1,955,852 2.56%	1,955,852 2.56%	1,955,852 2.56%
Reduce healthcare expense (use health ins reserve)	(500,352)	(805,352)	(1,190,352)	(1,190,352)
Reduce Tech equipment				(200,000)
Reduce School Site Budgets 20%				(170,000)
Reduce Operations Budget 15%				(130,000)
Reduce Out of District Tuitions (Reg Ed, Sp Ed)				(150,000)
Reduce Miscellaneous Accounts				(30,000)
Computer supplies/network				(25,000)
Legal				(25,500)
Dues				(20,000)
Travel				(10,000)
Textbooks				(5,000)
Snow Removal				(115,500)
Total Misc Accounts				(765,500)
Subtotal non-healthcare reductions				(765,500)
Possible Budget Increases	1,455,500 1.90%	1,150,500 1.50%	765,500 1.00%	- 0.00%

## Attachment #2

Groton Public Schools  
Health Insurance Reserve History

<b>Per Superintendent FY20 Budget</b>				
School Year		6/30 Net Health Ins Reserve*	Amount used to offset Budget	Amount left in net reserve
FY2015-2016		2,489,697		
FY2016-2017		2,723,983		
FY2017-2018		2,592,175		
FY2018-2019	Estimated	4,137,033	(763,889)	3,373,144
FY2019-2020	Budget	3,373,144	(500,000) <i>i</i>	<b>2,873,144</b>

<i>i</i> Superintendent Budget	(500,000)
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Total amount to offset budget	(500,000)

<b>Per FY20 Budget - 1st alternative</b>				
School Year		6/30 Net Health Ins Reserve*	Amount used to offset Budget	Amount left in net reserve
FY2015-2016		2,489,697		
FY2016-2017		2,723,983		
FY2017-2018		2,592,175		
FY2018-2019	Estimated	4,137,033	(763,889)	3,373,144
FY2019-2020	Budget	3,373,144	(1,000,352) <i>ii</i>	<b>2,372,792</b>

<i>ii</i> Superintendent Budget	(500,000)
1.9% Alterntaive	(500,352)
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Total amount to offset budget	(1,000,352)

<b>Per FY20 Budget - 2nd alternative</b>				
School Year		6/30 Net Health Ins Reserve*	Amount used to offset Budget	Amount left in net reserve
FY2015-2016		2,489,697		
FY2016-2017		2,723,983		
FY2017-2018		2,592,175		
FY2018-2019	Estimated	4,137,033	(763,889)	3,373,144
FY2019-2020	Budget	3,373,144	(1,305,352) <i>iii</i>	<b>2,067,792</b>

<i>iii</i> Superintendent Budget	(500,000)
1.5% Alterntaive	(805,352)
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Total amount to offset budget	(1,305,352)

<b>Per FY20 Budget - 3rd &amp; 4th alternatives</b>				
School Year		6/30 Net Health Ins Reserve*	Amount used to offset Budget	Amount left in net reserve
FY2015-2016		2,489,697		
FY2016-2017		2,723,983		
FY2017-2018		2,592,175		
FY2018-2019	Estimated	4,137,033	(763,889)	3,373,144
FY2019-2020	Budget	3,373,144	(1,690,352) <i>iv</i>	<b>1,682,792</b>

<i>iv</i> Superintendent Budget	(500,000)
1.0% Alterntaive	(1,190,352)
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Total amount to offset budget	(1,690,352)

\*Health Insurance Reserve net of corridor

Groton Public Schools  
DOD Supplemental Impact Aid

School Year	Impact Aid	DOD Supplemental Impact Aid Grant	DOD Supplemental Impact Aid Balance
FY2014-2015	Actual 4,183,997	234,036	1,066,207
FY2015-2016	Actual 3,436,824	288,426	951,504
FY2016-2017	Actual 3,174,549	260,385	961,338
FY2017-2018	Actual 3,751,870	261,006	943,229
FY2018-2019	Estimated/Current 4,565,853	260,000	992,479