

**GROTON BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING
JUNE 22, 2020 @ 6:00 P.M.
REMOTE MEETING**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Kim Shepardson Watson-Chairperson, Andrea Ackerman-Vice Chairperson, Jane Giuliani, Gretchen Newsome, Liz Porter, Rita Volkmann, Jay Weitlauf, Lee White

MEMBERS ABSENT: Rosemary Robertson

ALSO PRESENT: Mike Graner, Susan Austin, Denise Doolittle, Sam Kilpatrick, Ken Knight, Addie Clark, Zavion Quito

I. CALL TO ORDER – Chairperson Kim Shepardson Watson called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The first order of business was the pledge of allegiance to the flag led by Matt Brown.

III. RECOGNITION AND PARTICIPATION OF VISITORS AND DELEGATIONS

Beth Horler congratulated and shared words of praise to retiring teachers and the 2021 Teachers of the Year.

Building Administrators shared words of praise to retiring teachers and words of praise to the nominees for the Support Personnel, Friends of Education, CABA Student Leadership/Poet Laureate, and the Teacher of the Year awards from their building.

Dr. Graner shared words of praise for the retired Principal of Fitch High School, Joe Arcarese and that Mr. Arcarese was his principal in another district where Mr. Keleher taught. Dr. Graner also noted that Mr. Arcarese spoke at the 2020 Graduation.

Mr. Danner and Mr. Chaney gave a shout out to Mary Yolen upon her retirement for her services to the student in their respective buildings as a Health teacher.

Mr. Kilpatrick shared words of praise to Maintenance Worker Brian Tedeschi upon his retirement. Mr. Kilpatrick also shared words of praise to retired Custodial Supervisor Terry Potter.

Mr. Kilpatrick praised the Maintenance and Custodial staff for all their efforts above and beyond their daily work day during the pandemic.

Mrs. Doolittle shared words of praise to Dara Yovino for years of services and especially for her efforts to the Transition Academy.

Attached is the a list of retiring teachers and recipients of awards for Support Personnel, Friends of Education, CABA Student Leader, Outstanding Education/Teacher of the Year, and Poet Laureate.

IV. COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS

1. Mrs. Diane Kolnaski, 341 Riverwood Drive, stated that she is the coach for the Girls Field Hockey Team and shared her efforts to assure that the any new fields would have lines on the turf for playing hockey on it. She noted that the Girls Hockey Team has been playing on the baseball field and shared concern that the new field would not have the appropriate lines on it for playing hockey. She noted that she has addressed this issue with the PSBC. Mrs. Kolnaski asked the Board to provide safe regulation fields for all boys and girls sports.

Mrs. Watson noted that Heather Holmes had sent her a letter with the same concerns.

2. Mrs. Christine Cabral, 66 Latham Street, addressed the inequity in sports for girls and boys. She stated that they deserve the same respect.

V. RESPONSE TO COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS

Dr. Graner confirmed that it is the desire of the Groton Public Schools to have the lines on the turf field for field hockey and that he has shared the district's position with the PSBC.

Mrs. Watson, Mrs. Volkmann, Mrs. Porter, and Mrs. Newsome stated their support for equity for boys and girls sports.

- VIII. ADJOURNMENT – Ackerman, Porter: To adjourn at 8:28 p.m.
MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

SCHOOL	RETIREEES	SUPPORT PERSONNEL	FRIENDS OF EDUCATION	CABE STUDENT LEADER	OUTSTANDING EDUCATOR / *TEACHER OF THE YEAR	POET LAUREATE
CB	Laurie Hinchey	Rebecca Wallis	Dianne George		Susan Brabec	
CK	Paula Bromley Eileen Burton Rita Howell	Colleen Peterson	Heidi Beauchamp		Kristen Phelps	
CC		Maryellen Seibert	Susan Malaro		Jessica Legnos	
NEA	Melissa Avery	Michelle Gustavson	Jill Lubrano		Lauren Hunter	
SBB	Linda Salovitz	Gretchen Romilly	Kate Chanin		Robin Martelle	
CMS	Deborah Lau Debra Waddicor	Marge Finley	Mary Addison	Gianni Drab Katheryn Regan	Jake Browne	
WSMS	Janice Abrahamson Gail Kelly Christina McLaughlin	Doreen McHugh	Lesa Jenkins	Kylie Jenkins Nathan Virtue	Larry Berdensey	
FHS	Joe Arcarese Linda Branche Wendie Brennan Mary Harris Kathryn Houston Mark Landry Charmaine Mizak	Colleen King		Addie Clark Graysen Scherer	Wendie Brennan	Kylie Heard
CO	Brian Tedeschi Dara Yovino					
MM	Susan Chmielewski Susan Gilson Sherry Hanks Sandra Schneider Mary Jane Yolen	Kristina Crandall			Kerry Leff *	