

**GROTON BOARD OF EDUCATION
SPECIAL FINANCE/FACILITIES COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
AUGUST 10, 2020 @ 5:00 P.M.
CENTRAL OFFICE, ROOM 19**

Members Present: Jay Weitlauf, Liz Porter

Members Absent: Jane Giulini

Also Present: Mike Graner, Sam Kilpatrick, Ken Knight, Susan Austin, Beth Horler,
Katrina Fitzgerald

Chairman Weitlauf called the meeting to order at 5:01 p.m.

1. Review July 6, 2020 Meeting Minutes – The minutes were approved as presented.
2. Update re: Object Code Summary – Ken Knight shared the object code summary dated August 10. Ken estimated the teacher salary account is lower than budgeted due to additional retirements. Ken observed that the summary is very preliminary.
3. Update re: FY21 Alliance District Funding – Ken Knight and Dr. Graner explained that the Connecticut legislature allocated \$300,000.
4. Update re: CARES Act Funding – Groton has been allocated \$686,882; the total amount will still leave an anticipated shortfall for FY21 of \$1.8 million.
5. Allocation of Superintendent Search Funds – Ken Knight reviewed the budget. \$4,000 in professional services for the superintendent and \$70,000 for legal services; account may be a source of funding because the Board does not have any contracts to negotiate.
6. Facilities Update
 - Relocation of Middle School Memorials
 - Pink granite bench and locker door plaque in memory of Christian Rodgers – Sam Kilpatrick met with the parents last week. The parents took the plaque and the bench is at Central Office and may be sent to the cemetery.
 - Ryan Kuhse memorials – Mickey Mouse statue at Cutler Middle School and plaques. Mrs. Kuhse requested the items be placed at the new middle school.
 - Joe Pursell memorial – statue of boy reading a book – Sam Kilpatrick was not able to contact the family. One idea could be to move it to Central Office.
 - Bird bath memorial – no plaque was located at Cutler Middle School
 - Granite bench at West Side Middle School to memorialize Mr. Soltz – the family requested the bench and Sam delivered it to them.
 - Plaque in honor of Mr. Ed Kolnaski – per the families’ request, Sam delivered the plaque to them.
 - Rolling electronic sign at Cutler Middle School – donated by the Fitch class of 1955; is in storage at Central Office
 - Charter Oak tree descendant at West Side Middle School – the contractor has been asked to save and relocate the tree.
 - Dogwood Tree in memory of Delores Swindell at West Side Middle School is marked to be moved.

- Weeping Cherry tree at Cutler Middle School was donated by the teachers and was moved to Central Office; it may not survive due to the drought this summer.
- Large mirror at West Side Middle School donated by the class of 1960 – the back of the mirror was signed by all the WSMS class of 1960 students; Sam Kilpatrick has the mirror
- Update re: Summer Projects
 - NEA – HVAC short term recommendations; the work was done by staff due to school closure; we are working with Fuss & O’Neill on recommissioning
 - Tennis Courts – the project is nearing completion
- Discussion of the Groton Middle School Custodial Staffing Plan – Sam Kilpatrick explained the plan to hire ten additional part time custodians to perform continuous cleaning during the pandemic period.

The meeting adjourned at 5:59 p.m.