

GROTON BOARD OF EDUCATION
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
NOVEMBER 9, 2020 @ 6:00 P.M.
REMOTE MEETING

MEMBERS PRESENT: Kim Shepardson Watson-Chairperson, Andrea Ackerman-Vice Chairperson, Dean Antipas, Jane Giuliani, Liz Porter, Rosemary Robertson, Rita Volkmann, Jay Weitlauf, Lee White

ALSO PRESENT: Mike Graner, Susan Austin, Sam Kilpatrick

I. CALL TO ORDER – Chairperson Kim Watson called the meeting to order at 6:06 p.m.

II. BOE REGULAR BUSINESS

MOTION: Porter, Robertson: To approve the COW meeting minutes of October 19, 2020.
PASSED -UNANIMOUSLY

III. OVERVIEW OF HYBRID/FULL DISTANCE LEARNING PROGRAM – SURVEY RESULTS AND ACTION PLANS

Ms. Austin stated that the survey results are being analyzed, and the data teams are looking for trends at the school level and the district level. The Principals will review the data with their Data Teams and come up with action plans. Ms. Austin stated that she and Dr. Graner have always said that they wanted the Hybrid Model to be sustainable and if and when we go into full remote, we will be able to do it very smoothly. Dr. Graner noted that the district is at 50% remote learning. Ms. Austin noted that Principals have been making home visits to check on students. Ms. Austin noted that we are doing better at the elementary level and doing less well at the secondary level.

IV. UPDATE RE: STATEWIDE ASSESSMENTS (SBAC/SAT/NGSS)

Ms. Austin noted that the State did not do Summative Assessments for SBAC and NGSS last spring. The State has been a great resource with other assessments. Presently, we are field testing IAB (Interim Assessment Blocks). We will be scheduling meetings with each level to figure out what the road map will look like. We will have an SBAC and NGSS assessment in the spring. We just finished our first round of Phonics and Pernel Reading Assessment; just purchased Dyslexia Assessment; SATs will be given and we have rolled out PSAT.

V. UPDATE RE: ATTENDANCE PROCEDURES – (Attachment #1 & 2)

Ms. Austin noted that Groton has a registrar and online registration. Ms. Austin noted the shift with transient and military population Preschool and Pre-K across the State, as well and Kindergarten, has declined. Homeschooling – we have about 100 students; this year 64 students were signed up. Enrollment has declined to 4.8%. Ms. Austin shared the marching orders from the State for taking attendance.

Beth Horler shared how she takes attendance at her school.

VI. ELEMENTARY SCHOOL STAFF REASSIGNMENT PROCESS

Dr. Graner noted that he has launched the process and with the support of the GEA an agreement was reached regarding teachers' intent to retire. This agreement will help to determine openings as well as allow the Administration to ask teachers their assignment preferences.

VII. REVIEW OF THE REFERRAL LIST

The Board reviewed the Referral List.

R2019-16 Determine where the limits are for having advertising done was removed.

R2020-13 Review of additional elementary neighborhood plans was removed.

ADD R2020-26 Discussion of STEM Residency for Diversity.

Mrs. Porter asked where does the State stand with on the African American and Latin American courses. Dr. Graner responded that Carmita Hodge will be coming to a COW meeting to address these courses.

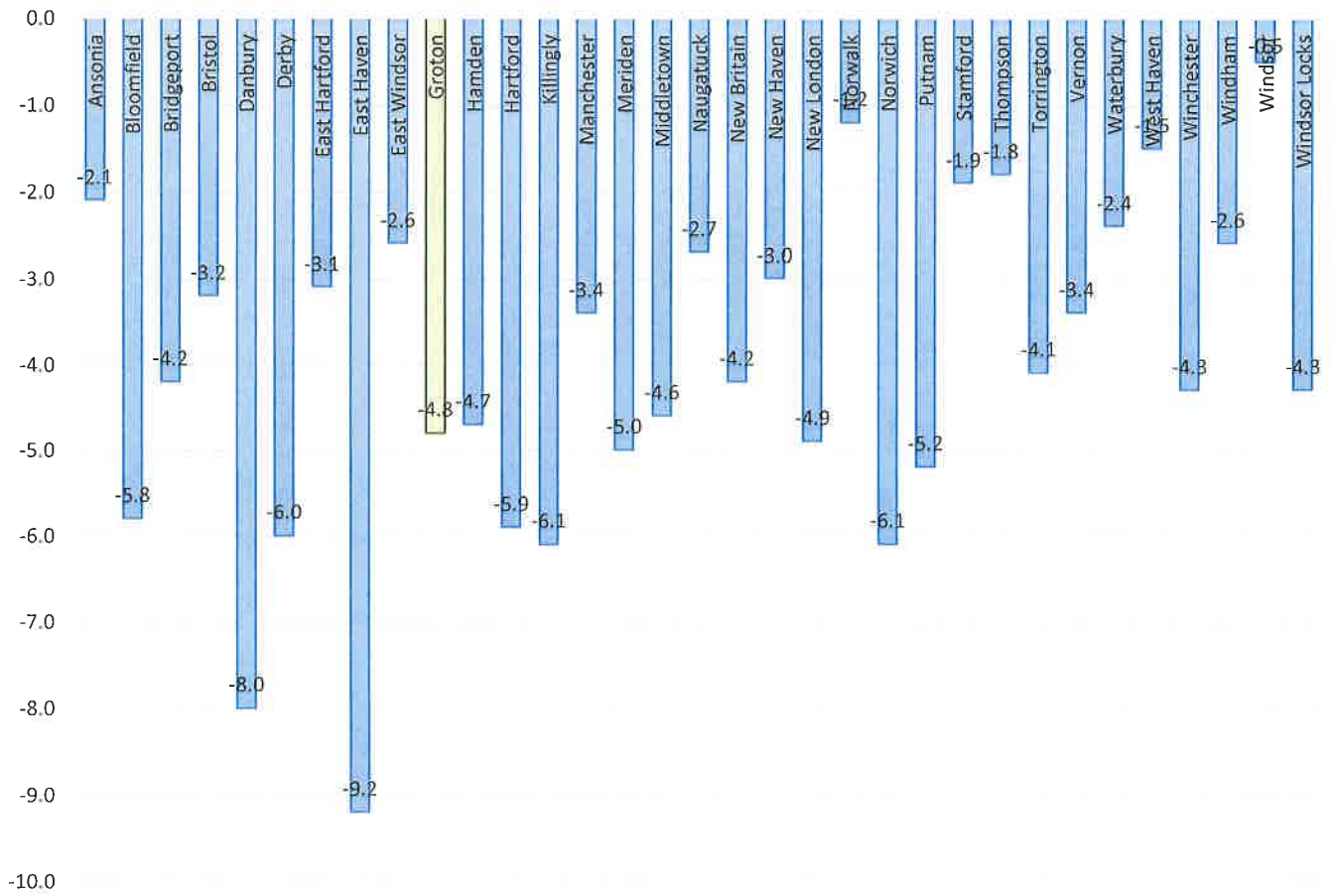
VIII. SUGGESTED FUTURE TOPICS

NONE

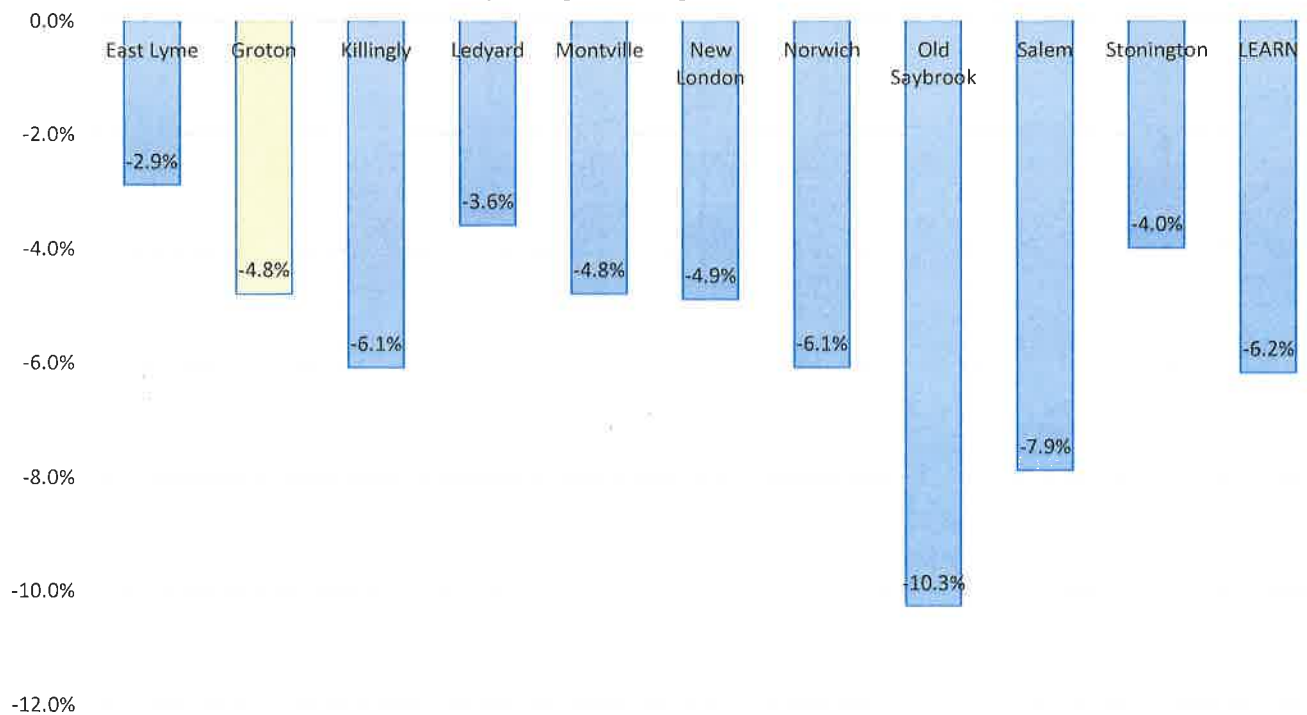
IX. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Ackerman, Robertson: To adjourn at 7:16 p.m.
MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

Total Enrollment by Alliance District 2019-20 and 2020-21



Total Enrollment by Neighboring Towns 2019-20 and 2020-21





Tracking Daily Attendance on Remote Days in 2020-21

State Board of Education Policy (2008):

“A student is considered to be ‘in attendance’ if present at his/her assigned school, or an activity sponsored by the school (e.g., field trip), for at least half of the regular school day.”

A remote student can be considered as being ‘in attendance’ on a particular day if the total time spent on one or more of the following activities equals at least half the school day.



Synchronous virtual classes are live classes that are streamed real time to students using a videoconferencing platform like Google Meets, Zoom, Microsoft Teams, etc.

Synchronous virtual meetings may be with a teacher, counselor, social worker, paraprofessional, etc. using a videoconferencing platform or via telephone. They may be homeroom opportunities, daily routine check-ins, or other synchronous conversations.

Time logged in electronic systems can be used to identify *any time over and above the synchronous virtual classes and meetings* that the student may have participated in during the school day.

Assignment submission/completion time can be determined by the teacher by starting with an estimate of time it will take for a typical student to submit/complete that assignment, and using that estimate to gauge the attendance time for the day that should be allotted to each student.

Notes:

- If a student is absent on a given day (either in-person or remote), they cannot make up for that absence on another day.
- Districts should track membership and attendance *separately* for a student’s in-person vs remote days.