

**GROTON BOARD OF EDUCATION
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
MAY 17, 2021 @ 6:00 P.M.
REMOTE MEETING**

NOTE: This meeting is being held remotely due to the Coronavirus concern. Members of the public may view or listen to the meeting by following the below steps:

- 1) Using Google Chrome browser, go to www.grotonschools.org
- 2) Zoom information can be found by clicking on the meeting under District Calendar

Mission Statement: Our mission is teaching and learning.

Board Goals: In a richness of cultures and with a respect for all, (1) Provide Dynamic Rigorous Curriculum, (2) Ensure Effective and Engaging Instruction, and (3) Embrace Excellent Learning Environment.

AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. BoE Regular Business
 - a. Approval of the C.O.W. meeting minutes of May 10, 2021 (Attachment #1)
3. End of Year Unexpended Funds (Attachment #2)
4. Use of Alliance Funding (Attachment #3)
5. Review Policy #1330 Use of School Facilities Rate Schedule (Attachment #4)
6. Update re: Elementary School Lottery and Transportation
7. Update re: ESSER Grant (Attachment #5)
8. Update re: Competitive Grants
9. Discussion re: Grant Sustainability
10. Review Referral List (Attachment #6)
11. Suggested Future Topics
12. Adjournment

GROTON BOARD OF EDUCATION
 COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
 MAY 10, 2021 @ 6:00 P.M.
 REMOTE MEETING

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

MEMBERS ABSENT: Rita Volkmann

ALSO PRESENT: Susan Austin, Philip Piazza, Sam Kilpatrick, Laurie LePine

I. CALL TO ORDER – Vice Chairperson Andrea Ackerman called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

II. BOE REGULAR BUSINESS

MOTION: Rosemary, White: To approve the COW minutes of April 19, 2021.
 PASSED -UNANIMOUSLY

III. GMS/FHS Campus Update

Mr. Peter Bass noted the end of the year activities at Groton Middle School:

- 8th grade field trip to Lake Compound on June 10, 2021
- 8th grade promotion on the Turf Field on June 15, 2021; it will be a live ceremony
- 8th grade trip to Ocean Beach on June 14, 2021
- 6th grade field day on June 2, 2021
- 7th grade field day on June 9, 2021.

Mr. Keleher noted the end of the year activities at Fitch High School:

- National Honors Society Ceremony on May 11, 2021 @5:00 p.m. and 6:30 p.m.
- Senior Class Cookout and Movie on May 28, 2021 @ 6:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m.
- Under Classman Awards on June 1, 2021 @ 6:30 p.m. (virtual)
- Junior Beach Bash on June 2, 2021 @ 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., at Esker Point
- Athletic Awards on June 3, 2021, @ 6:30 p.m.
- Honor Chords, Senior Awards, and Scholarship Night on June 9, 2021
- Senior Formal Dinner at Filominas on June 11, 2021 @ 7:30 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.
- (June 13th is a rain date for Senior Prom)
- No final exams this year – shift to A and B days
 - B day on June 11, 2021
 - A day on June 14, 2021
 - B day on June 15, 2021
 - A day (half day with 10:10 a.m. dismissal)
 - B day (half day – make up day/Senior Day)
- Graduation on June 18, 2021 @ 6:00 p.m. (tentative rain day is Saturday, June 19, 2021 @ 6:00 p.m.)
- Graduation party on June 18, 2021 @ Subbase.

IV. DEI Presentation/Minority Recruitment

Mrs. Laurie LePine addressed the minority recruitment initiative:

- Expanded the Grow Out Own program for those who want to become teachers
- Added the teacher and resident initiative that is run by CREC; there will be 2 slots for Groton next year
- Collaborating at the High School to include students who want to become educators
- Continuing to participate in recruitment events (virtually)
- Have awarded 2 scholarships through grants
- DEI committees doing outreach to colleges
- Support of the Troop to Teachers initiatives
- Have reviewed the hiring practices to make it inclusive
- Soliciting for feedback on the process
- Asking questions on the retention of teachers to determine why employees leave
- Mr. Davis stated he will be sharing with the DEI Committee data from the Alliance Group he is working with
- Mr. Davis stated that Groton has become a model for other districts
- Mr. Davis noted the DEI Statement that was presented to the Board and approved by the Board in phase one of a multi-phase commitment
- Mr. Davis noted Unconscious Bias Training and the offering of PD re: structure qualities in white privilege
- Mr. Davis noted that the DEI Committee offered a book club, i.e. race, racism, white privilege, micro aggression
- Mr. Davis noted that a group is currently working on PD with New York Leadership Practices
- Mr. Davis noted that Carmita Hodge has ensured the establishment of the African American and Puerto Rican studies at the high school
- Mr. Davis noted Ms. Austin has purchased books for the Book Club
- Mr. Davis noted that the DEI Committee partnered with the Town of Groton DEI Committee to promote the importance of vaccinations
- Mr. Davis noted that he working with Dr. Litchmore from Connecticut College on how we can improve as we consolidate our schools.

V. Review of the FY 22 Calendar

Ms. Austin noted that the 2021-2022 calendar proposes:

- Start date of September 7, 2021
- Spring break April 18-22, 2022
- Last day of school on June 17, 2021
- Snow days turned into remote learning days
- Explained the need for the Teaching and Learning days.

Mrs. Porter urged starting school in August for this calendar year and/or the next calendar year to allow the AP and IB students more instructional time before taking their AP and IB test in May.

VI. REVIEW OF REFERRAL LIST

The Board reviewed the Referral List.

REMOVED – R2021-4 Discussion of the number of students coming from new housing construction around town and how it will impact schools

Mr. Weitlauf asked if the Town Manager could inform the Board on a quarterly basis of any new housing construction around town.

VII. SUGGESTED FUTURE TOPICS

Mrs. Porter requested a status report on MYP.

Mrs. Porter requested the formation of a Board committee to revise the Board Handbook. Mrs. Watson requested volunteers to serve on this committee. Mrs. Porter, Dr. Ackerman, Mrs. White, and Mrs. Robertson volunteered to service on this committee.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Ackerman, Robertson: To adjourn at 7:20 p.m.

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

Groton Public Schools
FY2021 End of year funds

Magnet Costs

CB magnet	Life is Good	9,083
SBB magnet	Life is Good	24,362
CC magnet	Proj O/NESS	30,000 est

High School

FHS	Add'l Graduation Exp	Ted/Erin
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Central Office

Locking file cabinets	15,000	Discuss with SK
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Operations (GMS)

Outdoor facilities equipment storage	7,000
Outdoor athletic equipment storage	10,000
Floor scrubber	12,000

HR

OPEB	135,000
Excess vacation payout	<u>77,277</u>

319,722

Groton Public Schools
Alliance District funding
FY 2021

Personnel

Data Support	60,000
EL Teacher	49,089
Grant Management	11,000

Benefits

Health Insurance	8,268
Payroll Tax	6,143

Supplies

Software	105,500
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Property

IT Equipment	<u>60,000</u> Chromebooks
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300,000

Groton Public Schools
Building and Grounds Rental Rate Schedule

When buildings are to be utilized on Saturday, Sunday or holidays, or any time custodial personnel are not scheduled*, the following fees will be charged:

Required Personnel (applicable to both non-profit and for-profit):	Fitch High School	Groton Middle School	Elementary Schools
Custodial (or Supervisor) Staff			
One Custodian (or Supervisor)	\$45/hour	\$45/hour	\$45/hour
Each additional Custodian (or Supervisor)	\$35/hour	\$35/hour	\$35/hour
Technician Staff	\$45/hour	\$45/hour	\$45/hour
Security Staff	\$25/hour	\$25/hour	\$25/hour
Kitchen Staff	\$20/hour	\$20/hour	\$20/hour

Utility Charges (applicable to both non-profit and for-profit):	Fitch High School	Groton Middle School	Elementary Schools
HVAC			
First Hour	\$65/hour	\$65/hour	\$65/hour
Each Hour thereafter	\$10/hour	\$10/hour	\$10/hour
Electricity for Field Use	\$12/hour	\$12/hour	N/A

Rental Charges (for-profit only):	Fitch High School	Groton Middle School	Elementary Schools
Auditorium/Black Box Theatre	\$800/day	\$800/day	N/A
Cafeteria	\$400/day	\$400/day	\$100/day
Lobby	\$400/day	N/A	N/A
Gym (Large)	\$600/day	N/A	N/A
Gym (Small)	\$300/day	\$300/day	\$100/day
Football Field/ Track	\$800/day	N/A	N/A
Baseball/Softball Field - Lighted	\$1,000/day	\$0/day	N/A
Baseball/Softball Field - Not Lighted	\$1,000/day	\$1,000/day	N/A
Tennis Courts	\$200/day	N/A	N/A
Other Athletic Fields - Lighted	\$200/day	\$0/day	\$200/day
Other Athletic Fields - Not Lighted	\$200/day	\$200/day	\$200/day
Parking Lot	\$400/day	\$400/day	\$200/day
Classroom	\$100/day	\$100/day	\$100/day
Kitchen	\$300/day	\$300/day	\$300/day

* If custodians are present in the specific location that a non-profit organization requests to use, and no additional cost will be incurred, the fee can be waived by the Superintendent or their designee.

Groton Public Schools

ESSER grants

<u>CARES Act/Elementary and Secondary School Relief (ESSER I)</u>	<u>Budget</u>
<i>Personnel</i>	
Additional teaching personnel - hybrid model/distance learning	153,454
Additional social workers - student supports	64,113
Additional technology support - student and teacher support	47,597
Additional community coordinators - student/families outreach	22,365
Additional parttime custodial personnel - cleaning	66,183
Additional substitute teachers - support hybrid learning	126,912
	<u>480,624</u>
<i>Other</i>	
Food service - support for meal distribution to students/families	113,081
School supplies - at home usage during distance learning	71,177
Document cameras - support hybrid/distance learning	22,000
	<u>206,258</u>
Total CARES Act/ESSER I (used by 9/30/22)	686,882

<u>CARES Act/Elementary and Secondary School Relief (ESSER II)</u>	<u>Budget</u>
<i>Personnel</i>	
Additional tutor support - addressing learning loss	1,079,912
Additional social workers - student supports	297,640
Additional teaching personnel - addressing learning loss	284,672
Additional technology support - student and teacher support	230,000
Additional teaching personnel - summer acceleration	117,668
Additional community coordinators - student/families outreach	44,730
Additional parttime custodial personnel - cleaning	132,366
Salaries for updating curriculum instruction - support hybrid	230,000
	<u>2,416,988</u>
<i>Other</i>	
PPE (face masks, shields, gloves, gowns, desk shields, etc)	150,000
Remote learning software	300,000
School supplies	100,000
Professional Development	78,342
	<u>628,342</u>
Total CARES Act/ESSER II (used by 9/30/23)	3,045,330

ARP/American Relief Plan (ESSER III) (used by 9/30/24)	6,568,245
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Total ESSER funding	10,300,457
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BOARD OF EDUCATION - REFERRAL TRACKING SHEET

Revised: May 11, 2021

FCM = Future Committee Meeting

Referral #	Date Initiated	Subject	Referred to	Action	Status Report
R2015-37	12/10/18	Curriculum/Instruction	Curriculum	FCM	
R2020-19	9/21/20	Review the assessment of grammar (AA) Review of Spelling	Curriculum	FCM	
		Policy Development			
R2017-6	3/6/17	Review policy P 3520.11 Electronic Information Security	Policy	FCM	ongoing
R2017-7	3/6/17	Review policy P 3543.31 Electronic Communication Use and Retention	Policy	FCM	ongoing
R2018-10	6/4/18	Review policy P 5111.3 Protection of Undocumented Students	Policy	FCM	ongoing
R2018-25	1/7/19	Review policy P 6146.1 Examination Grading	Policy	FCM	ongoing
R2020-20	10/6/20	Review policy P 9000 Rules of Procedure	Policy	FCM	
R2020-22	10/19/20	Review policy P 5112.2 Admission Requirements for Resident Students	Policy	FCM	
R2021-3	3/1/21	Review policy 1330 Use of School Facilities	Policy	FCM	1 st reading - 5/24/21
R2021-7	5/4/21	Review policy 6172.4 Title I Parent Policy	Policy	FCM	
		COW			
R2018-18	12/10/18	Discussion of student achievement by sub groups (KF)	COW	FCM	ongoing
R2020-8	5/18/20	Discussion of a regional approach to Transition Academy and the need for an alternative high school and how to support each	COW	FCM	ongoing
R2020-10	6/8/20	Review of Report Cards	COW	FCM	
R2020-12	6/8/20	Assessment of what went well and what went wrong with distance learning and the inequities	COW	FCM	
R2020-21	10/15/20	Discussion of STEM Masters for Diversity (RV)	COW	FCM	
R2020-26	11/9/20	Discussion of STEM Residency for Diversity (RV)	COW	FCM	
R2020-23	10/19/20	Discussion and review of the work of the DEI Committee	COW	FCM	ongoing
R2021-6	3/8/21	Discussion of how out-of-town tuition rates are determined	COW	FCM	
		Finance/Facilities			
R2021-2	2/1/21	Building substitutes for the 2021-22 school year (RV)	Fin/Fac	FCM	
		Miscellaneous			