

**GROTON BOARD OF EDUCATION  
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING  
OCTOBER 18, 2021 @ 6:00 P.M.  
CENTRAL OFFICE, ROOM 11**

NOTE: This meeting is being held in-person. For those attending via Zoom, please click on the meeting under District Calendar for the Zoom link.

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 October 12, 2021 (Attachment #1)
3. Discussion re: Alliance District Funding (Attachment #2)
4. Discussion re: FHS Athletic Fields
5. FY23 Budget Preparation
6. Update re: Transportation/Facilities
7. Update re: Technology
8. Review Referral List (Attachment #3)
9. Suggested Future Topics
10. Adjournment

GROTON BOARD OF EDUCATION  
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE  
OCTOBER 12, 2021 @ 6:00 P.M.  
REMOTE MEETING

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

MEMBERS ABSENT: Rosemary Robertson

ALSO PRESENT: Susan Austin, Philip Piazza, Sam Kilpatrick

I. CALL TO ORDER – Chairperson Kim Watson called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

II. BOE REGULAR BUSINESS

MOTION: White, Porter: To approve the COW minutes of September 20, 2021.  
PASSED - UNANIMOUSLY

III. DISCUSSION RE: ELEMENTARY SCHOOL MAGNET THEMES

Ms. Austin introduced the Principal of the five Magnet Schools who addressed the themes in their schools:

CK

- The theme is Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math;
- Partnership with the Connecticut Science Center, NESS, Project O, and the Boston Museum;
- They have Mako labs in art and math;
- Will continue to have Lego League teams;

NEA

- The theme is Arts Magnet;
- They have interdisciplinary projects at each grade level
- Partners with the Mystic Museum of Arts;
- Visits from Cardi and the Coast Guard Band;
- Plans to have a drama production as well as a Celebration of the Arts;
- Collaboration with special and regular education teachers;

CB

- The theme is Discovery; Nurturing Creativity and Curiosity;
- Partnership with Life is Good;
- Participation in enrichment clusters
- Participation at confratute/UCONN;

MRM School

- The theme is Ingenuity and Play
- Embedded play and ingenuity in the curriculum
- Partnership with Life is Good and Childrens Museum
- Enrichment programming during the day and after school

TRM School

- The theme is Environmental Marine Science;
- Partnership with Project O and NESS;
- Students participate in Marine Science, Art, and Media enrichment
- Future plans to design their own gardens and green house

Mrs. Volkmann and Mr. Antipas suggested discussion re: evaluation of the Magnet Themes.

IV. DISCUSSION RE: THE NUMBER OF BOARD MEETINGS/DATES/TIMES

Discussion occurred relative to going back to one COW meeting a month. Mrs. White, Mrs. Porter, and Mrs. Watson were not in favor of one COW a month. Dr. Ackerman and Mrs. Volkmann were in favor of having one COW meeting in July, August, and December. Mr. Antipas suggested scheduling 2 COW meeting with the understanding that one may not be used.

Mrs. Giulini left at 7:00 p.m.

V. UPDATE RE: TRANSPORTATION

Mr. Kilpatrick noted:

- Three drivers will have their license within the month;
- Transportation has improved;
- Ms. Austin and the transportation team meet regularly with the STA management;
- Efforts to improve GMS dismissal process;
- The main concern is the driver shortage;
- Traffic is also an area of concern

Ms. Austin noted that she received a phone call from Mr. Schofeld, the transportation task force coordinator at the State level, offering help with obtaining drivers.

VI. DISCUSSION RE: CLASS SIZE

The Board reviewed the proposed class sizes. Mrs. Volkmann noted that the Board should get class sizes at all levels sometime in December.

VII. REVIEW OF REFERRAL LIST

The Board reviewed the Referral List.

VIII. SUGGESTED FUTURE TOPICS

Discussion of Guidance Counselor's responsibilities  
Discussion of closing a school

IX. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Ackerman, Weitlauf:

To adjourn at 7:58 p.m.

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

Groton Public Schools  
Alliance District funding  
Proposed budget FY22 & FY23

	FY22	FY23
EL Teacher (salary & payroll tax)	38,072	58,250
EL Tutor (salary & payroll tax)	26,915	34,751
Curriculum writing	32,085	0
Teacher mentor	12,000	12,000
Minority recruitment	5,000	5,000
PD	30,000	0
Software		
Investigations - Elem	0	40,000
CMP3 - Middle	0	40,000
Supplies	45,928	
Grant management	10,000	10,000
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	200,000	200,000

## BOARD OF EDUCATION - REFERRAL TRACKING SHEET

Revised: October 13, 2021

Referral #	Date Initiated	Subject	Referred to	Action	Status Report
		<b>Curriculum/Instruction</b>			
R2015-37	12/10/18	Review the assessment of grammar (AA)	Curriculum	FCM	
R2020-19	9/21/20	Review of Spelling	Curriculum	FCM	
R2021-4	6/14/21	Discussion of final exams and mid-term exams and how they affect MS and HS students (EP)	Curriculum	FCM	
		<b>Policy Development</b>			
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	
R2021-11	9/14/21	Review policy P 5141.3 Health Assessments and Immunizations	Policy	FCM	
R2021-12	9/29/21	Review policy P 5145.52 Harassment	Policy	FCM	
R2021-13	9/29/21	Review policy P 4118.24 Conduct	Policy	FCM	
		<b>COW</b>			
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 (KW)	COW	FCM	Ongoing
R2020-10	6/8/20	Review of Report Cards (RV)	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
R2021-5	6/14/21	Discussion of the cost of AP and IB tests and who pays for them (RV)	COW	FCM	
R2021-8	7/12/21	Implementation of One Card, One Community (LW)	COW	FCM	
R2021-9	9/13/21	Discussion of Educational Rising Club (RV)	COW	FCM	
R2021-10	9/13/21	Timeline for returning schools to the town (RV)	COW	FCM	
R2021-14	10/13/21	Discussion re: the evaluation of the magnet themes (RV & DA)	COW	FCM	

		<b>Finance/Facilities</b>			
R2021-2	2/1/21	Building substitutes for the 2021-22 school year (RV)	Fin/Fac	FCM	
R2021-3	6/14/21	Review the cost of bus monitors (EP)	Fin/Fac	FCM	
R2021-6	6/14/21	Purchase of vans to transport SpEd students (RV)	Fin/Fac	FCM	
R2021-7	6/21/21	Substitute teacher/paraprofessional wages (KW)	Fin/Fac	FCM	
		<b>Miscellaneous</b>			

**FCM = Future Committee Meeting**