

GROTON BOARD OF EDUCATION  
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES  
FEBRUARY 2, 2022 @ 7:00 P.M.  
REMOTE MEETING

**Members Present:** Chairperson Kim Shepardson Watson, Andrea Ackerman, Dean Antipas, Vice Chairperson Katrina Fitzgerald, Matthew Shulman, Elizabeth Porter, Rita Volkmann, Beverly Washington, Jay Weitlauf

**Also Present:** Susan Austin, Phil Piazza, Sam Kilpatrick, Ken Knight, Laurie LePine, Marc Romano

Chairperson Watson called the meeting on the superintendent's proposed 2022- 2023 budget to order at 7:05 p.m.

I. BUDGET WORK SESSION

- 1500 Student Activities 6-12 – Mr. Knight gave an overview of the Student Activities account including the addition of an FTE for an Athletic Trainer and other profession services for athletic training services. Mr. Knight reviewed the pages that provides data in more detail of the different sports and student activities in the district.
- Adjusted Superintendent Budget – Mr. Knight reviewed the adjustments made to the Superintendent's proposed budget. **(ATTACHMENT #1)**
- Review ESSER II, III Budgets – Mr. Knight reviewed the budgets for the 3 ESSER grants and noted when they end. **(ATTACHMENT #2)**
- Review of the Alliance Grant – Ms. Austin gave an overview of the GPS history with the Alliance Grant. Mr. Knight reviewed the proposed budget for FY22 and FY23. **(ATTACHMENT #3)**

MOTION: Ackerman, Antipas:

To adjourn at 8:09 p.m.

**PASSED - UNANIMOUSLY**

Groton Public Schools  
Rollforward of FY2022/2023 Budget - preliminary

| FY22 Final Budget |   | \$                  | 77,438,090 |                                |                 |
|-------------------|---|---------------------|------------|--------------------------------|-----------------|
|                   |   | <u>Total Budget</u> |            | <u>Variance to FY21 Budget</u> |                 |
| 1                 | Initial FY23 Preliminary Budget   | \$                  | 79,749,421 | \$                             | 2,311,331 2.98% |
| 2                 |   |                     |            |                                |                 |
| 3                 | Add: 0.5 FTE American Sign Language (ASL) teacher                         | \$                  | 72,514     |                                |                 |
| 4                 | Remove New Perspective on Learning (covered by DODEA)                     | \$                  | (40,000)   |                                |                 |
| 5                 | Adjustments to Health Insurance   | \$                  | 11,163     |                                |                 |
| 6                 |   |                     |            |                                |                 |
| 7                 | FY23 Superintendent Budget, 1/10/22                                       | \$                  | 79,793,098 | \$                             | 2,355,008 3.04% |
| 8                 |   |                     |            |                                |                 |
| 9                 | Reduction 4.0 FTE Retirements without replacements                        |                     | (348,017)  |                                |                 |
| 9                 | Adjustment to Severance (based on actual calucation)                      |                     | 45,993     |                                |                 |
| 10                | Adjustment to Pension (based on town report)                              |                     | 30,894     |                                |                 |
| 11                | Adjustment to Health Insurance (based on recalculation)                   |                     | (10,960)   |                                |                 |
| 12                |   |                     |            |                                |                 |
| 13                | FY23 Adj Superintendent Budget, 1/26/22                                   | \$                  | 79,511,008 | \$                             | 2,072,918 2.68% |
| 14                |   |                     |            |                                |                 |
| 15                | Reduce General Supplies (paid for by ESSER)                               |                     | (100,000)  |                                |                 |
| 16                | Reduce Software (paid for by ESSER)                                       |                     | (100,000)  |                                |                 |
| 17                | Reduce Custodial Supplies (paid for by ESSER)                             |                     | (100,000)  |                                |                 |
| 18                | Reduce Instructional Equipment (paid for by ESSER)                        |                     | (100,000)  |                                |                 |
| 19                |   |                     |            |                                |                 |
| 20                | FY23 Adj Superintendent Budget, 1/28/22                                   | \$                  | 79,111,008 | \$                             | 1,672,918 2.16% |
| 21                |   |                     |            |                                |                 |
| 22                | Adjustment to Liability Insurance per Town of Groton (due to new schools) |                     | 44,792     |                                |                 |
| 23                |   |                     |            |                                |                 |
| 24                |   |                     |            |                                |                 |
| 25                |   |                     |            |                                |                 |
| 26                |   |                     |            |                                |                 |
| 27                | FY23 Adj Superintendent Budget, 1/28/22                                   | \$                  | 79,155,800 | \$                             | 1,717,710 2.22% |

Groton Public Schools  
Summary of the 3 ESSERs

|  | ESSER I        |               | ESSER II         |               | ARP ESSER III    |               |
|--|----------------|---------------|------------------|---------------|------------------|---------------|
|  | \$\$           | % of total    | \$\$             | % of total    | \$\$             | % of total    |
| <b>Learning Acceleration, Academic Renewal and Student Enrichment</b>        |                |               |                  |               |                  |               |
| Teachers   | 192,095        |               | 586,584          |               | 844,573          |               |
| Tutors   | 47,597         |               | 1,008,000        |               | 542,556          |               |
| Substitutes/Teacher Support  | 88,271         |               |                  |               | 511,472          |               |
| MYP/STEAM Coordinators   |                |               |                  |               | 389,957          |               |
| Summer School  |                |               | 117,668          |               | 90,000           |               |
| School supplies  | 93,177         |               | 100,000          |               |                  |               |
| <b>SubTotal</b>  | <b>421,140</b> | <b>61.3%</b>  | <b>1,812,252</b> | <b>59.5%</b>  | <b>2,378,558</b> | <b>36.2%</b>  |
| <b>Family and Community Connections</b>                                      |                |               |                  |               |                  |               |
| Community Coordinators   | 22,365         |               | 44,730           |               |                  |               |
| Career Pathways/Magnet Support   |                |               |                  |               | 187,055          |               |
| Food Service (labor/equip)   | 113,081        |               |                  |               | 100,000          |               |
| Marketing  |                |               |                  |               | 75,000           |               |
| Parenting Sessions   |                |               |                  |               | 30,000           |               |
| <b>SubTotal</b>  | <b>135,446</b> | <b>19.7%</b>  | <b>44,730</b>    | <b>1.5%</b>   | <b>392,055</b>   | <b>6.0%</b>   |
| <b>Social, Emotional and Mental Health of Students and School Staff</b>      |                |               |                  |               |                  |               |
| Social Workers   | 64,113         |               | 297,640          |               | 162,756          |               |
| SEL Coordinator/Tutors   |                |               |                  |               | 843,834          |               |
| DEI Coordinator/Supplies   |                |               |                  |               | 370,000          |               |
| PD for counselors  |                |               |                  |               | 75,000           |               |
| <b>SubTotal</b>  | <b>64,113</b>  | <b>9.3%</b>   | <b>297,640</b>   | <b>9.8%</b>   | <b>1,451,590</b> | <b>22.1%</b>  |
| <b>Strategic Use of Technology, Staff Development and the Digital Divide</b> |                |               |                  |               |                  |               |
| Learning software  |                |               | 300,000          |               | 150,000          |               |
| Other software (Zoom/Perf Matters)   |                |               |                  |               | 105,000          |               |
| Teacher Technical Support  |                |               | 230,000          |               | 284,473          |               |
| Grant Coordination/Evaluation  |                |               |                  |               | 120,000          |               |
| Devices/Hot Spots  |                |               |                  |               | 375,000          |               |
| Staff Development/TC   |                |               | 78,342           |               | 330,000          |               |
| <b>SubTotal</b>  | <b>0</b>       | <b>0.0%</b>   | <b>608,342</b>   | <b>20.0%</b>  | <b>1,364,473</b> | <b>20.8%</b>  |
| <b>Building Safe and Healthy Schools</b>                                     |                |               |                  |               |                  |               |
| Extra PT Custodial Staff   | 66,183         |               | 132,366          |               | 66,183           |               |
| PPE  |                |               | 150,000          |               |                  |               |
| HVAC   |                |               |                  |               | 920,000          |               |
| <b>SubTotal</b>  | <b>66,183</b>  | <b>9.6%</b>   | <b>282,366</b>   | <b>9.3%</b>   | <b>986,183</b>   | <b>15.0%</b>  |
| <b>Grand Total</b>   | <b>686,882</b> | <b>100.0%</b> | <b>3,045,330</b> | <b>100.0%</b> | <b>6,572,859</b> | <b>100.0%</b> |

Groton Public Schools  
 Alliance District funding  
 Proposed budget FY22 & FY23

|                                    | TACO       | FY22           | Preliminary<br>FY23 |
|------------------------------------|------------|----------------|---------------------|
| EL Teacher (salary & payroll tax)  | Academics  | 38,083         | 58,268              |
| EL Tutor (salary & payroll tax)    | Academics  | 26,766         | 34,732              |
| Curriculum writing                 | Academics  | 33,862         | 0                   |
| Teacher mentor/TEAM                | Talent     | 12,000         | 12,000              |
| Minority recruitment               | Talent     | 5,000          | 5,000               |
| PD                                 | Talent     | 30,000         | 0                   |
| Scholarship                        | Talent     | 5,000          | 0                   |
| Software - Investigations - Elem   | Academics  | 0              | 40,000              |
| Software - CMP3 - Middle           | Academics  | 0              | 40,000              |
| Supplies                           | Academics  | 10,500         | 0                   |
| Attendance Matters magnet/supplies | Climate    | 989            | 0                   |
| Expanding classroom libraries      | Academics  | 28,000         | 0                   |
| Grant management                   | Operations | 9,799          | 10,000              |
|                                    |            | <u>200,000</u> | <u>200,000</u>      |