

GROTON BOARD OF EDUCATION  
SPECIAL FINANCE/FACILITIES COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES  
APRIL 18, 2023 @ 6:00 P.M.  
CENTRAL OFFICE, ROOM 11

**Members Present:** Jay Weitlauf, Beverly Washington, Dean Antipas

**Also Present:** Sam Kilpatrick, Ken Knight, Laurie LePine, Ernie Koschmieder

Chairman Weitlauf called the meeting to order 6:06 PM.

1. Review March 7, 2023 Meeting Minutes - Prior meeting minutes review and accepted.
2. Discussion re: the Effect of Tuition Increases on Tree House - Recognizing that the district is currently recruiting for a new Director of Tree House, Mr. Weitlauf recommended tabling discussion on the effect of tuition increases on Tree House enrollment until the new director is in place and has had time to review enrollment.
3. 2023-24 Salary & Wages for Non-union Personnel - Ms. LePine reviewed the attached non-union hourly and stipended positions/pay and hiring rates schedule. Based on competitive data, adjustments have been made to the daily and building substitute teacher rates. It is felt the new rates will make the district more competitive in the local area. The remaining positions, with the exception of the substitute secretary and night school secretary positions, are at a 2% increase over the current year. There was a discussion of the possible impact of the paraprofessional contract, currently in negotiations, on the substitute paraprofessional and bus aide rates.
4. Uncollected Meal Balance - Mr. Knight discussed that the current uncollected meal balance is \$6,317.15. This represents cost of meals provided to students at the three non-CEP schools during January and February 2023 that were not covered by a balance in the students individual meal accounts. Since March 1, 2023, all meals are being paid by the State of CT through ARPA funds, so this balance will not get any higher this year. Mr. Koschmieder and his staff are still actively trying to collect funds and are doing fundraisers to offset this balance.
5. Testimony SB1216 – Universal Meals - Mr. Koschmieder discussed bill SB1216, an act concerning funding for student meals. He had testified at the state capital on this bill, but learned today that the bill has failed and there will be no funding in the state budget for 2024 & 2025 for student meals. There was discussion about possibly expanding CEP to one or more of the three schools not covered by CEP. Mr. Koschmieder is currently working on this and cautiously hopeful that this can be expanded.
6. Discussion re: Summer Meals - Mr. Koschmieder discussed the summer meals program, which is a federal program administered by the state. There are 13 locations in the district, including summer school, parks & rec summer program, extended school year program, Riverfront, some Navy sites, library, Branford Manor, etc., the same sites as previous year. Meals are provided for any student 18 and younger. It is anticipated that they will serve 47-48,000 meals over the 8 week period.

Mr. Kilpatrick was called away on an emergency, but was able to first provide an update to the ceiling issue at Mystic River Magnet School. The issue was caused by equipment that the ceiling tiles hang on in

a corner of the cafeteria. The contractor was at the site to inspect and start repairs. A representative for the manufacturer of the failed equipment is expect the next day. Mr. Kilpatrick and his staff intend to inspect all remaining tiles in that building, as well as its sister building, Thames River Magnet School this week.

7. Discussion re: Summer Facility Use/Projects (Summer School, Summer Camps & Tutoring at Multiple Sites) - This item was tabled.

The meeting adjourned at 6:47 PM.

GROTON BOARD OF EDUCATION  
Groton, Connecticut  
NON-UNION HOURLY AND STIPENDED POSITIONS/PAY AND HIRING RATES

<u>POSITION</u>	<u>2023-2024 School Year</u>
Substitute Teacher	\$120 per day (\$17.14 per hour)/\$107.50 Building Sub \$140.00 per day (\$20.00 per hour)/\$127.50 competitive adjustments for daily and building subs  (BA Step 1 on the 41 <sup>st</sup> day of a certified long term assignment)
Tutor (Part-Time)	\$27.54 / (\$27.00)
After School Student (ISS) Supervision	\$27.54 / (\$27.00)
Security Guards	\$23.86 / (23.40)
Part-time Custodian	\$17.85 / (\$17.50)
Substitute School Secretary (Long-Term) <i>(Assignment to be pre-approved by HR)</i>	\$20.00 / (\$16.30) competitive adjustment
Summer School Secretary & Night School Secretary	\$20.00 / (\$16.30) competitive adjustment
Summer School Aide (Regular & SpEd)	\$15.60 / (\$15.30)
Part-time Aide (Kindergarten)	\$15.60 / (\$15.30)
Bus Attendant	\$15.60 / (\$15.30)
Tree House Aide	\$15.60 / (\$15.30)
Tree House Leader	\$15.00 summer student aides
Tree House Site Coordinator	\$17.70 / (\$17.35) \$19.74 / (\$19.35)
Substitute Paraprofessional	\$15.60 / (\$15.00 and \$15.30)
Community Coordinator	\$15.60 / (\$15.30) Title grant funded
Substitute Lunch Program	\$15.60 / (\$15.30)
Substitute PT Custodian or summer help	\$15.60 / (\$15.30)
Lunch Program Personnel	2% increase
Central Office non-union staff	2% increase
Night School (Adult Ed) Director	\$12,633
Summer School Director	\$430 per day + \$1,000 prep
ESY Director	\$430 per day + \$1,000 prep
Mentor Leader Stipend	\$3,500 per year

Note: Groton Public Schools has previously adopted a compensation philosophy and works to establish pay increases for non-union positions based upon similarly situated union positions working within budget parameters and availability of funding. Total compensation including benefits as well as competitive data are taken into consideration when making pay adjustments. This is a similar approach to the Town.