

GROTON BOARD OF EDUCATION
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
JUNE 12, 2023 @ 6:00 P.M.
CENTRAL OFFICE, ROOM 11

Mission Statement: Our mission is teaching and learning.

Board Goals: In 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. Review May 15, 2023 Meeting Minutes (Attachment #1)
3. Review Tuition Rates (Attachment #2)
4. Grant Writer Report (Attachment #3)
5. Review Referral Tracking Sheet (Attachment #4)
6. Adjournment

GROTON BOARD OF EDUCATION
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
MAY 15, 2023 @ 6:00 P.M.
GROTON MIDDLE SCHOOL CAFETERIA

MEMBERS PRESENT: Kim Shepardson Watson-Chairperson, Andrea Ackerman-Vice Chairperson, William Horgan, Liz Porter, Matthew Shulman, Beverly Washington (remote), Jay Weitlauf

MEMBERS ABSENT: Dean Antipas, Rita Volkmann

ALSO PRESENT: Susan Austin, Phil Piazza, Sam Kilpatrick

I. CALL TO ORDER – Chairperson Shepardson Watson called the meeting to order at 6:09 p.m.

II. BOE REGULAR BUSINESS

MOTION: Porter, Shulman: To approve the COW minutes of May 8, 2023.
YES – Shepardson Watson, Ackerman, Horgan, Shulman, Washington, Weitlauf
ABSTAINED – Porter
PASSED

III. STUDENT RECOGNITIONS – Each Principal shared each recipient’s accomplishments for their award.

- Poet Laureate – Mr. Keleher commended Kayla Febus who read her poem entitled, *Tragedy of Maturity and Romance*.
- CABE Student Leadership Awards – Mr. Keleher commended Isaiah Anderson and Kitara Pottebaum.
- Connecticut Student Writers Contest – Mr. Bass commended Carly Edmonson, Kayla Gibson, Rochelle Cuevas, and Brendan Sanborn.
- Eugene O’Neill Theater Center’s 2023 Young Playwrights Festival – Mr. Bass commended Khloe Baldoz, Alexander Knets, and Maliyah Kievits-Centeno.
- CABE Student Leadership Awards – Mr. Bass commended Winter Davis and Michael El Khoury.
- Connecticut Student Writers Contest – Mrs. Giordano commended Anshika Nigam.

Mr. Keleher recognized Larry Grundy from the Falcon Music Department and noted that he would be retiring and greatly missed.

STAFF AND COMMUNITY RECOGNITIONS

SCHOOL	FRIEND OF EDUCATION	SUPPORT PERSONNEL	SUBSTITUTE TEACHER
CO	n/a	Diane Portelance	n/a
CK	Rachel Goodman	Ginger Waldron	None
CB	Tanisha Varner	Lesa Jenkins	Phil Poirier
MRMS	Allison Zyrlis	Jennifer Mitsko	Molly Dunn
NEA	Amanda Sisley	Bill Harris	Lynore Plouffe
TRMS	Patrick Florio	Meaghan Newlon	Amber Bosche
GMS	Melinda Georges	Jason Appleby	Melanie Thompson
FHS	Larry Grundy	Josh Spatafore	Marc Frucht

TEACHER OF THE YEAR AND OUTSTANDING EDUCATORS

Catherine Kolnaski – Erin Comins

Charles Barnum – Andrew Whritenour

Mystic River Magnet – Joseph Sullivan

Northeast Academy – Karen Cartier

Thames River Magnet – Jane Potts

Fitch High – Terance Henkle

Groton Middle School – Molly Condron who is also the Groton Teacher of the Year

IV. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Ackerman, Porter:

To adjourn at 7:37 p.m.

PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

Groton Public Schools
 FY24 Proposed tuition rates for non-Groton resident students

	Approved FY2022-2023 Tuition Rates	Proposed FY2023-2024 Tuition Rates
General Education Tuition Rates		
Pre-K	\$ 6,193	\$ 6,443
Elementary School	\$ 12,386	\$ 12,885
Middle School	\$ 12,551	\$ 13,008
High School	\$ 15,653	\$ 15,255

	Approved FY2022-2023 Tuition Rates	Proposed FY2023-2024 Tuition Rates
--	--	--

ADDITIONAL COSTS

Special Education Program Costs

Self-contained (Academy/NBA Program/Transition Academy)	\$ 31,424	\$ 32,370
ABA Program	\$ 29,515	\$ 33,188
Multiple Disabilities Program	\$ 27,266	\$ 30,510
Resource Room	N/A	\$ 11,940

General Education Program Costs

International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma Program	Add \$ 3,202	\$ 2,725
AP Classes	Add Cost of test	Cost of test

Additional Services

OT/PT	Add Based on LEARN	Based on LEARN
Speech	Add Related Services	Related Services
Counseling/Social Skills	Add Hourly Rate	Hourly Rate
BCBA	Add Schedule	Schedule
Evaluations	Based LEARN Student Support Services Fee Schedule	Based on LEARN Student Support Services Fee Schedule
Paraprofessionals	Based LEARN Student Support Services Fee Schedule	Based on LEARN Student Support Services Fee Schedule

Grants (competitive) report for the GPS Board of Education by S. Weigle 6/8/2023

The following competitive grants were awarded between the period of July 1, 2022 – June 8, 2023 totaling approximately \$1.35 million. Grant program name, award amount, and project completion date included.

World Language Advancement and Readiness Program (DoDEA)	\$1million (June 2027)
- Professional development for all world language teachers. New elementary level WL teacher.	
ARP ESSER Afterschool (CSDE):	\$180k (May 2024)
- New Afterschool Director at FHS. Funding for supplies and teacher stipends for new and ongoing afterschool activities with focus on chronically absent students.	
PEGPETIA (CT PURA)	\$86,360 (May 2024)
- New equipment for each school to live stream events. Funding for interns to procure new online video collection.	
Online Abuse (DESPP)	\$30,000 (May 2025)
- Professional development, student and community programs on healthy screen habits.	
Pfizer	\$4,000 (May 2025)
- STEM supplies for GPS Mentor Program and TRMS.	
Fund for Teachers	\$10,000 (Aug 2023)
- Michelle Manning (NEA) will be traveling to Africa to study libraries and hike Mount Kilimanjaro. Jon Koziatek will travel to Antarctica to conduct studies on CO2.	

The following grant applications were submitted. Award announcements still pending.

Military Connected Academic and Support Program (DoDEA)	\$1.25 million
- For elementary magnet themed programming and K-12 culturally responsive curriculum development.	
ARP Mental Health Specialist (CSDE)	\$86,000
- To extend the Early Childhood School Social Worker position for another year. Professional development for staff who work with the age group.	
ARP Summer Mental Health Support (CSDE)	~\$15,000
- For additional social workers / psychologists to assist with ESY and FHS summer school programs.	
SGPP (DESPP)	\$190,337
- To purchase new security cameras, radios, and window film.	
MMSGP (DESPP)	\$129,746
- To add Mutualink service.	
SVPP (US Dept of Justice)	\$450,000
- To purchase new security equipment, including lighting for several schools and call boxes for FHS parking lot and fields.	

The following competitions have been announced and are due in July.

ARP Right to Read

ARP Afterschool

Dual Expansion

The following grant funded projects are still underway:

Military Connected Academic and Support Program (DoDEA) (until May 2026)
- For expansion of K-12 Career Pathway Program with focus on health science.

Courtney Grant (US Dept of Ed) (until May 2024)
- For expansion of Career Pathway Program with focus on manufacturing and health science.

21st CCLC (US Dept of Ed / CSDE) (until June 2026)
- For afterschool program at GMS.

Farm to School (CT Dept of Ag) (until Sept 2023)
- New equipment for GPS Farm to School program.

Farm to School (US Dept of Ag) (until June 30, 2023)
- New equipment for GPS Farm to School program.

BOARD OF EDUCATION - REFERRAL TRACKING SHEET

Revised: May 22, 2023

CURRICULUM/INSTRUCTION			
Referral #	Date Initiated	Subject	Status Report
R2015-37	12/10/18	Review of English Language Arts Curriculum – Grammar/Conventions (AA)	Ongoing
R2022-10	3/22/22	Review financial literacy curriculum	September
R2022-16	5/17/22	Review Program of Studies for GMS & FHS	September
R2023-9	3/20/23	Review and support updates for high school curricula in Science, PE, Health, Social Studies, and others as determined by department leaders (EP)	Ongoing
R2023-11	5/15/23	Review EMT Class	September
R2023-12	5/15/23	Review progress of uploading curriculum at GMS & FHS (EP)	Ongoing
R2023-3	5/22/23	Discussion re: four credits for Social Studies (KW)	Future Committee Meeting

POLICY			
Referral #	Date Initiated	Subject	Status Report
R2018-10	6/4/18	Review policy P 5111.3 - Protection of Undocumented Students	June
R2018-25	1/7/19	Review policy P 6146.1 - Examination Grading	June
R2020-20	10/6/20	Review policy P 9000 - Rules of Procedure	Ongoing
R2023-1	2/14/23	Review policy P 6161.1 - Library Materials Selection	1 st Reading - 5/22/2023
R2023-2	2/14/23	Review policy P 5123 - Promotion/Retention/Graduation	1 st Reading - 5/22/2023

FINANCE/FACILITIES			
Referral #	Date Initiated	Subject	Status Report
R2021-6	6/14/21	Purchase of vans to transport SpEd students (RV)	Future Committee Meeting
R2021-22	11/9/21	Review Tree House Finances (KW)	Future Committee Meeting
R2021-25	11/23/21	Review the Use of PayPal	Future Committee Meeting
R2023-10	4/17/23	Discussion re: Going to Electric School Buses	Future Committee Meeting
R2023-14	5/22/23	Discussion re: Charging Stations on School Grounds (KW)	Future Committee Meeting

COMMUNICATIONS

Referral #	Date Initiated	Subject	Status Report
R2022-13	4/11/22	Discussion of Mentor Program	Future Committee Meeting
R2023-7	3/20/23	Discussion of PTO/Booster Club Outreach (MS)	Future Committee Meeting
R2023-8	3/20/23	Discussion of the Communications Plan (MS)	Future Committee Meeting

COW

Referral #	Date Initiated	Subject	Status Report