

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

MEMBERS PRESENT: Andrea Ackerman-Vice Chairperson, Dean Antipas, William Horgan, Elizabeth Porter, Matthew Shulman, Rita Volkmann (remote), Beverly Washington (remote), Jay Weitlauf (remote)

MEMBERS ABSENT: Kim Shepardson Watson-Chairperson

ALSO PRESENT: Susan Austin, Phil Piazza, Ken Knight, Sam Kilpatrick, Shannon Weigle

I. CALL TO ORDER – Vice Chairperson Ackerman called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

II. BOE REGULAR BUSINESS

MOTION: Porter, Shulman: To approve the COW minutes of May 15, 2023.  
**PASSED – UNANIMOUSLY**

III. REVIEW OF TUITION RATES (ATTACHMENT #1)

Mr. Ken Knight gave an overview of the proposed FY 2023-2024 Tuition Rates.

IV. GRANT WRITER REPORT (ATTACHMENT #2)

Ms. Weigle gave an overview of the grants that were applied for and awarded to the Groton Public Schools. She also reviewed the grants applied for and that are still pending, grants that have been announced and are due in July, and the grants that are still underway.

Mr. Shulman asked if it was possible to make a referral to the Curriculum Committee regarding what bench marks the Board would need to add a language, i.e., Russian, Chinese, to the World Language offerings. Ms. Austin stated that she would discuss this item with her Superintendent's group and report back to the Board.

V. REVIEW OF THE REFERRAL TRACKING SHEET

The Board reviewed the Referral Tracking Sheet and added the following:

- What can the Board do to attract families to the Groton Area (MS) – to Communications
- Update on One Card collaboration (MS) – to COW
- Artificial Intelligence on Teaching and Learning (MS) – to COW
- Cursive Writing (BW) – to COW

VI. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Volkmann, Porter: To adjourn at 6:57 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
<b>General Education Tuition Rates</b>		
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.

21<sup>st</sup> 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.