

GROTON BOARD OF EDUCATION
FINANCE/FACILITIES COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
OCTOBER 3, 2023 @ 6:00 P.M.
CENTRAL OFFICE, ROOM 11

Members Present: Jay Weitlauf, Beverly Washington, Dean Antipas

Also Present: Susan Austin, David Fleig, Sam Kilpatrick, Matt Shulman

Chairman Weitlauf called the meeting to order 6:01 p.m.

1. Review September 5, 2023 Meeting Minutes – Prior meeting minutes were reviewed and accepted.
2. Review Object Code Summary – Mr. Fleig reviewed the object code summary previously discussed at a Board of Education meeting. The committee asked Mr. Fleig to create a new version of the summary.
3. Review Utility and Health Insurance Accounts – Mr. Fleig reviewed the utility and health insurance accounts and explained how he will be monitoring/analyzing the accounts.
4. Discussion re: Financial & Space Implications Around the New Kindergarten Law – Susan Austin explained that the new kindergarten law states that children need to turn 5 years old on or before September 1 in order to be automatically eligible for kindergarten. Previously, children had to turn 5 by January 1st of the following year to be eligible for kindergarten. Due to the change in legislation, she stated that we may need to add more preschool/prek classrooms to accommodate our youngest special education students' needs who are not yet eligible for kindergarten under the new law. She also stated that universal prek is still in the discussion stages at the state level.
5. Update re: School Facilities – Sam Kilpatrick stated that:
 - the solar projects are underway at GMS and MRMS;
 - the field lights project at GMS started with erosion controls today; project should be completed by the end of the calendar year;
 - the LED project at FHS is going well;
 - the water bottle fillers at MRMS are being changed out with new tanks;
 - our custodial supervisor, Wendell Gaston, will be retiring on December 20; and
 - the CIP is due on October 20th.
6. Review Referral Tracking Sheet – The Committee reviewed the Finance/Facilities section of the referral tracking sheet and removed the following items from the list:
 - R2021-22 - Review Tree House Finances
 - R2023-14 - Discussion re: Charging Stations on School Grounds

The meeting adjourned at 7:20 p.m.