

**GROTON BOARD OF EDUCATION
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
DECEMBER 18, 2023 @ 6:00 P.M.
TOWN HALL ANNEX, CR 1**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairperson Jay Weitlauf, Vice Chairperson Beverly Washington, (remote), Andrea Ackerman, Dean Antipas, Adrian Johnson, Robert Meade, Matthew Shulman, Ian Thomas, Jennifer White

ALSO PRESENT: Susan Austin, Philip Piazza, Denise Doolittle, Nadine Macklin

I. CALL TO ORDER – Chairperson Weitlauf called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

A. Pledge of Allegiance

The first order of business was the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag led by David Meade.

II. RECOGNITION AND PARTICIPATION OF VISITORS AND DELEGATIONS - None

III. COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS

1. Mrs. Portia Bordelon, 24 Jefferson Drive, shared the following concerns:

- Water fill stations
- Weather notifications
- Proper funding for the ROTC Program
- Proper funding for Fencing
- Band and Music Program
- Student Supports for Advanced Classes
- AED Machines

IV. RESPONSE TO COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS - None

V. STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT - None

VI. SUPERINTENDENT AND ADMINISTRATION REPORTS

A. Superintendent & Assistant Superintendent Report

1. Budget Planning for FY25 – Superintendent Austin gave an overview of the Budget Planning for FY25. (ATTACHMENT #1)
2. Update re: Special Education
 - Denise Doolittle introduced Ian Williamson and Erin Person who gave an overview of their duties regarding the Board Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA). (ATTACHMENT #2)
 - Kindergarten Eligibility – Mrs. Nadine Macklin gave an overview of Kindergarten eligibility. (ATTACHMENT #3)

VI. SUPERINTENDENT AND ADMINISTRATION REPORTS - cont.

B. Report and Information from the Staff

1. Business Manager Report

- Object Code Summary FY 24 (ATTACHMENT #4) – Superintendent Austin gave an overview of the Object Code Summary dated December 11, 2023, that shows an unexpended balance of \$13,293,654.
- Health Insurance Report (ATTACHMENT #5) – Superintendent Austin gave an overview of the Health Insurance Report for the month of October.
- Utilities Report (ATTACHMENT #6) – Superintendent Austin gave an overview of the Utilities Report.

2. Director of Buildings and Grounds

- Update re: School Facilities – Mr. Kilpatrick gave an overview of:
 - FHS LED upgrade is being completed.
 - GMS Field Poles.
 - MRM and GMS Solar projects are wrapping up.
 - Working with Project O on pergola for CB.
 - His department is gearing up for projects during the break.

VII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. Policy – Dr. Ackerman noted that the Policy Committee met and discussed the policy on the agenda for first readings.
- B. Curriculum – There was no report
- C. Finance/Facilities – Mr. Weitlauf noted that the Finance/Facilities Committee met on November 14, 2023. Mr. Weitlauf noted that the Finance/Facilities Committee discussed the FY24 challenges and had a report from Mr. Kilpatrick regarding FHS LED project, that wheelchair lift at the field house has arrived, GMS solar project is progressing, MRMS solar project is also progressing and is on schedule to be completed by the end of the year, Turf field/softball field – 30' long concrete footings for each light has arrived.
- D. Communications – There was no report.
- E. Negotiations – Mr. Weitlauf noted that the Board would be voting on the Paraprofessional contract later in the meeting.
- F. LEARN – There was no report.
- G. TCC/RTM/BoE Liaison – There was no report.
- H. AGSA/GEA/BoE Liaison – There was no report.
- I. Groton Scholarship – There was no report.
- J. Athletic Fields – There was no report.
- K. Trails Committee – There was no report.
- L. Library Committee – There was no report.
- M. PSBC – There was no report.
- N. State Council on Education Opportunities for Military Children – There was no report.

VIII. ACTION ITEMS

A. Consent Agenda

MOTION: Antipas, Shulman - To approve the Consent Agenda.
YES - Weitlauf, Washington, Ackerman, Antipas, Johnson, Meade, Shulman, White
ABSTAINED - Thomas
PASSED

B. Old Business - None

C. New Business

1. Discussion and possible action regarding a first reading of policy P 5117 Elementary (K-5) School Placement (ATTACHMENT #7)

MOTION: Thomas, Shulman - To approve policy P 5117 Elementary (K-5) School Placement as a first reading.
PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

2. Discussion and possible action reading recognition of January 18, 2023 as National Maintenance Day

MOTION: Meade, Ackerman - To recognize January 18, 2023 as National Maintenance Day, and to direct the Superintendent of Schools to send a letter of appreciation to the Maintenance staff.
PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

3. Discussion and possible action regarding the ratification of the SEIU, Local 2001, CSEA Groton Paraprofessionals Chapter contract for the period of July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2027.

MOTION: Ackerman, Thomas - To go into executive session at 8:28 p.m. to discuss the proposed contract between the Board and the SEIU, Local 2001, CSEA Groton Paraprofessionals Chapter pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes and to invite Superintendent Austin and Attorney Dugas to attend.
PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

The Board returned to regular session at 9:17 p.m.

MOTION: Antipas, Meade - To ratify the SEIU, Local 2001, CSEA Groton Paraprofessionals Chapter contract for the period of July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2027.
YES - Weitlauf, Washington, Ackerman, Antipas, Johnson, Meade, Shulman, White
ABSTAINED - Thomas
PASSED

IX. INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS

Letters, communications, and comments by Board members on meeting items and any other items in their jurisdiction.

- Mr. Johnson stated that he is happy to hear that Heggerty and UFLI were approved. He made a referral to the Curriculum Committee for discussion regarding Literacy K-3.
- Mr. Thomas would like to see a Board policy regarding subcommittee meetings being recorded and published on our YouTube channel. He made a referral as such to the Policy Committee. He received communications regarding the JROTC program in regards to the uniforms and the outer gear.
- Dr. Ackerman mentioned the Martin Luther King service on January 14, 2024 at St. James Church in New London at 3:00 p.m. She is hoping to get the FHS culinary program to provide food for the reception.
- Mrs. Washington received communications regarding why the regular BOE meetings aren't televised live. She also mentioned that high school students have reached out to her regarding concerns over vaping in the bathrooms. Mrs. Washington made a referral to discuss not charging seniors ages 65 and older to attend school events.

X. ADVANCE PLANNING

A. Future Meeting Dates and Calendar Items for Board Attention - As noted in the agenda.

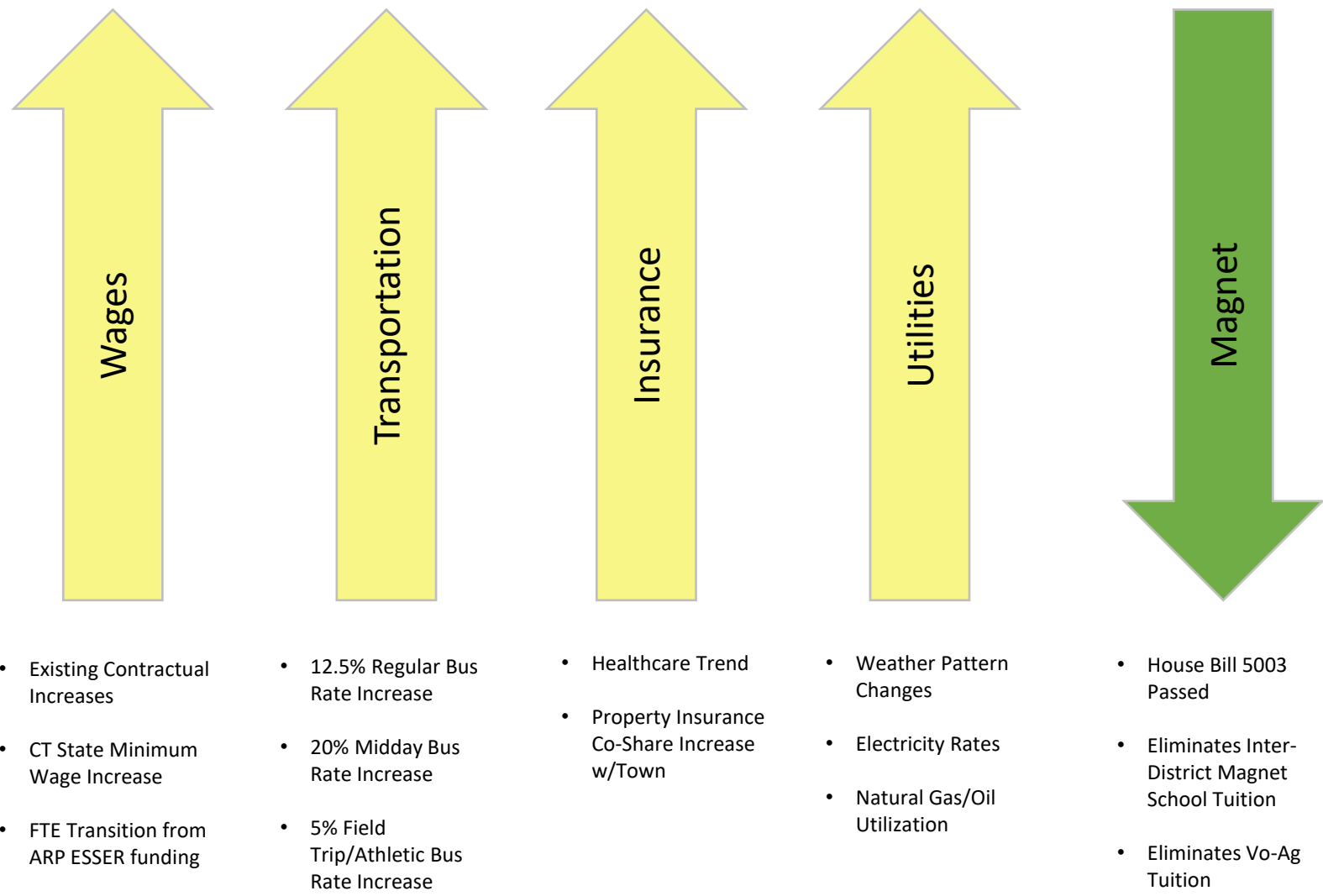
B. Suggested Agenda Items - None

XI. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Ackerman, Meade - To adjourn at 9:30 p.m.
PASSED UNANIMOUSLY




FY25 Budget – Early Observations





Board Certified Behavior Analysts Support in Groton Public Schools






What is a BCBA?

- A BCBA is a Board Certified Behavior Analyst
- Someone who has:
 - a. completed an accredited ABAI masters level degree, other required coursework, faculty teaching/research, or post-doctoral experience.
 - b. Passed BCBA exam
 - c. Continued to maintain their accreditation by meeting continuing education requirements.
 - d. Complied with the Behavior Analyst Certification Board code of ethics
 - e. Recertified every two years.




BCBA Responsibilities

- Analyzing behavior
- Behavior can be anything a student does
- All behavior is a form of communication
- BCBA's help figure out what the behavior is communicating, or the function of the behavior.



BCBA Responsibilities in District

- Tier 1 - Working with Dr. Mahri and school teams for Tier 1 supports
 - Tier 2 - Consultation with school teams for specific group creation, interventions, and modifications.
 - Tier 3 - Consultation and direct service with students.
-
- Supervision and training of staff, BCBA supervision is necessary to maintain RBT certification.
 - Evaluations, consulting with school teams to improve SEL interventions and academic programming, Functional Behavior Assessments (FBA's), and Behavior Intervention Plans (BIP's).



What is a Functional Behavior Assessment (FBA)?

- All behavior has 4 functions: Attention, Escape, Access/Tangible, Sensory
- A Functional Behavior Assessment is a process for gathering information regarding the behaviors of concern to identify environmental conditions that predict and maintain behavior.
- Once we have a clear understanding about the function(s) of the behavior, a Behavior Intervention Plan is prepared based on these findings.
- An FBA is required by IDEA when student's behavior impacts their learning and/or learning of others.




How Does a BCBA Gather Information?

In order to conduct an FBA, an informed consent is obtained from the parent/guardian. A BCBA uses direct and indirect assessments to gather information. These assessments include:

- Direct observations
- Interviews with teacher, support staff, parent/guardian
- Data collection
- Assessment forms completed by teacher, parent/guardian


Once a BCBA has all the necessary information, they analyze the data and arrive at a conclusion about the function that the maladaptive behavior serves.



What is a Behavior Intervention Plan (BIP)?


As mentioned previously, a Behavior Intervention Plan is prepared based on the findings of the FBA. A BIP is written to address challenging behaviors that interfere with student's ability to benefit from the learning environment. It should contain the strategies below to support a student:

- Environmental modifications that a student needs to complete their work
- Academic modifications
- Adaptation of curriculum
- Social skills instructions to teach and increase appropriate behaviors




Components of a Behavior Intervention Plan

- Description of the behavior
- Function of the behavior
- Antecedent (proactive) strategies to prevent behavior
- Consequence strategies to inform how to respond to the behavior
- Data collection method
- Crisis intervention plan (if needed)



What does BCBA Support Look Like?

- Behavior observation and data collection
 - Direct observation
- Developing and implementing interventions
 - Behavior Management Guidelines
 - Behavior Intervention Plan
- Reinforcement Strategies
 - Classroom model vs individual
- Direct staff training
 - Student-specific
 - Crisis Management
 - Training paraprofessionals on student-specific behavior management
 - Behavior Skills Training
 - Instructions, modeling, role play, feedback



What does BCBA Support Look Like? (Continued)

- Parent training
- Ongoing monitoring of progress
 - Data review
 - Staff interviews
- Staff/team meetings
- District-Wide Trainings
 - Discrete Trial Training/Intervention
 - Data Collection
 - Behavior/Crisis Management
- Collaborate on IEP goals
 - Vocational/Life Skills Goals
- Training on protective holds



Questions?



Thank you for your time!

2024-2025 Kindergarten Legislation

UPDATE

NEW Connecticut Kindergarten Age Requirements

Beginning with the **2024-2025** school year, children need to turn 5 years old on or before September 1 in order to be automatically eligible for kindergarten.

This is a change from the current kindergarten cutoff date of January 1.

NEW Connecticut Kindergarten Age Requirements

If a child does not meet the new entry cutoff date, he/she may still be admitted into kindergarten upon (1) a written request from the parent or guardian,

and

(2) an assessment completed by the school that determines admitting the child to kindergarten would be developmentally appropriate.

** The state has not provided districts with any guidelines at this time.*

Update from the State Department of Education

- Kindergarten enrollment numbers will be impacted by the new legislation.
- In order to assist schools with making staffing decisions in response to the unpredictable levels of kindergarten enrollment the following allowance has been made:
 - Flexible staffing models that allow districts to assign and reassign teachers from one grade to another (e.g., kindergarten to preschool/prekindergarten).

The CSDE and Office of Early Childhood acknowledge and understand the level of impact the new age requirement for kindergarten is having on families, districts and early care and education providers.

The Proposal

Prekindergarten (Half Day)

- Eligible students must turn 4 years old BETWEEN January 1st and September 1st of 2024.

Transitional Kindergarten (Full Day)

Eligible students must turn 5 years old BETWEEN September 2nd and December 31st of 2024 .

Kindergarten (Full Day)

- Eligible students must turn 5 years old on or BEFORE September 1st of the 2024.

Prekindergarten vs. Transitional Kindergarten

Prekindergarten

- * Half Day
- * Student turns 4 years old between January 1st – September 1st.
- * Developmentally appropriate learning opportunities for students who are **4 years old**.
- * Students will continue to have access to transportation to and from school.

Transitional Kindergarten

- * Full Day
- * Student turning 5 years old between September 2nd – January 1st
- * Developmentally appropriate learning opportunities for older **4 year old students – 5 years old**.
- * Students will access specials, lunch, and recess.

Prekindergarten and Transitional Kindergarten

Prekindergarten and Transitional Kindergarten are high quality early learning readiness programs preparing students for kindergarten.

Key components:

- * Prekindergarten Heggerty Phonemic Awareness Curriculum
- * Second Step Social Emotional Learning Curriculum
- * Play based learning opportunities following the Early Learning and Developmental Standards for Math, Science, Social Studies, and Cognition.
- * Provides a free, equitable early learning opportunity for all children in the community.
- * Our TK program is a model program sought out by our regional partners.

Proposal for the 2024-2025 School Year

Catherine Kolnaski	Charles Barnum	Mystic River Magnet	Northeast Academy	Thames River Magnet
4 Kindergarten 3 Kindergarten 1 Transitional Kindergarten	3 Kindergarten	4 Kindergarten 3 Kindergarten 1 Transitional Kindergarten 1 Prekindergarten	4 Kindergarten 3 Kindergarten 1 Transitional Kindergarten	4 Kindergarten 1 Transitional Kindergarten 1 Prekindergarten

Early Entrance to Kindergarten for Students with an IEP

Parents of a student with an IEP who request early acceptance in writing, after assessment, will be granted one of the following options:

1. Transition Kindergarten with peers of like ages (Birthdays between 9/2/23-1/1/24)
2. Kindergarten with peers slightly older (Students turning 5 on or before September 1)
3. An additional option will include continuation in the Integrated Preschool Program if appropriate.

* Placement decisions will be made in conjunction with the parent through the PPT process.

Assessment Process

- Teachers and SLPs will rotate assessment assignments each month to minimize time out of the classroom
- Assessments will begin in February 2024
 - 2 days per month in district (Mary Morrison)
 - 1 day per month off-site (ECDC, River Front, TVCCA, Subbase)
- Assessment Tools:
 - Qualifying Scores-Brigance and the Preschool Language Scale (Articulation/Language) and behavior/social/emotional observation
 - Additional data collected during assessment to be reviewed to include: fine motor activity, concepts of print, letter identification/sounds, and preschool teacher input (if available).
 - Accommodations will be provided for students with an Individualized Education Plan. English Language teachers will be consulted for any English Language Learners.

Timeline for Early Entrance in Kindergarten

December

- * Share the proposal with the Board of Education, Elementary School Administrators, and teachers .

January

- Registration for the next school year opens in early January
- Lottery Application (open to *K-5* students) typically opens toward the end of January
- Schedule Parent Info session

February

- Begin Kindergarten Assessment

March

- “Intent to Return” Form Completed (for students)
- Kindergarten Assessments continue
- Potential Retention List

April

- Determine potential lottery seats available
- Early Entrance Waiver: Soft Deadline (K Lottery Interests)

May

- Kindergarten Assessments continue
- Early Entrance Waiver: Hard Deadline for Early Entrance

Summer 2024

- Kindergarten Assessment for new families to Groton. Date to be determined

Thank You

Groton Public Schools

Date prep:		FY24 Budget Summary Review					
12/11/23 11:15 AM							
		FY24 Budget			FY24 Actual	Remaining	
Account	Object #s	2023-2024	Expenditures	Encumbered	Total	Balance	%
Salaries							
1	Administrators 105-109	5,139,279	2,381,067	2,812,063	5,193,130	(53,851)	(1.0%)
2	Teachers 101-104,123-127,151-152	35,924,586	10,724,006	24,491,930	35,215,937	708,649	2.0%
3	Non-Cert Aides 110-111,130-131,136,139	4,621,663	1,472,970	1,802,386	3,275,355	1,346,308	29.1%
4	Substitute - Cert & Non-Cert 120-121	1,057,434	538,342	0	538,342	519,092	49.1%
5	Clerical 112-114,132-134,144	2,059,296	1,032,772	1,171,238	2,204,010	(144,714)	(7.0%)
6	Custodial/Maintenance/Techs 117-118,129,137-138,147-148	3,685,428	1,647,181	1,923,967	3,571,148	114,280	3.1%
7	Campus Security/Supervision 128	190,167	96,234	0	96,234	93,933	49.4%
8	Total Salaries 100	52,677,853	17,892,572	32,201,583	50,094,155	2,583,698	4.9%
Benefits							
9	Health Insurance 201-202	6,881,439	2,416,215	0	2,416,215	4,465,224	64.9%
10	Workers Comp & Town Pension 211,213	1,089,758	0	0	0	1,089,758	100.0%
11	Social Security & Medicare 212,214	1,571,584	663,131	0	663,131	908,453	57.8%
12	Other Benefits 222-227	394,000	271,698	0	271,698	122,302	31.0%
13	Total Benefits 200	9,936,781	3,351,044	0	3,351,044	6,585,737	66.3%
Purchased Services							
14	Instructional Services 321-324	235,375	120,498	2,675	123,173	112,202	47.7%
15	Professional Services 331	310,731	367,313	17,699	385,012	(74,281)	(23.9%)
16	Other Prof Services 332	595,000	224,418	122,794	347,212	247,788	41.6%
17	OT & PT Services 333	750,000	68,585	743,959	812,544	(62,544)	(8.3%)
18	Legal 334	71,100	45,098	0	45,098	26,002	36.6%
19	Athletic Officials & Other Athletic Serv 341-342	82,390	31,484	6,704	38,188	44,202	53.6%
20	Computer Network Services 343	164,483	97,424	9,526	106,950	57,533	35.0%
21	Total Purchased Services 300	2,209,079	954,820	903,357	1,858,177	350,902	15.9%
Property Services							
22	Water & Sewer 410-411	101,807	46,762	115	46,877	54,930	54.0%
23	Trash & Snow Removal 421-422	138,341	31,537	55,966	87,503	50,838	36.7%
24	Repair/Maintenance 430-435,490-491,499	496,549	386,464	94,849	481,313	15,236	3.1%
25	Rental 441	135,267	60,077	49,085	109,162	26,105	19.3%
26	Total Property Services 400	871,964	524,839	200,015	724,854	147,110	16.9%
Transportation, Insurance, Communications, Tuition							
27	Transportation: Schools 510-513	6,171,636	1,726,917	4,052,971	5,779,888	391,748	6.3%
28	Transportation: Student Activities 587-596	175,933	40,817	21,780	62,597	113,336	64.4%
29	Transportation: Staff 580-584	153,750	20,434	78	20,512	133,238	86.7%
30	Insurance 522,525	457,874	455,364	0	455,364	2,510	0.5%
31	Communications 530-552	155,542	126,859	1,403	128,262	27,280	17.5%
32	Tuition: Special Education 561-563,568	4,068,674	1,420,645	1,683,719	3,104,364	964,310	23.7%
33	Tuition: Other 564-567	1,218,720	827,804	95,522	923,326	295,394	24.2%
34	Total Trans, Ins, Comm, Tuition 500	12,402,129	4,618,840	5,855,473	10,474,313	1,927,816	15.5%
Supplies							
35	Instructional Supplies 601-609,613-619,622-623,628	515,243	258,448	54,886	313,334	201,909	39.2%
36	Computer Supplies 610-612	235,900	115,453	85,093	200,546	35,354	15.0%
37	Electricity & Heating 631-633	1,652,798	666,242	14,928	681,170	971,628	58.8%
38	Transportation Supplies 634,656	374,029	125,158	0	125,158	248,871	66.5%
39	Textbooks & Library Books 640-642,645,647	90,168	30,521	1,581	32,102	58,066	64.4%
40	Facility/Maintenance Supplies 650,652-655,657,659	271,678	219,240	2,335	221,575	50,103	18.4%
41	Other Supplies (staff dev, PPE, etc) 621,624-627,690	89,760	38,916	3,083	42,000	47,760	53.2%
42	Total Supplies 600	3,229,576	1,453,979	161,906	1,615,885	1,613,691	50.0%
Equipment							
43	Instructional Equipment 730,735	73,734	13,013	0	13,013	60,721	82.4%
44	Non-Instructional Equip 731,736	10,000	6,123	3,032	9,155	845	8.5%
45	Total Equipment 700	83,734	19,136	3,032	22,168	61,566	73.5%
Total Dues & Fees							
46	800	99,511	76,376	0	76,376	23,135	23.2%
GRAND TOTAL		81,510,627	28,891,606	39,325,367	68,216,973	13,293,654	16.3%

Groton Public Schools

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Account	Object #s	2023-2024	Expenditures	Encumbered	Total	Balance	%
Salaries							
Administrators							
Administrators	105	1,225,814	653,032	734,689	1,387,722	(161,908)	(13.2%)
Principals	106	1,176,065	493,614	631,747	1,125,361	50,704	4.3%
Asst. Principals/Sp.Ed. Supv	107	2,404,422	1,085,395	1,298,924	2,384,318	20,104	0.8%
6-12 Curriculum Coordinators	108	181,586	79,153	65,185	144,337	37,249	20.5%
Athletic Director	109	151,392	69,873	81,519	151,392	0	0.0%
		5,139,279	2,381,067	2,812,063	5,193,130	(53,851)	(1.0%)
Teachers							
Classroom Teachers	101 & 151	25,434,454	7,674,741	17,704,313	25,379,054	55,400	0.2%
Sp.Ed Certified	102	8,027,872	2,360,211	5,569,950	7,930,161	97,711	1.2%
Media Specialist	103	710,122	206,640	488,159	694,799	15,323	2.2%
Guidance	104	1,157,759	301,615	729,509	1,031,124	126,635	10.9%
Adult Ed	124	42,230	11,284	0	11,284	30,946	73.3%
Coach Stipends	126	350,867	112,763	0	112,763	238,104	67.9%
Other Student Activities	127	138,413	14,218	0	14,218	124,195	89.7%
		35,924,586	10,724,006	24,491,930	35,215,937	708,649	2.0%
Other Staff							
Reg.Ed Aides - Kindergarten	110 & 130	474,630	120,127	0	120,127	354,503	74.7%
Sp.Ed Aides - Para I & Para II	111 & 131	3,081,335	391,044	301,336	692,380	2,388,955	77.5%
Tutors	125 & 152	458,450	703,401	1,422,311	2,125,712	(1,667,262)	(363.7%)
School Bus Aides	136	446,772	176,200	0	176,200	270,572	60.6%
Other Non-Certified Personnel	139 & 119	160,476	82,197	78,739	160,936	(460)	(0.3%)
		4,621,663	1,472,970	1,802,386	3,275,355	1,346,308	29.1%
Substitute							
Substitute Reg.Ed Certified	120	967,567	538,342	0	538,342	429,225	44.4%
Substitute Spec.Ed Certified	121	89,867	0	0	0	89,867	100.0%
		1,057,434	538,342	0	538,342	519,092	49.1%
Clerical							
Clerical	112'113'114'132'133'134'143'144	2,059,296	1,032,772	1,171,238	2,204,010	(144,714)	(7.0%)
Custodial/Maintenance/Techs							
Custodial	117 & 137	1,963,442	921,070	1,047,805	1,968,875	(5,433)	(0.3%)
Maintenance	118 & 138	874,573	344,714	494,358	839,071	35,502	4.1%
Custodial/Maintenance Overtime	147 & 148	110,500	27,723	0	27,723	82,777	74.9%
Technicians	129 & 149	736,913	353,674	381,805	735,479	1,434	0.2%
		3,685,428	1,647,181	1,923,967	3,571,148	114,280	3.1%
Security							
Security/Supervision	128	190,167	96,234	0	96,234	93,933	49.4%
Total Salaries		52,677,853	17,892,572	32,201,583	50,094,155	2,583,698	4.9%
Benefits							
Health Insurance							
Group Ins. Prof	201	5,507,319	2,416,215	0	2,416,215	3,091,104	56.1%
Group Ins. Other	202	1,374,120	0	0	0	1,374,120	100.0%
		6,881,439	2,416,215	0	2,416,215	4,465,224	64.9%
Workers Comp & Town Pension							
Worker's Compensation	211	352,258	0	0	0	352,258	100.0%
Town Pension	213	737,500	0	0	0	737,500	100.0%
		1,089,758	0	0	0	1,089,758	100.0%
Social Security & Medicare							
Social Security	212	807,754	332,952	0	332,952	474,802	58.8%
Medicare	214	763,830	330,179	0	330,179	433,651	56.8%
		1,571,584	663,131	0	663,131	908,453	57.8%
Other Employee Benefits							
Retirement Awards	222	242,500	217,271	0	217,271	25,229	10.4%
Unemployment	223	35,000	6,685	0	6,685	28,315	80.9%
Tuition Reimb Certified	224	115,000	46,242	0	46,242	68,758	59.8%
Mentor Stipend	227	1,500	1,500	0	1,500	0	0.0%
		394,000	271,698	0	271,698	122,302	31.0%
Total Benefits		9,936,781	3,351,044	0	3,351,044	6,585,737	66.3%

Groton Public Schools

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Purchased Services							
Instructional Services							
95	Instructional Services 321 & 323	123,500	62,870	1,000	63,870	59,630	48.3%
96	Instruct Improvement Services 322 & 324	111,875	57,628	1,675	59,303	52,572	47.0%
97		235,375	120,498	2,675	123,173	112,202	47.7%
Professional Services							
98	Professional Services 331	310,731	367,313	17,699	385,012	(74,281)	(23.9%)
99	Other Professional Services 332	595,000	224,418	122,794	347,212	247,788	41.6%
100	OT & PT Services 333	750,000	68,585	743,959	812,544	(62,544)	(8.3%)
101	Legal Services 334	71,100	45,098	0	45,098	26,002	36.6%
102		1,726,831	705,413	884,452	1,589,866	136,965	7.9%
Athletic Officials & Other Athletic Services							
103	Athletic Officials 341	63,550	21,823	6,704	28,527	35,023	55.1%
104	Other Athletic Services 342	18,840	9,661	0	9,661	9,179	48.7%
105		82,390	31,484	6,704	38,188	44,202	53.6%
Computer Network Services							
106	Computer Network Services 343	164,483	97,424	9,526	106,950	57,533	35.0%
107	Total Purchased Services	2,209,079	954,820	903,357	1,858,177	350,902	15.9%
Property Services							
Water/Sewer							
108	Water 410	66,844	27,036	115	27,151	39,693	59.4%
109	Sewer 411	34,963	19,726	0	19,726	15,237	43.6%
110		101,807	46,762	115	46,877	54,930	54.0%
Trash & Snow Removal							
111	Trash Removal 421	88,341	31,537	55,966	87,503	838	0.9%
112	Snow Removal 422	50,000	0	0	0	50,000	100.0%
113		138,341	31,537	55,966	87,503	50,838	36.7%
Repair/Maintenance							
114	Equipment Repairs 430	129,425	50,565	830	51,395	78,030	60.3%
115	Grounds Repairs 431	191,510	188,783	64,430	253,213	(61,703)	(32.2%)
116	General Bldg Repairs 432	27,135	16,502	0	16,502	10,633	39.2%
117	Painting 433	5,146	0	0	0	5,146	100.0%
118	Heat & Plumbing 434	48,400	58,778	15,635	74,413	(26,013)	(53.7%)
119	Electrical 435	10,239	2,711	2,765	5,476	4,763	46.5%
120	Extermination Services 490	12,259	8,059	6,384	14,443	(2,184)	(17.8%)
121	Bldg Fire Protection 491	48,289	30,776	4,805	35,581	12,708	26.3%
123	Other Purch Services 499	24,146	30,289	0	30,289	(6,143)	(25.4%)
124		496,549	386,464	94,849	481,313	15,236	3.1%
Rental							
125	Rental 441	135,267	60,077	49,085	109,162	26,105	19.3%
126	Total Property Services	871,964	524,839	200,015	724,854	147,110	16.9%
Transportation, Insurance, Communications, Tuition							
Transportation: Schools							
127	Reg.Ed Pupil Transportation 510 & 516	3,580,347	1,052,076	2,794,152	3,846,228	(265,881)	(7.4%)
128	Sp.Ed - Trans - STA 511	1,573,150	343,729	1,258,819	1,602,548	(29,398)	(1.9%)
129	Sp.Ed - Trans - Curtin 512	1,018,139	331,112	0	331,112	687,027	67.5%
130	Pupil Transp Reimbursement 513	0	0	0	0	0	
131		6,171,636	1,726,917	4,052,971	5,779,888	391,748	6.3%
Transportation: Other							
132	Transportation - Athletics 587	98,100	18,539	16,589	35,128	62,972	64.2%
133	Transportation - Field Trips 588	53,988	19,615	5,188	24,803	29,185	54.1%
134	Entry Fees - Athletics 591 & 592	14,475	2,425	0	2,425	12,050	83.2%
135	Admission Fees 595	9,370	238	4	242	9,129	97.4%
137		175,933	40,817	21,780	62,597	113,336	64.4%
Transportation: Staff							
138	Travel - Education 580 & 581	5,900	1,271	0	1,271	4,629	78.5%
139	Travel - Admin 582 & 583	32,000	11,160	0	11,160	20,840	65.1%
140	Travel - Conferences 584	115,850	8,003	78	8,081	107,769	93.0%
141		153,750	20,434	78	20,512	133,238	86.7%
Liability & Accident Insurance							
142	Liability Insurance 522	442,702	441,954	0	441,954	748	0.2%
143	Accident Insurance 525	15,172	13,410	0	13,410	1,762	11.6%
144		457,874	455,364	0	455,364	2,510	0.5%

Groton Public Schools

Date prep:		FY24 Budget Summary Review					
12/11/23 11:15 AM							
		FY24 Budget			FY24 Actual	Remaining	
Account	Object #s	2023-2024	Expenditures	Encumbered	Total	Balance	%

Communications

145	Telephone, Telephone Repairs	530	106,400	105,300	0	105,300	1,100	1.0%
146	Postage	531	30,100	7,558	0	7,558	22,542	74.9%
147	Advertisement	540	5,000	5,092	1,403	6,496	(1,496)	(29.9%)
148	Minority Recruitment	541	0	1,000	0	1,000	(1,000)	
149	Printing Admin	550	11,542	7,459	0	7,459	4,083	35.4%
150	School Publications	551 & 552	2,500	450	0	450	2,050	82.0%
151			155,542	126,859	1,403	128,262	27,280	17.5%

Tuition: Special Education

152	Sp.Ed Vocational	561	411,956	80,557	51,577	132,134	279,822	67.9%
153	Sp.Ed BoE Placements	562	2,557,373	775,508	1,141,143	1,916,651	640,722	25.1%
154	Sp.Ed State Placements	563	329,060	94,294	174,127	268,421	60,639	18.4%
155	Sp.Ed Magnet Choice	568	770,285	470,285	316,873	787,158	(16,873)	(2.2%)
156			4,068,674	1,420,645	1,683,719	3,104,364	964,310	23.7%

Tuition: Other

157	Adult Ed	564	210,105	207,000	0	207,000	3,105	1.5%
158	Gen Ed Magnet Tuition	566	885,801	620,804	0	620,804	264,997	29.9%
159	Gen Ed Vo Ag Tuition	567	122,814	0	95,522	95,522	27,292	22.2%
160			1,218,720	827,804	95,522	923,326	295,394	24.2%
161	Total Transportation, Insurance, Communication, Tuition		12,402,129	4,618,840	5,855,473	10,474,313	1,927,816	15.5%

Supplies

Instructional Supplies

162	General Classroom	601	161,293	131,410	15,213	146,623	14,670	9.1%
163	Science	602	15,600	3,223	1,568	4,792	10,808	69.3%
164	Arts & Crafts	603	25,700	17,525	2,590	20,115	5,585	21.7%
165	Phys. Ed	604	11,800	4,054	0	4,054	7,746	65.6%
166	Music	605	22,800	7,414	87	7,501	15,299	67.1%
167	Kindergarten	606	4,200	0	0	0	4,200	100.0%
168	Pupil Tests	607	77,700	32,429	18,615	51,044	26,656	34.3%
169	Tech. Ed	609	12,750	5,649	898	6,546	6,204	48.7%
170	Home Ec Supplies	613	14,500	2,487	378	2,865	11,635	80.2%
171	Sp.Ed Supplies	615	56,000	21,752	11,523	33,275	22,725	40.6%
172	Athletic Supplies	616	55,950	17,964	3,024	20,987	34,963	62.5%
173	Math Supplies	617	9,250	972	0	972	8,278	89.5%
174	Health Supplies	618	2,200	0	0	0	2,200	100.0%
175	Other Supplies	619	3,000	547	0	547	2,453	81.8%
176	Health Serv Pathogen	622	5,750	603	0	603	5,147	89.5%
177	School Library Supplies	623	6,250	617	0	617	5,633	90.1%
178	Food, Drink, Snacks	628	30,500	11,804	990	12,794	17,706	58.1%
180			515,243	258,448	54,886	313,334	201,909	39.2%

Computer Supplies

181	Computer Supplies	610 & 611	36,500	17,957	951	18,908	17,592	48.2%
182	Software	612	199,400	97,496	84,142	181,638	17,762	8.9%
183			235,900	115,453	85,093	200,546	35,354	15.0%

Electricity & Heating

184	Electricity	631	1,097,073	528,679	14,928	543,607	553,466	50.4%
185	Propane/Natural Gas	632	338,350	85,791	0	85,791	252,559	74.6%
186	Heating Oil	633	217,375	51,772	0	51,772	165,603	76.2%
187			1,652,798	666,242	14,928	681,170	971,628	58.8%

Transportation Supplies

188	Diesel for School Buses	634	330,553	114,180	0	114,180	216,373	65.5%
189	Gas for Maintenance	656	43,476	10,978	0	10,978	32,498	74.7%
190			374,029	125,158	0	125,158	248,871	66.5%

Textbooks & Library Books

191	Textbooks	640	46,085	18,849	1,575	20,423	25,662	55.7%
192	Workbooks	641	16,633	10,811	0	10,811	5,822	35.0%
193	Textbook Rebind	642	500	0	0	0	500	100.0%
194	Library Books	645	24,550	368	6	374	24,176	98.5%
195	Periodicals	647	2,400	493	0	493	1,907	79.4%
196			90,168	30,521	1,581	32,102	58,066	64.4%

Groton Public Schools

Date prep:		FY24 Budget Summary Review					
12/11/23 11:15 AM							
		FY24 Budget			FY24 Actual	Remaining Balance	%
Account	Object #s	2023-2024	Expenditures	Encumbered	Total		
ility/Maintenance Supplies							
Equipment Repair	650	23,315	7,834	470	8,304	15,011	64.4%
Grounds Supplies	651	19,527	4,500	0	4,500	15,027	77.0%
General Bldg Repair	652	62,839	14,733	402	15,135	47,704	75.9%
Painting	653	2,500	13,210	139	13,349	(10,849)	(434.0%)
Heat & Plumbing	654	34,053	75,639	1,166	76,804	(42,751)	(125.5%)
Electrical	655	30,247	15,613	30	15,643	14,604	48.3%
Safety Supplies	657 & 659	13,047	5,000	0	5,000	8,047	61.7%
Custodial Supplies	658	86,150	82,712	128	82,840	3,310	3.8%
		271,678	219,240	2,335	221,575	50,103	18.4%
er Supplies							
Sup Serv Guid Imp Ins	621	26,100	7,335	2,209	9,544	16,556	63.4%
Audio Visual	624 & 625	10,300	756	162	918	9,382	91.1%
General Admin Supplies	626	12,110	8,811	617	9,428	2,682	22.1%
School Admin Supplies	627	16,550	7,888	95	7,983	8,567	51.8%
Professional Materials	690	24,700	14,127	0	14,127	10,573	42.8%
		89,760	38,916	3,083	42,000	47,760	53.2%
Total Supplies		3,229,576	1,453,979	161,906	1,615,885	1,613,691	50.0%
Equipment							
ructional Equipment							
Replace Instr Equip	730	27,500	2,237	0	2,237	25,263	91.9%
Add Instr Equipment	735	46,234	10,776	0	10,776	35,458	76.7%
		73,734	13,013	0	13,013	60,721	82.4%
Non-Instructional Equipment							
Replace Non-Instr Equipment	731	10,000	989	989	1,978	8,022	80.2%
Add Non-Instr Equipment	736	0	5,134	2,043	7,177	(7,177)	
		10,000	6,123	3,032	9,155	845	8.5%
Total Equipment		83,734	19,136	3,032	22,168	61,566	73.5%
Dues - Fees							
Dues/Fees							
Dues BoE	810	25,541	22,540	0	22,540	3,001	11.7%
General Admin Dues	811	15,725	14,695	0	14,695	1,030	6.5%
School Admin Dues	812	44,100	34,875	0	34,875	9,225	20.9%
Other Dues	819	14,145	4,266	0	4,266	9,879	69.8%
Total Dues/Fees		99,511	76,376	0	76,376	23,135	23.2%
Grand Total		81,510,627	28,891,606	39,325,367	68,216,973	13,293,654	16.3%



Health Insurance Dashboard

Updated: December 13, 2023

Notes:

Enrollment: Down (3%) from the same period last year. Average enrollment is down (7.3%) over the last fiscal year.

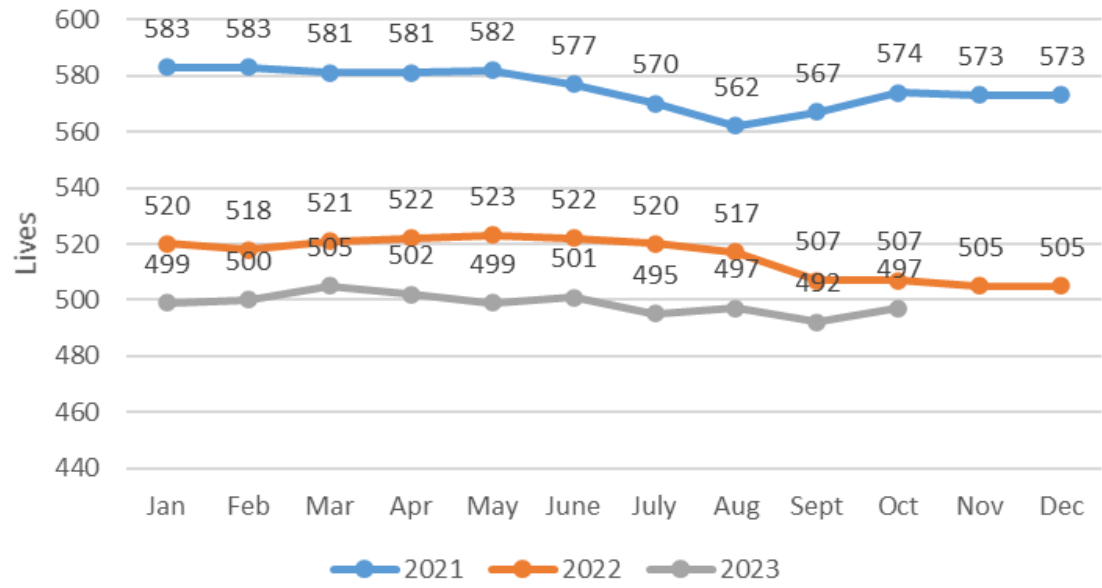
Claim Costs: October 2023 monthly claim costs of ~\$1.28M are up 64% from September 2022. Fiscal YTD claim costs are up 39%.

Claim Costs: Day to day claims (under \$50K) have decreased (1%) yet mid-tier claims (\$50k-\$200K) have increased 37%.

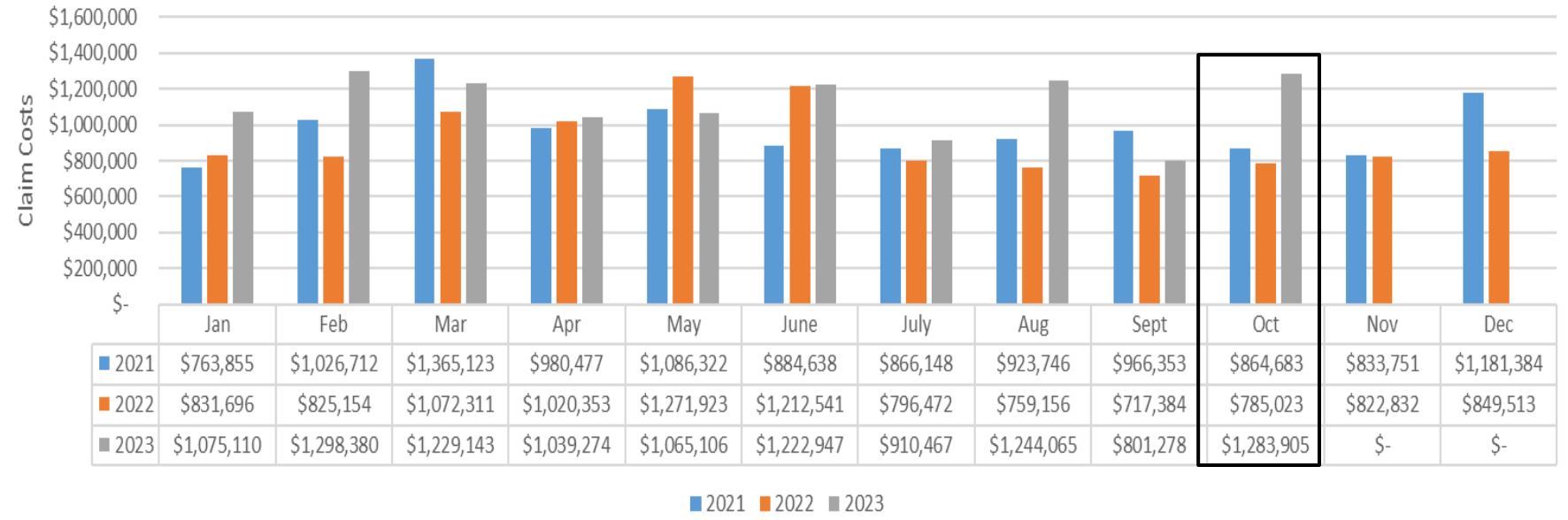
Claim Costs: Claims per employee per month has increased 22%.

Avg. Claim Costs: FY23 average claim costs were up 6% from the prior year and are increasing 8.3% per year over the last four years.

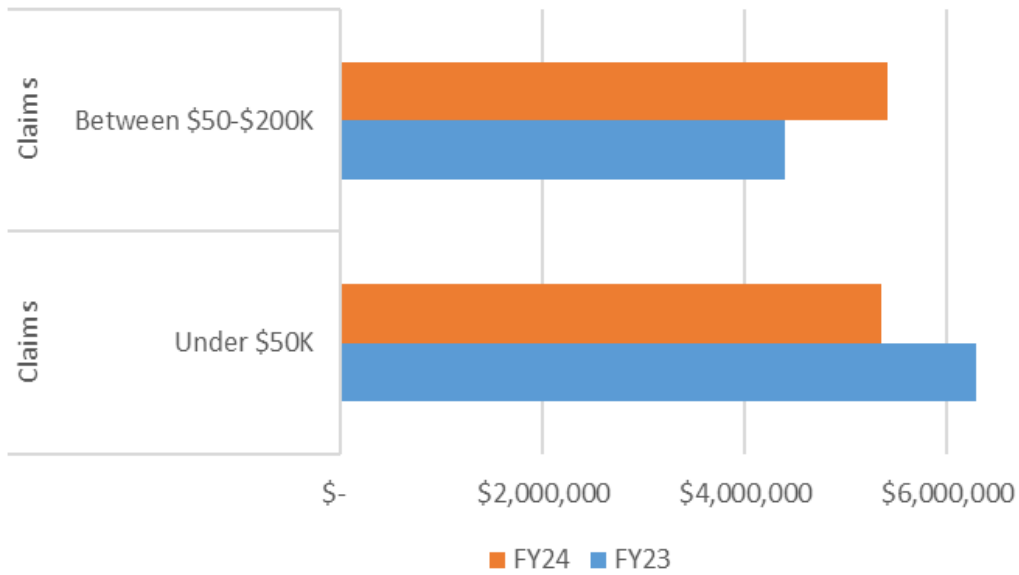
Enrollment in the Plan



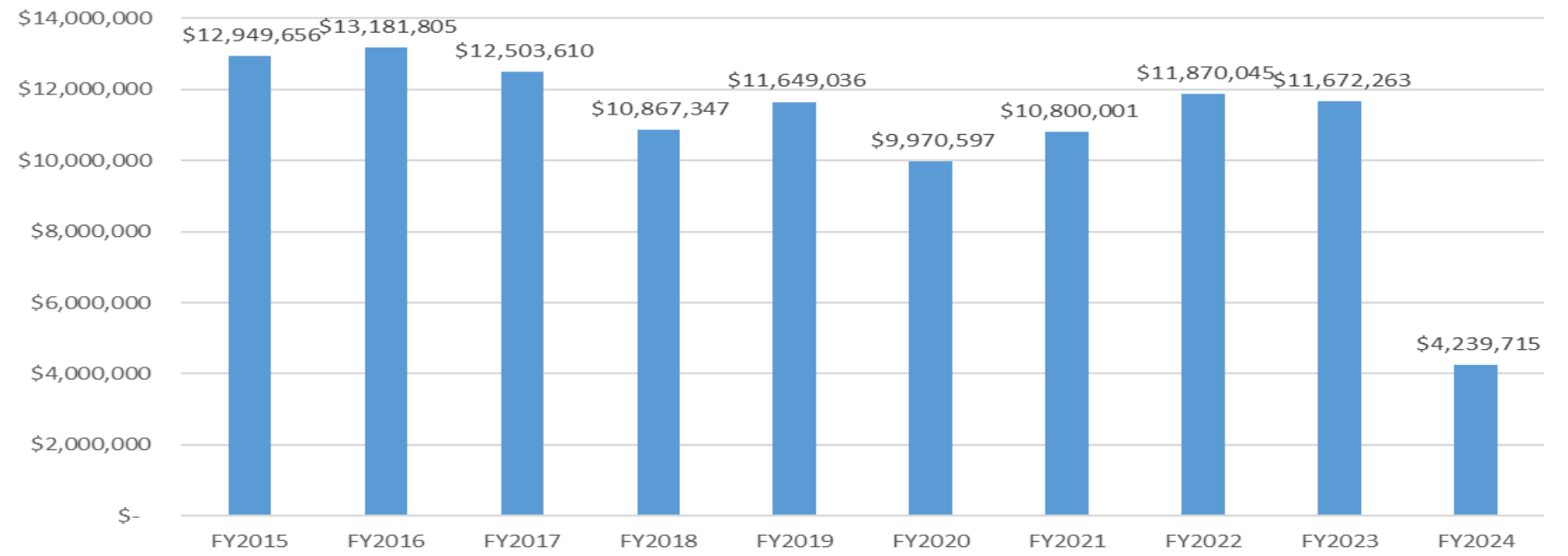
Monthly Claim Costs



Claims by Size



Annual Health Insurance Costs





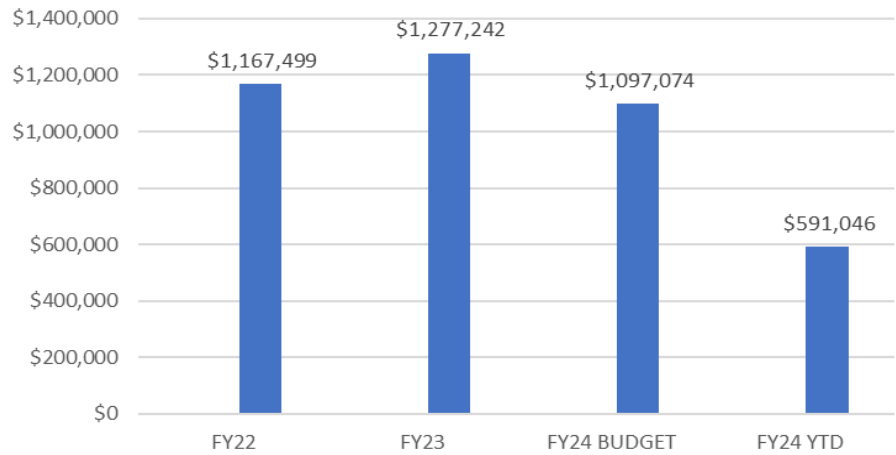
Energy Dashboard

Updated: December 11, 2023

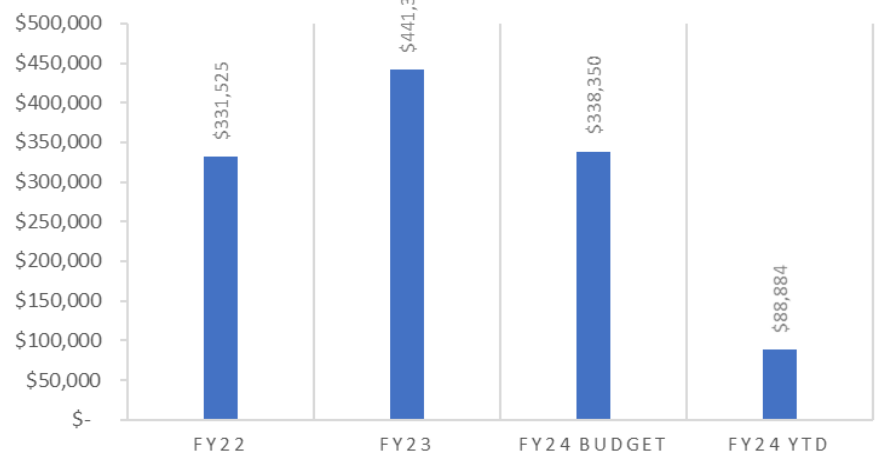
Notes:

Usage: Consumption across all three utilities are running in parallel with the prior year.
Electricity: YTD consumption and costs are running in parallel with the prior year.
Natural Gas: YTD Consumption and costs are running in parallel with the prior year.
Oil: Still too early to gauge any risks, however the budget is ~40% lower than last year's costs.

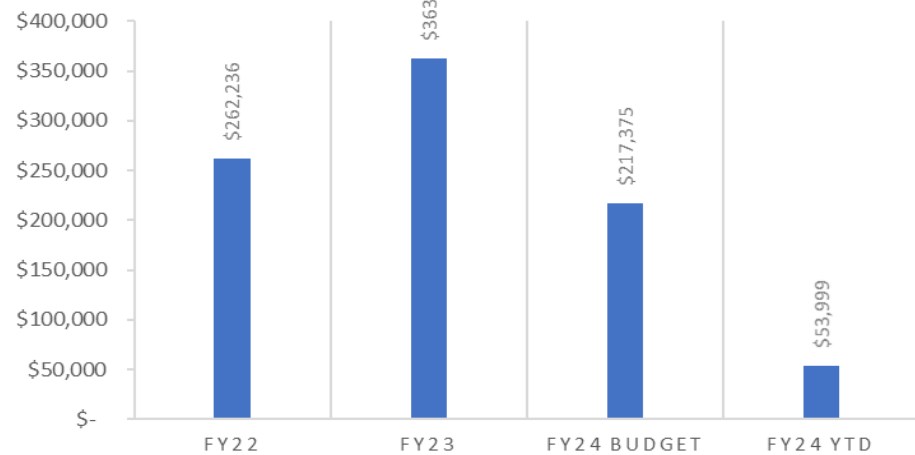
ELECTRICITY COSTS



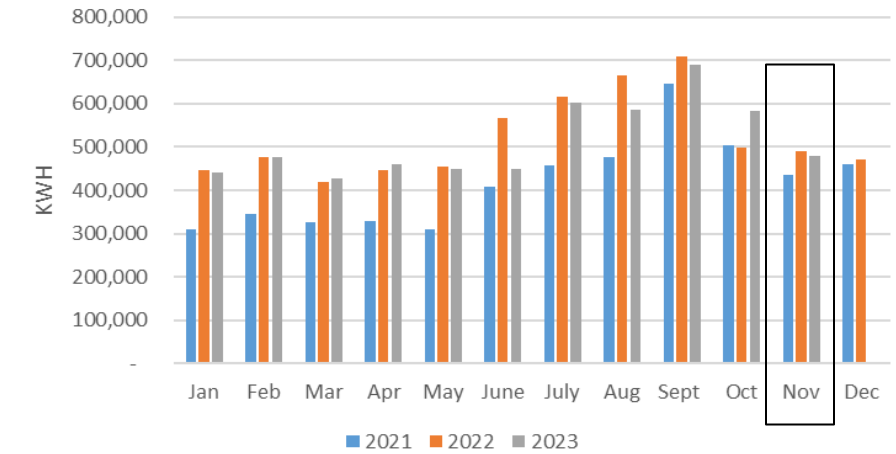
NATURAL GAS COSTS



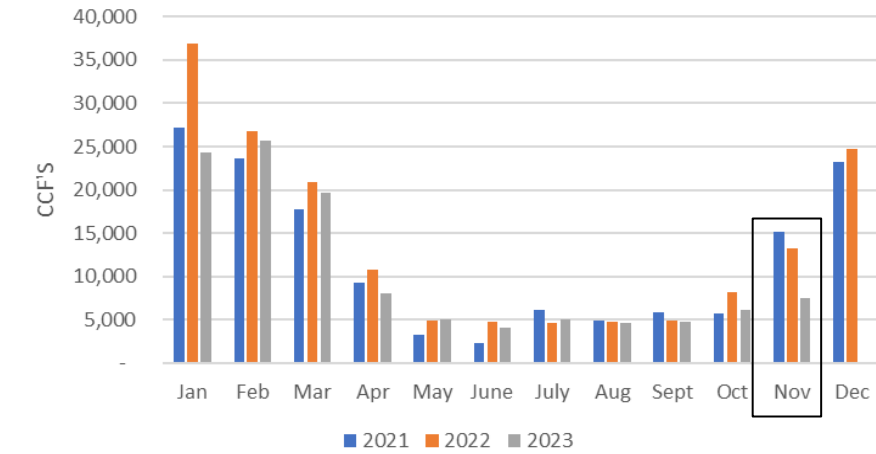
OIL COSTS



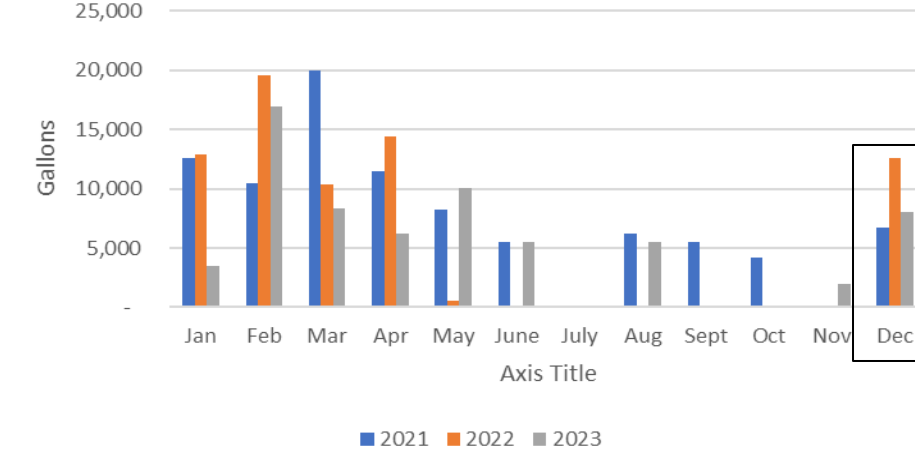
ELECTRICITY USAGE



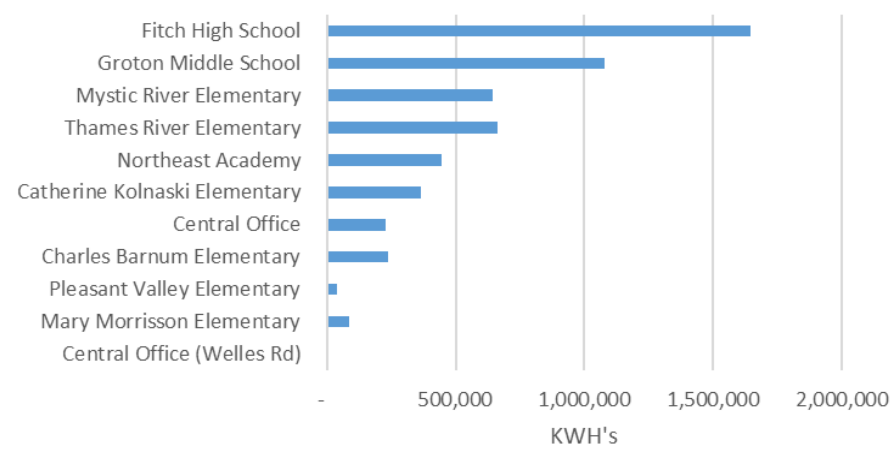
NATURAL GAS USAGE



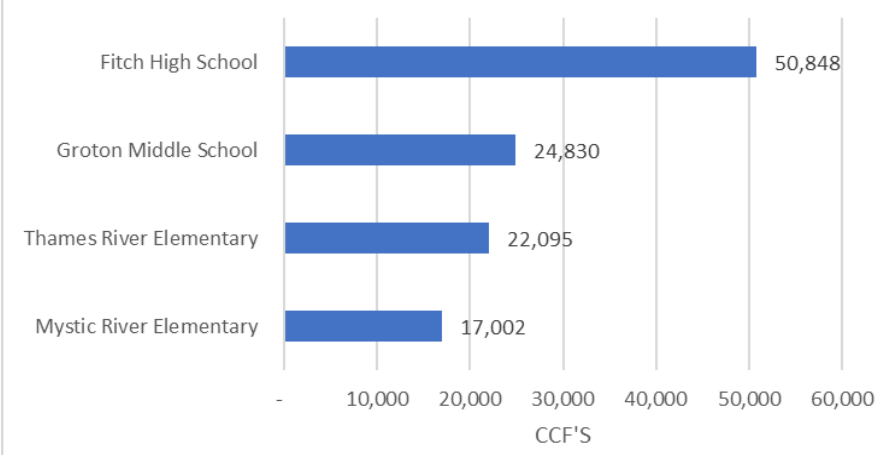
OIL USAGE



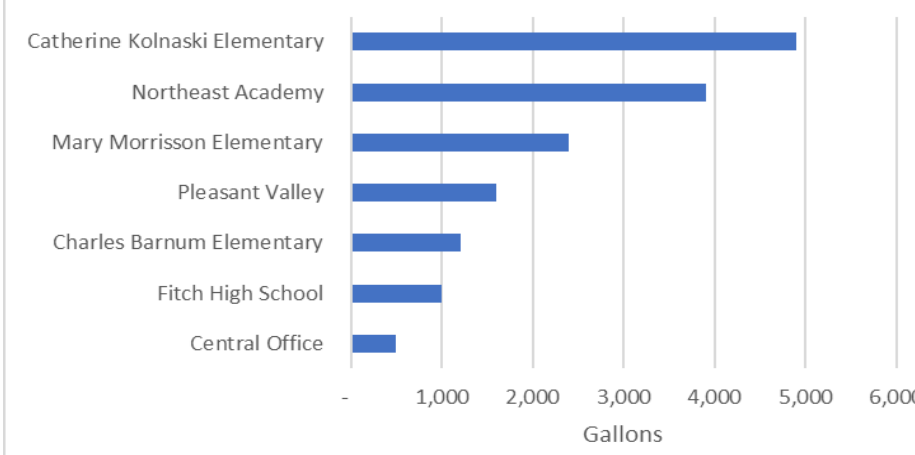
YTD ELECTRICITY USAGE BY LOCATION



YTD NATURAL GAS USAGE BY LOCATION



YTD OIL USAGE BY LOCATION



Students

Elementary (K-5) School ~~District Lines~~ Placement

The Groton Board of Education (Board) establishes attendance zones in such a way as to facilitate equity, excellence, and education for all students. ~~accepts its responsibility for establishing attendance zones in such a way as to facilitate the educational program.~~ All Students shall attend the school within their designated attendance ~~area~~ zone, determined by their home address. In the event that a building has reached enrollment capacity, newly enrolled students may be assigned to a school outside their attendance zone. ~~The Superintendent of Schools shall be authorized to consider in-district transfer requests only for substantial and compelling reasons.~~

Attendance zones shall be established with the consideration of, **but not limited** to the following:

- ~~• Educational needs of the students~~
 - Proximity of students to schools
 - Safety of students
 - Ages of students served
- ~~• Nature of the educational program housed~~
- ~~• Racial/ethnic balance~~
 - Maximum utilization of school facilities
 - Racial, ethnic, and socioeconomic balance

Intra-District Lottery

The Board endorses the concept of attendance zones while also recognizing the value of providing students with paths to pursue their interests. Therefore, the District has established an intra-district magnet choice program for students. The intra-district magnet schools only serve students who reside within the boundaries of Groton and are operated by Groton Public Schools.

Resident students wishing to attend a magnet-themed school other than their attendance zoned school must enter the District's annual magnet school lottery to earn a seat at a school of choice with District-provided transportation.

Parents/guardians and/or students shall be notified on an annual basis of the options available and the application process in sufficient time to apply.

Students who accept a seat in the lottery will remain at that magnet school through the highest grade unless the seat is forfeited. A family forfeits a lottery seat if the student(s) moves outside of the boundaries of Groton, transfers to a different school, or declines/fails to respond to a lottery seat offer.

Elementary (K-5) School ~~District Lines~~ Placement – cont.

Transfer Requests

The Board emphasizes the importance of consistency and stability in students' educational experience and families are discouraged from requesting mid-year transfers. Families wishing to transfer schools should participate in Groton Public Schools K-5 intra-district magnet lottery.

In extenuating circumstances, outlined in R 5117, parents/guardians who desire a change of school outside of the lottery window must submit a transfer request form, which will be reviewed and acted upon by the District committee. Permission granted to transfer schools outside of the lottery window will require up to 72 hours or 3 business days to process the change in transportation. During this period, parents will provide transportation.

Nondiscrimination

The Board, the Superintendent, other administrators, and teachers shall not make any distinction of student who seeks admission to any magnet school based on race, color, national origin, sex, gender identity or expression, sexual preference, ethnic group, religion, disability, or any other basis prohibited by Connecticut state and/or federal nondiscrimination laws.

~~Parents and/or students who desire a change of school outside of their attendance area must submit a letter to the Superintendent of Schools officially requesting a transfer. Transfer students attending a school outside their attendance area shall be granted admission on a year to year basis. Transportation for students granted permission to attend school outside their attendance area must be furnished by their parents.~~

~~The transfer request may be denied if:~~

- ~~a. There is a lack of space or teaching staff within a particular program or school requested.~~
- ~~b. The school requested does not offer appropriate programs or is not structured or equipped with the necessary facilities to meet special needs of the student or does not offer a particular program requested.~~
- ~~c. The student does not meet the established eligibility criteria for participation in a particular program including age requirements, course prerequisites and required levels of performance.~~
- ~~d. All transfers will be at the discretion of the Superintendent of Schools.~~

Elementary (K-5) School ~~District Lines~~ Placement – cont.

Legal Reference:

- Connecticut General Statutes
- 10-55 Pupils to attend regional school
- 10-226a Pupils of racial minorities
- 10-226b Existence of racial imbalance
- 10-226c Plan to correct imbalance
- 10-226d Approval of plan by state board
- PA 96-213 An Act Concerning School Readiness and Intra-district Choice 20 U.S.C.
- No Child Left Behind Act, P.L. 107-110, Section 1116.
- NCLB waiver granted to Connecticut by U.S. Department of Education, May 2012
- P.A. 12-116 An Act Concerning Educational Reform

Policy Adopted: July 12, 1993
Revised: February 24, 2014

GROTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Groton, Connecticut

Students

Elementary (K-5) School Placement

School Attendance Zones

The Groton Board of Education (Board) establishes attendance zones in such a way as to facilitate equity, excellence and education for all students. Students shall attend the school within their designated attendance zone, determined by their home address.

Per Board policy P5117, all students shall attend the school within their designated attendance zone unless they have successfully earned a magnet seat at another school within Groton Public Schools through the lottery process. Students residing within a designated attendance zone will have priority in registering for that school over students waitlisted through the lottery process and/or transfer requests.

In the event that a building has reached enrollment capacity, newly enrolled students may be assigned to a school outside their attendance zone. In such cases that school will now be considered the student's zoned school through the highest grade available and for any rising siblings. Students wishing to return to the school within their attendance zone must go through the next open lottery window with an attendance zone preference.

Intra-District Magnet Lottery Application Process

Lottery applications for the following school year are made available, annually, for a set period of time. During this time, typically from January through April, parents/guardians can access the lottery application via the Groton Public Schools District website. The application should be accurately completed for each child in its entirety before submitting. Additionally, a family moving into the boundaries of Groton outside of the lottery window will have access to any magnet school of choice, provided there is availability in the respective school and grade level. Parents and/or students shall be notified, annually, of the available options and the application process in sufficient time to apply.

Application Participants

All Groton Public Schools students entering kindergarten through fifth grade are eligible to enter the lottery. Families must enter the lottery if one of the following applies:

- Current magnet students, or students displaced due to enrollment capacity want to return to the attendance zone school or to another District magnet school
- Students currently enrolled at the attendance zone school are interested in enrolling at another Groton Public Schools magnet-themed elementary school
- Students exiting a District program such as an Early Childhood Program (Preschool or Pre-Kindergarten) or Transition Kindergarten want to attend a school other than the designated attendance zone school

Elementary (K-5) School Placement – cont.

- Students registering for the first time with Groton Public Schools for the following year who want to enroll at a magnet-themed elementary school other than the designated attendance zone school
- Students who want to join a sibling as a magnet student currently attending an elementary school other than their designated attendance zone school

Lottery Preferences

Students may be eligible for a lottery preference at a specific school. Students with a preference are offered a seat at that specific school before students that do not have a preference. Lottery preferences are offered to:

- Students with sibling(s) currently attending the school of choice outside the designated attendance zone
- Students wishing to return to their school within the designated attendance zone

Placement Process

The Magnet School Lottery relies on a computer-based program to randomly select students from the appropriate grade-level application pool at each school which has a set capacity which cannot be exceeded. The number of students selected in each grade at each school is dependent on projected enrollment. Students who are not awarded a seat at their school of choice will attend their current designated school but will be added to a waitlist. If seats become available, they will be offered according to placement on the waitlist.

Within 7- 10 days of the lottery drawing, parents/guardians of students will be notified of their placement status. Parents/guardians of students offered a seat must accept or decline the offer within 7-10 days of the initial notification. Students who accept a seat will remain at the magnet school through the highest grade unless the student forfeits the seat. Any residential moves will require up to 72 hours or 3 business days to process the change in transportation. During this period, parents must provide transportation.

If a response to the initial notification is not returned within the allotted time, the family will forfeit its seat(s). A family forfeits a seat if the student(s) moves outside of the boundaries of Groton, transfers to a different school, or declines/fails to respond to a lottery seat offer.

All decisions are final and any change will require re-entry through the next lottery application window.

Elementary (K-5) School Placement – cont.

Key Dates:

July-January:	Families explore each magnet-themed school of interest
January:	Lottery application portal opens <i>(New/Returning Student Registration must be completed before lottery application is approved)</i>
March:	“Intent to Return” is completed
April:	Potential open seats are determined
May:	Lottery drawing is complete Within 7-10 days from drawing: Parent notification is completed Within 7-10 days of notification: Parent response or seat forfeited will occur
September:	Current school year lottery applications and waitlists expire

Intra-District Transfer Requests

Groton Public Schools emphasizes the importance of consistency and stability in its students’ educational experience and families are discouraged from requesting mid-year transfers. Families wishing to transfer schools should participate in the District's intra-district Magnet Choice lottery to apply to a preferred school for the following school year.

Transfer Request Process

Parents/guardians who desire a change of school outside of the lottery window must complete and submit a transfer request form for each child. Students must be fully registered with Groton Public Schools for a transfer request to be considered. Transfer request forms can be accessed via the PowerSchool parent portal under the “Forms” tab. Transfers may or may not be granted depending on various factors including the time of year, current and/or projected enrollment, placement of siblings, previous transitions, transportation, and physical/emotional/legal considerations.

Transfer Request Participants

- Current Groton Public Schools students who move within Groton boundary, and request placement at the school within the new attendance zone

Elementary (K-5) School Placement – cont.

The transfer request may be denied if:

1. The preferred maximum class size has been exceeded for a particular program or school.
2. The school requested does not have the appropriate programming needs for a student or does not offer a particular program requested.
3. Students do not meet the established eligibility criteria for participation in a particular program including age requirements, course prerequisite and required levels of performance.
4. The student's educational experience has lacked continuity which may negatively impact their success.

Regulations Approved:

GROTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Groton, Connecticut