

GROTON BOARD OF EDUCATION
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING MINUTES
MAY 13, 2024 @ 6:00 P.M.
CENTRAL OFFICE, ROOM 11 / HYBRID

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

MEMBERS ABSENT: Dean Antipas

ALSO PRESENT: Susan Austin, Phil Piazza, Lisa Hernandez Cororan (remote)

1. CALL TO ORDER - Mr. Jay Weitlauf, Chairperson called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

2. REVIEW APRIL 15, 2024 MEETING MINUTES

MOTION: Ackerman, White: To approve the minutes of April 15, 2024.
PASSED - UNANIMOUSLY

3. HILL FOR LITERACY UPDATE - Dr. Piazza noted that the committee is reviewing Wit and Wisdom and EL Instruction. The committee consists of 30 people across all grade levels. He noted that the group framed conversation around what they were seeing in the program both positive and what they didn't see. Adrian Johnson gave his overview of the positives and negatives expressed by the teachers.

Dr. Piazza noted that the committee looked through 11 different categories and was divided into 3 groups:

1. Phonological Awareness
2. Instructional Design
3. Phonics Instruction
4. Fluency
5. Vocabulary
6. Cultural Responses and Sustaining Education
7. Comprehension
8. Motivation and Engagement
9. Assessment
10. Listening and Speaking
11. Writing

Dr. Piazza stated that the next step is for the Groton Review Committee to review the HILL for Literacy summary report so that they can make an informed decision on which program to recommend. This decision will be discussed and passed to the Superintendent. The BOE will be provided with the HILL for Literacy report, as well as the Superintendent's recommendation of a program to adopt for GPS. Mrs. Lisa Hernandez Corcoran addressed some of the concerns the teachers had.

4. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Ackerman, White: To adjourn at 6:49 p.m.
PASSED UNANIMOUSLY