GROTON BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING MINUTES MAY 28, 2024 @ 6:00 P.M. CENTRAL OFFICE, ROOM 11

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jay Weitlauf - Chairperson, Andrea Ackerman, Dean Antipas, Adrian Johnson,

Matthew Shulman, Ian Thomas, Jennifer White, Michael Whitney

MEMBERS ABSENT: Beverly Washington – Vice Chairperson

ALSO PRESENT: Susan Austin, Sam Kilpatrick, Ray Engle, Lisa Hernandez Corcoran (remote),

Lauren Casini (remote), Zoe Antipas

I. <u>CALL TO ORDER</u> – Mr. Jay Weitlauf, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

A. Pledge of Allegiance

The first order of business was the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag led by Mr. Whitney.

II. RECOGNITION AND PARTICIPATION OF VISITORS AND DELEGATIONS

NONE

III. COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS

- 1. Mrs. Ellen Stefransky, 401 Sandy Hollow Road, stated that she is the mother of two special needs students. She made a statement regarding students with disabilities.
- 2. Mr. Ernie Koschmieder, Director of Food Services expressed concerns regarding utility costs charged to the Food Services budget.
- 3. Mr. John Ambroise, RTM Moderator, 169 Shennecossett Parkway, addressed the budget approvals, cuts and reduction, and asked for clarification regarding the Health Insurance. He hoped that Board members and the Superintendent would attend the RTM meetings periodically.

IV. RESPONSE TO COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS

- 1. Mr. Weitlauf made a referral regarding how the district communicates and engages families of children of all levels of abilities. Mr. Weitlauf addressed the cut to the Food Services budget. To the Moderator he noted that either the Superintendent or the Chairperson would be attending the RTM meetings and to give updates periodically.
- 2. Dr. Ackerman addressed the comments made by Mrs. Stefransky on inclusion.
- 3. Mr. Shulman thanked all speakers. He stated that he wanted to see the suggestions made by Mrs. Sefransky. Mr. Shulman would like to know what the RTM moderator's concerns and suggestions were related to the Health Insurance.
- 4. Mrs. White stated that she was not aware of the cut to the Food Services budget. She asked for the suggestions made by Mrs. Stefransky. She stated that she would make a commitment to attend the RTM meetings.
- 5. Mr. Johnson stated that he would try to attend the RTM meetings.
- 6. Mr. Thomas stated that he echoes the comments made by his colleagues.

V. <u>STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT</u>

Zoe Antipas made the following report:

- The Senior trip is fully paid for by Senior Class.
- The Seniors are picking up their caps and gowns.
- She has enjoyed serving as a Student Representative to the Board of Education.
- The Induction Ceremony that is occurring tonight.
- She shared a message from David Haugeto.

VI. <u>SUPERINTENDENT AND ADMINISTRATION REPORTS</u>

- A. Superintendent Report & Assistant Superintendent Report
 - Literacy K-5 Presentation Superintendent Austin noted that the last meeting of the CAPSS/CSDE MasterClass in the Science of Reading is scheduled for next week; stating that today, she, Dr. Piazza, Lisa Corcoran, and Chris Dauphinais visited CK with the CAPSS representative. The Superintendent shared a video that will be placed on the website.
- B. Report and Information from the Staff
 - 1. Business Manager Report
 - Health Insurance Report (Attachment #1) Mr. Ray Engle, Interim Finance Director, gave an overview of the Health Insurance Report for the month of March. Mr. Shulman made a referral to discuss the Health Insurance. Mr. Engle stated that there is no new information on the audit.
 - Utilities Report (Attachment #2) Mr. Ray Engle, Interim Finance Director, gave an overview of the Utilities Report.
 - 2. Director of Buildings and Grounds
 - Update re: School Facilities Mr. Kilpatrick gave an overview of:
 - Preparations for GMS 8th grade Promotion on June 12, 2024, and FHS Graduation on June 14, 2024.
 - GMS Softball Field Lights: site approval has come this past week.
 - GMS/MRMS solar additional savings estimate (GMS \$1,353.86 & MRMS \$2,632) for a total estimate of \$3,985.86.
 - CB Roof/Solar project is up for discussion and possible vote tonight
 - FHS & MRMS carport solar projects:
 - FHS we are reviewing the Power Purchase Agreement; will need Board approval by the first week of July to make the August bid cycle for the Green Bank.
 - MRMS will be going out to bid to determine if viable or not.

VII. <u>COMMITTEE REPORTS</u>

- A. Policy Mr. Shulman noted that the Policy Committee met and noted the policies on the agenda.
- B. Curriculum Dr. Ackerman stated that the Curriculum Committee met on May 6, 2024 and had questions and that a survey was sent out. The next meeting will be June 3, 2024.
- C. Finance/Facilities Mr. Antipas stated that the Finance/Facilities Committee met on May 7, 2024, discussed the status of the 2022-23 audit, the FY24 and FY25 budgets, received the Director of Finance report, and the Director of Buildings and Grounds report.

VII. <u>COMMITTEE REPORTS</u> – cont.

D. State Council on Education Opportunities for Military Children – Dr. Ackerman reported that there is a problem with all states in making decisions; addressed the inequities between the states and that training is lacking in some places.

E. Other

- LEARN There was no report.
- Athletic Fields Mr. Thomas noted that the Athletic Fields met and that the blueprints were shown and there was a split decision of the body to what option they are leaning towards.
- Trails Committee Mr. Shulman noted that the Trails Committee met. The Committee is still in the design phase for a visually impaired trail at Copp Family Park and they want to work on a trail that will go by TRMS.
- Library Committee Mr. Shulman noted that the Library Committee met and that the One-Card will be addressed once graduation is over. They will be jumping in on Healthy Cooking matters in June; giving a Garden where people will be able to plant 300 plants - up to 50 families can apply for them; gave an update regarding the hydroponics project.

VIII. **ACTION ITEMS**

A. Consent Agenda

MOTION: Ackerman, Antipas: To approve the Consent Agenda.

YES - Weitlauf, Ackerman, Antipas, Johnson, Shulman,

Thomas, White

ABSTAINED - Whitney

PASSED

B. Old Business

1. Discussion and possible action regarding a second reading of policy P 5141.5 Suicide Prevention/Intervention (Attachment #3)

5141.5 Suicide MOTION: White, Thomas: policy Р approve

Prevention/Intervention as a second reading.

MOTION: Whitney, Thomas: To amend P 5141.5 Suicide Prevention/Intervention as

follows:

- Change bullet point #5 to read "lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, questioning or other related identities"
- Add "e.g. bullying" after social and/or cultural factors in the second paragraph
- Change legal reference to 10-221(f)

Mr. Whitney and Mr. Thomas withdrew their motion to amend the policy. Mrs. White and Mr. Thomas withdrew their motion to approve P 5141.5 Suicide Prevention/Intervention as a second reading. Policy P 5141.5 Suicide Prevention/Intervention will be sent back to the Policy Committee for revision.

VIII. <u>ACTION ITEMS</u> – cont.

C. New Business

1. Discussion and possible action regarding a first reading of policy P 3542.43 Food Service Charging Policy (Attachment #4)

MOTION: Shulman, Thomas: To approve policy P 3542.43 Food Service-Charging

Policy as a first reading.
PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

2. Discussion and possible action regarding a first reading of policy P 3313.1 Local Purchasing (Attachment #5)

MOTION: Johnson, Thomas: To approve policy P 3313.1 Local Purchasing as a first

reading.

MOTION: Shulman, Johnson: To amend the main motion to restore the original

language to Policy P3313.1 Local Purchasing.

PASSED – UNANIMOUSLY

VOTE ON MAIN MOTION AS AMENDED:

PASSED – UNANIMOUSLY

3. Discussion and possible action regarding a first reading of policy P 5112.2 Admission Requirements for Groton Residents (Attachment #6)

MOTION: Johnson, Thomas: To approve policy P 5112.2 Admission Requirements

for Groton Residents as a first reading.

PASSED - UNANIMOUSLY

4. Discussion and possible action regarding a first reading of Bylaw 9324 Meeting Conduct & Parliamentary Procedures (Attachment #7)

MOTION: Antipas, Thomas: To approve Bylaw 9324 Meeting Conduct &

Parliamentary Procedures as a first reading.

MOTION: Antipas, Thomas: To amend the motion to the new section to read

"...include that the Board will endeavor to record all Regular, COW, and Committee meetings and post such recordings on the district's website..." and to correct the Legal Reference – 1-227 to read "Provision of notice of meetings to persons filing written requests. Fees."

PASSED – UNANIMOUSLY

VIII. <u>ACTION ITEMS</u> – cont.

- C. New Business cont.
 - 5. Discussion and possible action regarding approval of the Wit & Wisdom Literacy Program, in conjunction with Heggerty Phonemic Awareness and the University of Florida Literacy Institute (ULFI Phonics), to form the compendium of resources for K-5 Literacy Instruction per state mandate

MOTION: Thomas, Ackerman: To approve the Wit & Wisdom Literacy Program, in

conjunction with Heggerty Phonemic Awareness and the University of Florida Literacy Institute (ULFI Phonics), to form the compendium of resources for K-

5 Literacy Instruction per state mandate.

YES - Weitlauf, Ackerman, Johnson, Shulman,

Thomas, White ABSTAINED – Whitney

NO – Antipas PASSED

6. Discussion and possible action regarding approval of the Educational Specifications for the Charles Barnum Roof Replacement Project (Attachment #8)

MOTION: Whitney, Ackerman: To approve the Educational Specifications for the

Charles Barnum Roof Replacement Project.

PASSED - UNANIMOUSLY

7. Discussion and possible Action regarding approval of the Educational Specifications for the Charles Barnum Roof-Mounted Solar Photovoltaic Array Project (Attachment #9)

MOTION: Whitney, Antipas: To approve the Educational Specifications for the

Charles Barnum Roof Mounted Solar Photovoltaic

Array Project.

YES - Weitlauf, Antipas, Johnson, Shulman, Thomas,

White, Whitney

ABSTAINED – Ackerman

PASSED

8. Discussion and possible action regarding Juneteenth observation for 12-month employees

MOTION: White, Thomas: To approve the observation of Juneteenth on June 19,

2024 for 12-month employees. PASSED – UNANIMOUSLY

IX. <u>INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS</u>

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

- Mr. Thomas noted:
 - He attended the May 8, 2024 RTM meeting and spoke in the public portion regarding the CIP for FHS Auditorium.
 - He attended multiple track meets and a concert.
 - The new State law for Boards of Educations to establish non-lapsing funds. He made a referral to the Finance/Facilities Committee to discuss this item.
 - He attended the Retirement Ceremony.
- Mrs. White noted that she heard from a citizen that Groton should not hold Graduation the same day as Grasso Tech.
- Mr. Johnson noted that he attended the Teacher Retirement Ceremony, and he expressed his thanks to all employees that spent a large portion of their lives working for Groton children and educating Groton Children, and he expressed support of non-lapsing fund to happen.
- Mr. Shulman noted he attended the Mentor Dinner and Senior Class Fundraiser.
- Mr. Whitney thanked the Board for welcoming him to the Board of Education.
- Mr. Weitlauf shared his regrets for being unable to attend the Faculty and Staff Retirement Ceremony. Mr. Weitlauf noted the Ad Hoc Committee on budget beginning in June:
 - Chairman Ian Thomas
 - Jennifer White
 - Michael Whitney

X. <u>ADVANCE PLANNING</u>

A. Future Meeting Dates and Calendar Items for Board Attention

As noted in the agenda.

B. Suggested Agenda Items

NONE

IX. <u>ADJOURNMENT</u>

MOTION: Ackerman, Johnson: To adjourn at 10:05 p.m. PASSED UNANIMOUSLY



Health Insurance Dashboard

Updated: May 23, 2024

Notes:

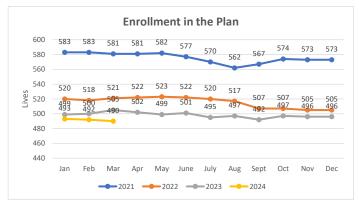
Enrollment: Remains down (1.0%) from the same period last year.

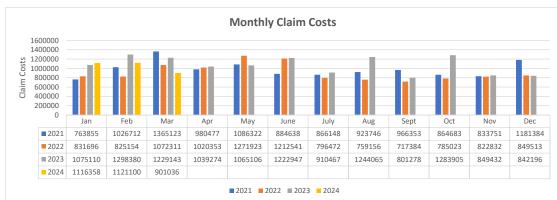
Claim Costs: March 2024 monthly claim costs of ~\$901k are down from March 2023. Fiscal YTD claim costs are up 17%. Claim Costs: Day to day claims (under \$50k) have decreased (20%), yet mid-tier claims (\$50k-\$200K) have increased 19%.

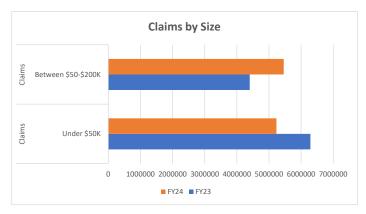
Claim Costs: Claims per employee per month has increased 39%.

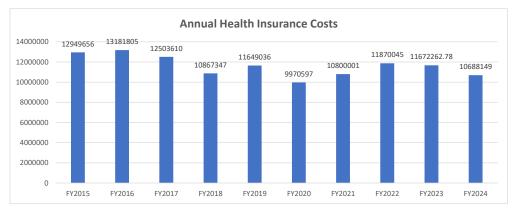
Overall claims are trending upward by 8.33% over the previous year.

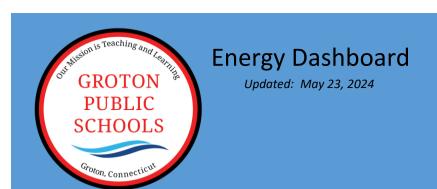
NOTE: The funding of the February claims has triggered the use of the Corridor reserve.







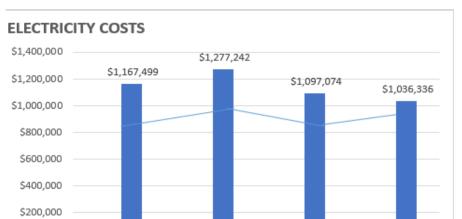




Notes:

Usage: Consumption is equal to or below the prior year.

Electricity: YTD consumption is 3.9% less than the prior year. YTD costs are 2.5% less than the prior year. Natural Gas: YTD consumption not complete, wating for invoices. Note; Missing Spraue invoices for April Oil: YTD consumption is slightly lower than the prior year. YTD costs are 33% lower as compared to prior year.

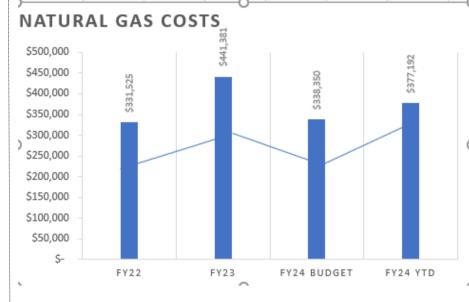


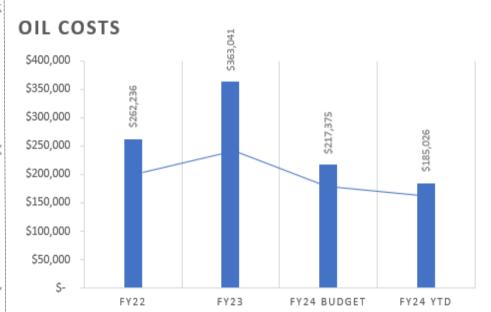
FY23

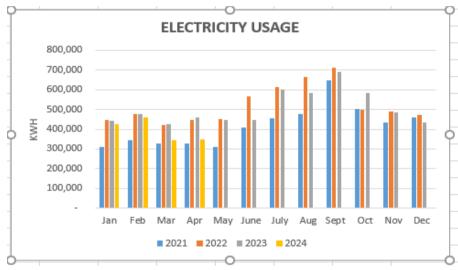
FY24 BUDGET

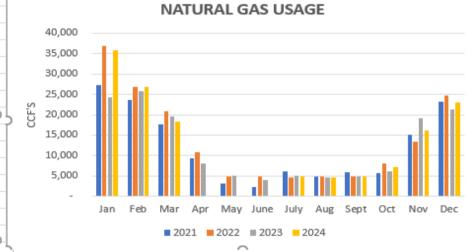
FY24 YTD

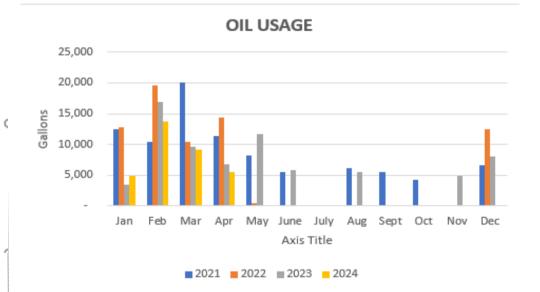
FY22











Todd.Ruh@dodea.edu

P 5141.5

Students

Suicide Prevention/Intervention

The Groton Board of Education (Board) recognizes that suicide is among the three leading causes of death among young people and, consequently, is a concern to this school system and the community it serves.

It is the policy of the Groton Board of Education to actively respond in any situation where a student verbally or behaviorally exhibits mental health distress, has been identified as at risk of suicide, has experienced negative impacts from social and/or cultural factors, or is considered to be at an increased risk of suicide based on particular risk factors. indicates an intent to attempt suicide or to physically harm himself/herself themselves.

Risk factors for youth suicide will be based on the statewide strategic suicide prevention plan developed by the Connecticut Suicide Advisory Board, which includes, but is not limited to youth who are:

- 1. bereaved by suicide,
- 2. disabled or have chronic health conditions, such as mental health or substance use disorders,
- 3. involved in the juvenile justice system,
- 4. experiencing homelessness or placed in an out-of-home setting, such as foster care, or
- 5. lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender or questioning.

Therefore, any school employee who may have knowledge of a suicide threat or intent will report this information to the school Principal, Assistant Principals or his/her their designee, who will, in turn, mobilize the crisis intervention team as described in the district's Guide to Crisis Intervention Procedures. Immediate contact will be made with a parent or guardian. A school mental health professional will meet with the student and assess their level of risk using a District approved rating scale. The mental health professional will make a recommendation(s) to the parent/guardian regarding the appropriate action steps that should be taken to address the student's mental health needs. If indicated, a referral to a community-based mental health provider will be shared with the parent/guardian on the same day and documented on the District's Crisis Intervention Team Report (CIT 1 and 2). At no time during this process is the student to be left alone.

The Board recognizes that suicide is a complex issue, and that, while school staff members may recognize potentially suicidal youth, they cannot make clinical assessment of risk and provide in depth counseling, but must refer the youth to an appropriate agency for such professional assessment, and counseling and treatment services outside of the school.

In addition, information regarding the national 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline should be made widely available in schools and District offices. This information should note to call 988 if you are in emotional distress and/or you are having suicidal ideations. It should also include that by calling 988, you will be provided with support and connected to resources if needed in English and Spanish.

In the event that a parent/guardian is unavailable, information concerning a student's suicide attempt, threat, or risk shall be shared with necessary personnel.

Suicide Prevention/Intervention - cont.

Legal Reference:

Connecticut General Statutes

10-221(e) Boards of Education to prescribe rules.

10 221 Boards of education to prescribe rules, policies, and procedures. (e) re "policy and

procedures for dealing with youth suicide prevention and youth suicide attempts."

Policy Adopted:

June 1990

Revised:

February 23, 1993

Revised:

May 9, 1994

GROTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Groton, CT

GROTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS DEPARTMENT OF PUPIL PERSONNEL SERVICES

CRISIS INTERVENTION TEAM FOLLOW UP REPORT (IF APPLICABLE) **CONFIDENTIAL**

This report must be completed when students in crisis are referred to a mental health professional outside of school or to document a reentry meeting.

Student: DOB:	Parent/Guardian:	
Age: Male Female Non Binary	Address:	
School: Grade:	Phone:	
IEP 504 n/a	Disability (if applicable):	
Student Referred By:		
Team Members Present:		
Administrator	General Education Teacher	
School Social Worker	Special Education Teacher	
School Psychologist	Nurse	
School Counselor	Other (specify)	
Parent/Guardian	Other (specify)	
Action Steps (from CIT 1:) Action:	Outcome	
Debrief with Student		
Family follow up with outside provider		
Reentry Meeting		
Develop Safety Plan		
PPT/504 or Team Meeting to Review Student's plan		
Referral for outside services		
211 or 911		
Other (specify):		
Brief description of follow-up:		
	CIT Chairperson Date	
Copies to: CO, Confidential/Health File, Parent		Rev. 4/23

Business and Non-Instructional Operations

Food Service - Charging Policy

Groton Public Schools Food Service Department is an essential program that provides students and staff with nutritious and healthy foods.

Groton Participates in the National School Breakfast (SBP) and School Lunch Programs (NSLP). These programs are federally funded and are administered by the United States Department of Agriculture's Food and Nutrition Service. At the State level, the school Child Nutrition Programs are administered by the Connecticut State Department of Education, which operates the program through agreements with the local school food authorities.

Students have the right to obtain a meal in accordance with CGS 10-215 and we allow students to charge a single reimbursable meal for breakfast and lunch each day to their student account. A reimbursable meal must consist of the minimum requirement(s) of guidelines set by SBP and NSLP.

We prohibit publicly identifying or shaming a child for any unpaid meal charges, including, but not limited to, delaying or refusing to serve a meal to a child, designating a specific meal option for a child or otherwise taking any disciplinary action against such child with unpaid meal charges.

Parents and guardians are responsible for providing meals or meal money for their student(s). Charging is intended to be for emergency purposes only. Repayment is expected.

To view account transactions or receive a low balance alert(s) you may sign up for an account on "School Cafe Parent Portal" App. The account is at no cost/charge to you, however there is a fee for each credit/debit transaction. For students with a negative balance, communication will be emailed to families twice a month with negative balance letters. The emails are based on the email address entered into the PowerSchool primary contact.

Free and reduced applications are available for any families who would like to apply.

You can find the online application and <u>SNAP</u> information on our website <u>grotonschools.org</u>. Paper applications are available at every school, Central Office and the Food Service Administrative offices.

Adults are NOT permitted to charge meals at any time. They can open an account with the food service department and put funds on the account or pay directly to the kitchen.

Students and Adults are not permitted to charge a single item or a la carte item(s).

The Groton Board of Education (Board) realizes that funds from the nonprofit school food service account, according to federal regulations, cannot be used to cover the cost of charged meals that have not been paid.

In order to sustain the District's food services program, the District cannot permit the excessive charging of student meals. If a students' account reaches an unpaid balance equal to or exceeding the cost of 30 meals, Food Service Administration shall refer the parent/guardian to the homeless liaison, Director of Pupil Personnel.

Families may also contact **Groton Human Services** for access to family assistance.

humanser@groton-ct.gov

860-441-6622

45 Fort Hill Rd, Groton, CT

It is the goal of the department to effectively and respectfully address family responsibility for unpaid meals.

Any parent/guardian who anticipates a problem with paying for meals is encouraged to contact the Groton Public Schools Food & Nutrition Services Office (860-449-7208). The Board encourages all families who may have a child eligible for free or reduced price lunch to apply.

Dissemination of Policy

This policy shall be provided in writing to all households at the start of each school year and to households transferring into the school district during the school year.

This policy shall be included in student/parent handbooks, on online portals that households use to access student accounts, placed on the District's website, on the website of each school, and published at the beginning of each school year at the time information is distributed regarding free and reduced price meals and again to the household the first time the policy is applied to a specific child.

This policy shall be provided to all school staff and/or school food authority staff responsible for its enforcement. In addition, school social workers, nurses, the homeless liaison, and other staff members assisting children in need or who may be contacted by families with unpaid meal charges also should be informed of this policy.

The District's school food authority shall maintain, as required, documentation of the methods used to communicate this policy to households and school or school food authority-level staff responsible for policy enforcement.

The goal of the food service program is essential in providing students with nutritious and healthy foods through the district's food services program. The school nutrition program is an essential part of the education system. By providing good tasting, nutritious meals in pleasant surroundings, we are helping to teach students the value of good nutrition.

The school nutrition program is an extension of the school's educational programs, and it is the district's vision to have a partnership among students, staff, school family, and the community in offering access to, and in providing nutritious meals, which are attractively presented at an affordable price.

The Board of Education has an agreement with the Connecticut State Department of Education to participate in one or more school Child Nutrition Programs and accepts full responsibility for adhering to the Federal and State guidelines and regulations pertaining to these school Child Nutrition Programs. The Board also accepts full responsibility for providing free or reduced price meals to eligible elementary and secondary students enrolled in the district's schools. Applicants for such meals are responsible to pay for meals until the application for free or reduced price meals is completed and approved. All applications for free and reduced price meals, and any related information, will be considered strictly confidential and not to be shared outside of the district's food services program. Meals are planned to meet the specified nutrient standards outlined by the United States Department of Agriculture for children based on their age or grade group.

Although not required by law, because of the district's participation in the Child Nutrition Programs, the Board approves the establishment of a system to allow a student to charge a meal.

Funds from the non-profit school food service account, according to federal regulations, cannot be used to cover the cost of charged meals that have not been paid.

Federal funds are intended to subsidize the meals of children and may not be used to subsidize meals for adults (teachers, staff, or visitors). Adults are not allowed to charge meals and shall pay for such meals at the time of service or through pre-paid accounts.

Charging is not encouraged by the district, but on those occasions that students do, they will be offered a meal.

In order to sustain the district's food services program, the district cannot permit the excessive charging of student meals. Therefore, any charging of meals must be consistent with this policy and any accompanying regulations. The Superintendent or designee shall develop regulations designed to effectively and respectfully address family responsibility for unpaid meals.

Any parent/guardian who anticipates a problem with paying for meals is encouraged to contact the Food Services manager/director and/or the school principal for assistance. The Board encourages all families who may have a child eligible for free or reduced price lunch to apply.

Definitions

"Delinquent Debt" constitutes unpaid meal charges, like any other money owed to the nonprofit school food service account when payment is overdue, as defined by state or local policies.

"Bad Debt" occurs when unpaid meal charges are not collected and are considered an operating loss. Such debt cannot be absorbed by the nonprofit school food service account, which must be restored using nonfederal funds.

Elementary Students

The district uses Meal Pay Plus, an automated prepayment system, which allows parents/guardians to view their child's meal account balance and purchases, receive low balance notifications, as well as make deposits, to their child's school meal account. Any student whose account has insufficient funds, (i.e., is at the charging limit), and does not bring a meal from home may charge any combination of meals up to a negative balance of \$10.00. When the charge limit is reached, a meal will be provided. Negative balance status can be avoided by making a payment in the form of cash, check, or credit card to the Meal Pay Plus website. When a charge has occurred, a written notification shall be sent home to parents. All credited meals must be repaid. In situations in which a student is consistently without meal money, the principal or his/her designee should encourage the parent/guardian to apply for free or reduced price meals.

Secondary Students

The district uses Meal Pay Plus, an automated prepayment system, which allows parents/guardians to view their child's meal account balance and purchases, receive low balance notifications, as well as make deposits, to their child's school meal account. Any student whose account has insufficient funds (i.e., is at the charging limit) and does not bring a meal from home may charge any combination of meals up to a negative balance of \$10.00. No snacks or a la carte items may be charged. When the charge limit is reached, a meal will be provided. Negative balance status can be avoided by making a payment in the form of cash, check, or credit card to the Meal Pay Plus website. When a charge has occurred, a written notification shall be sent home to parents. All credited meals must be repaid. In situations in which a student is consistently without meal money, the principal or his/her designee should encourage the parent/guardian to apply for free or reduced price meals.

Districtwide

- 1. Parents are responsible for providing meals or meal money for their student. Repayment is expected without delay. Snack and a la carte purchases are cash only. At any time of the year, parents are encouraged to complete or update a free or reduced meals application.
- 2. Although not required by law, because of the district's participation in the school Child Nutrition Programs, the Board of Education approves the establishment of a system to allow a student to charge a meal. The Board authorizes the superintendent to develop rules which address:

- a. What can be charged;
- b. The limit on the number of charges per student;
- c. The system used for identifying and recording charged meals;
- d. The system used for collection of repayments; and
- e. Ongoing communication of the policy to parents/guardians and students.

Delinquent Debt and Bad Debt

The district's efforts to recover from households money owed due to the charging of meals must not have a negative impact on the children involved and shall focus primarily on the adults in the household responsible for providing funds for meal purchases. The school food authority is encouraged to consider whether the benefits of potential collections outweigh the costs which would be incurred to achieve those collections.

Money owed because of unpaid meal charges shall be considered "delinquent debt," as defined, as long as it is considered collectable and reasonable efforts are being made to collect it. Such debt must be paid by June 30, of the current school year.

After reasonable attempts are made to collect the delinquent debt, and it is determined that further collection efforts are useless or too costly, the debt must be reclassified as "bad debt." Such debt shall be considered an operating loss not to be absorbed by the nonprofit school food service account but must be restored using non-federal funds.

Dissemination of Policy

This policy shall be provided in writing to all households at the start of each school year and to households transferring to the school or school district during the school year.

This policy shall be included in student/parent handbooks, on online portals that households use to access student accounts, on the district's website, and on the website of each school at the beginning of each school year.

This policy shall be provided to all school staff and other staff members assisting children in need or who may be contacted by families with unpaid meal charges also should be informed of this policy.

The district's school food authority shall maintain, as required, documentation of the methods used to communicate this policy to households and school or school food authority level staff responsible for policy enforcement.

Legal Reference:

Connecticut General Statutes

10-215 Lunches, breakfasts and other feeding programs for public school children and employees.

10-215a Nonpublic school and nonprofit agency participation in feeding programs.

10-215b Duties of State Board of Education re feeding programs.

State Board of Education Regulations

State of Connecticut, Bureau of Health/Nutrition, Family Services and Adult Education Operational Memorandum No. 4-17, "Guidance on Unpaid Meal Charges and Collection of Delinquent Meal Payments," Nov. 2, 2016

Operational Memorandum #19-10, State of Connecticut, Bureau of Health/Nutrition, Family Services and Adult Education "Unallowable Charges to No-profit School Food Service Accounts and the Serving of Meals to No-paying Full and Reduced Price Students"

National School Lunch Program and School Breakfast Program; Competitive Foods. (7 CFR Parts 210 and 220, Federal Register, Vol 45 No. 20, Tuesday, January 29, 1980, pp 6758-6772

USDA Guidance:

SP 46-2016, "Unpaid Meal Charges: Local Meal Charge Policies"

SP 47-2016, "Unpaid Meal Charges: Clarification on Collection of Delinquent Meal Payment"

SP 57-2016 "Unpaid Meal Charges: Guidance and Q and A"

SP 58-2016 "2016 Edition: Overcoming the Unpaid Meal Challenge: Proven Strategies from Our Nation's Schools"

Policy Adopted: September 25, 2017

Revised: June 24, 2019

GROTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Groton, Connecticut

P 3313.1

Business

Local Purchasing

As a public agency the Board of Education (Board) is aware of its responsibility to spend its funds so as to obtain the greatest possible educational value for every dollar spent. The Board of Education favors the purchase of goods and services from local vendors so long as all other factors, including, but not limited to, price, quality, reliability and delivery terms, are equal.

This policy shall not be construed to require competitive bidding for all goods or services.

(cf. 3323 - Bidding)

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes 10-241

Policy Adopted: May 8, 1995 GROTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS Groton, Connecticut

P 5112.2

Students

Admission Requirements for Groton Residents

All children entering Groton Public Schools for the first time must present legal evidence of age, as well as current health assessments and up-to-date required immunizations, except for those students classified as homeless in accordance with Federal law. Military families new to Groton have 30 days past enrollment to provide the above-mentioned medical documents. If the parent/guardian of any student is unable to pay for required immunizations or health assessments, the Groton Board of Education (Board) will refer the parent/guardian to the school-based health center.

Documents accepted for proof of child's age (hand-written documents will not be accepted)						
Hospital, Physician or Religious Certificate showing date of birth						
Passport						
Adoption Record						
Birth Certificate						
Previously verified school records showing date of birth						

The Department of Children and Families and the Judicial Department shall provide to the Superintendent any educational records within their custody of a child seeking to enter, or to return to the District, from a juvenile detention center, the Connecticut Juvenile Training School, or any other residential placement, prior to the child's entry or return. However, receipt of the educational records shall not delay a child from enrolling in school. The Superintendent shall provide such information to the principal at the school the child will be attending. The principal shall disclose such information to staff members as appropriate.

Residency Requirements

Groton Public Schools provides educational services to students who are residents of Groton and to those out-of-town students for whom the District has entered into an agreement, such as a tuition or other special arrangement, with either their parent(s)/guardian(s) or their home Board of Education. Students who are not residents of Groton, except as mentioned above, may not attend Groton Public Schools. The Board may take legal action to recoup the cost of educating students found to have been illegally attending schools in the District. A student's parent/guardians are required to notify the principal when they are no longer residents of Groton. In exceptional situations, the Superintendent may allow the student to complete the current school year. The student's parent/guardian must present proof of residency upon initial registration in Groton Public Schools and whenever requested by the principal.

Admission Requirements for Groton Residents - cont.

Students who reside in Groton and plan to attend an inter-district magnet school, outside of Groton's boundaries, are required to register with the Groton Public Schools' Central Office Registration Office prior to beginning the inter-district magnet school. A complete, updated registration and proof of residency is required annually.

Inter-district Magnet: A magnet school that serves students across District lines.

Students who reside in Groton and wish to attend an intra-district magnet-themed schools other than their attendance zoned school must enter the District's annual school lottery for an opportunity to earn a seat at the school of choice with District transportation.

Intra-district Magnet: A magnet school that serves only students who reside within the boundaries of Groton and is under the jurisdiction of Groton Public Schools.

Proof of Residency

Proof of residency can be verified by submitting:

- (a) one document from column A and
- (b) one document from column B.

Only those items listed on the *Documents for Proof of Residency* table in this policy will be accepted as proof of residency. Each document submitted must specify the physical address of where the student lives; post office box addresses are not acceptable.

Documents for Proof of Residency One from column A and one from column B								
Column A	Column B							
 Residential rental or lease agreement Residential mortgage statement Residential purchase or escrow agreement Residential property tax bill (dated within the past year) Notarized Residency Affidavit* Military Families Only: with 30-day follow-up Letter of Intent for residency Military Orders 	 Valid Connecticut driver's license (address labels not accepted) One of the following dated within the last 30 days Utility bill (gas, electric, telephone, cable TV, etc.) Letter from an approved government agency (assisted housing, food stamps, unemployment payment, etc.) Payroll stub Bank or credit card statement Current vehicle registration or insurance bill Medical billing or insurance information 							

Admission Requirements for Groton Residents - cont.

*If the student's family is living with another family in Groton:

1. the person they are living with must complete a notarized Residency Affidavit at the Groton Public Schools' Central Office stating that the student(s) and parent/guardian live with them at the address, and for what period of time.

The person completing the affidavit must also provide the following documents:

- 1. a photo ID
- 2. one document from column A and one document from column B showing they reside within District and school boundaries.

If the living situation is temporary, once they have moved into their own residence, proof of residency for their new address is required and must be brought to the Central Office Registration Office.

Placement

Children who apply for initial admission to the District's schools by transfer from nonpublic schools, or from schools outside the District, will be placed at the grade they would have reached elsewhere pending observation and evaluation by classroom teachers, guidance personnel, or the school principal. After such observations and evaluations have been completed, the principal will determine the final grade placement of the children.

(cf. 5118 – Non residence attendance)

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes:

Sec. 10a-28. (Formerly Sec. 10-329d). Definitions.

10-15c. Discrimination in public schools prohibited.

10-76a. Definitions.

- 10-76d. Duties and powers of boards of education to provide special education programs and services. Determination of eligibility for Medicaid. State agency placements, apportionment of costs. Relationship of insurance to special education costs.
- 10-186. Duties of local and regional boards of education re: school attendance. Hearings. Appeals to state board. Establishment of hearing board. (As amended by Public Act 11-115 An Act Concerning Juvenile Re-Entry and Education)

10-204a. Required immunizations.

10-226. Health assessments.

10-206a. Free health assessments.

10-220. Duties of boards of education.

Admission Requirements for Groton Residents - cont.

10-233a. Definitions.

Policy Adopted: June 23, 2014 Revised: June 24, 2019

GROTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS Groton, Connecticut

Bylaws of the Board

Meeting Conduct & Parliamentary Procedures

Meeting Protocol

To ensure that the Board's meetings are conducted with maximum effectiveness and efficiency, members will:

- come to meetings adequately prepared;
- identify issues of concern before the meeting, whenever possible;
- circulate proposed motions and amendments, whenever possible, at least 48 hours before meeting;
- speak only when recognized;
- not interrupt each other during debate;
- not engage in disruptive and disrespectful side conversations;
- minimize unnecessary repetition;
- not monopolize the discussion;
- address the merits of the issue being discussed without appealing to the biases, prejudices and emotions of the audience;
- support the chair of the meeting's efforts to facilitate an orderly meeting;
- communicate openly and actively in discussion and dialog to avoid surprises;
- value equal participation of all members;
- practice respectful body language;
- listen actively when other members speak;
- not surprise or embarrass each other or members of the staff; and
- limit discussion/comments to 5 minutes per member per round unless extended by the chairperson.

Legal Notice

All Board of Education meetings shall be appropriately posted and conducted as provided by Connecticut General Statutes; under governing statutes, a meeting is any quorum of the Board of Education convened in person or electronically to discuss or act upon a Board matter, but meetings shall not include:

- 1. any meeting of a personnel search committee for executive level positions;
- 2. any chance meeting or a social meeting neither planned nor intended for discussing Board of Education business:
- 3. strategy or negotiations with respect to collective bargaining;
- 4. a caucus of members of a single political party notwithstanding that such members also constitute a quorum of the Board of Education;
- 5. communications limited to notice of meetings of the Board of Education or the agendas for such meetings.

Upon written request to the Superintendent of Schools, any person(s) may receive by mail notice of any Board meeting at least one week prior to the meeting where practical. An annual fee, payable to the school district, shall be made for this service. The amount of the fee shall be determined by the Superintendent of Schools and shall be directly related to the cost of providing this service.

Meeting Conduct & Parliamentary Procedures – cont.

Recording, Broadcasting, or Photographing Meetings

The Board of Education will endeavor that all Regular, Committee of the Whole, and Committee meetings are recorded, excluding any portion of any meeting that is an executive session, and that such recordings are posted on the District's online video-content channel or internet website and made available for the public to hear, view and copy.

At any meeting of the Board of Education or its committees which is open to the public, pursuant to the provisions of CGS sec. 1-226, the proceedings may be recorded, photographed, broadcast or recorded for broadcast by any person or by any newspaper, radio broadcasting company or television broadcasting company. The photographer or broadcaster and its personnel, or the person recording the proceedings, shall be required to handle the photographing, broadcast or recording as inconspicuously as possible and in such manner as not to disturb the proceedings of the meeting.

Conduct of Meetings

In the event that a Board of Education meeting is interrupted by any person or group of persons who render the orderly conduct of the meeting unfeasible and order cannot be restored by the removal of individuals who are willfully interrupting the meeting, the Chairman of the Board of Education may order the meeting room cleared and continue in session. Only regular items on the agenda may be considered in such case. Media representatives, unless they were disorderly, shall be permitted to attend the sessions held in this manner.

After time has passed, the Chairman, in his or her discretion, may suspend the Board meeting and invite back those members of the public not responsible for the disruption.

Voting Method

Voting at Board meetings shall be conducted in accordance with state statute and Robert's Rules of Order, newly revised.

Parliamentary Procedures

Board meetings shall be conducted according to the rules of parliamentary procedure laid down in Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised, unless otherwise specified by state law or in written Bylaws for Board of Education operating procedures.

(cf. 9321 - Time, Place, Notification for Meetings)

Reference: Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised

Connecticut General Statutes Legal Reference:

1-200 Definitions. ("Public Agency")

1-225 Meetings of government agencies to be public. Recording of votes. Schedule and

agenda of meetings to be filed. Notice of special meetings. Executive sessions.

1-226 Recording, broadcasting or photographing meetings.

1-227 Mailing of notice of meeting to persons filing written request.

Bylaw adopted by the Board: November 13, 2023

GROTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS Revised: March 25, 2024 Groton, Connecticut

EDUCATIONAL SPECIFICATIONS

ROOF REPLACEMENT

Dr. Charles G. Barnum School 68 Briar Hill Rd. Groton, CT 06340

JANUARY 24, 2024

EDUCATIONAL SPECIFICATIONS FOR DR. CHARLES BARNUM SCHOOL ROOF REPLACEMENT

January 24, 2024

1. **PROJECT RATIONALE**

The project rationale for the district shows the Dr. Charles G. Barnum School in Groton, CT calling for the replacement of 30,600 s.f. of low sloped roofs. The last roof replacement project for the facility was performed in 1996 roofed and the roofs are now 28 years old, surpassing their life expectancy. There are numerous areas of current roof leaks, as reported by Maintenance personnel, and it appears that numerous ongoing repairs are being continuously performed.

2. **LONG-RANGE PLAN**

The long-range plan for Groton Public Schools calls for the provision of an energy efficient, safe, healthy and appropriate learning environment. In order to comply with this aspect of the plan, it is necessary for Groton to replace the roof at Dr. Charles Barnum School.

3. **THE REROOF PROJECT**

Groton proposes the following components of its roof replacement project:

- The existing roofs are mainly large flat open areas with a positive roof pitch with one section of roof that is asphalt roof shingles.
- Test and identify any remnant asbestos-containing flashings, roofing or caulk materials.
- Remove roofing down to the existing structural deck and dispose of any hazardous materials that may be present.
- Install a new fully adhered thermoplastic roof system, 45 mil minimum over a cover board and continuous tapered 5" rigid insulation with integrated flashings and drains. New walk pads will be installed as required on all roofing areas.
- Replacement of all roof drains shall be included in the scope as well as installing scuppers and other secondary drains as required by code.
- Secondary drains for flat roofed areas may be required with interior piping to the exterior wall, or provisions of overflow spout shall be provided.

4. **BUILDING SYSTEMS**

Security: Not applicable. Public Address: Not applicable. Technology: Not applicable. Phone System: Not applicable. Clocks: Not applicable.

5. **INTERIOR BUILDING ENVIRONMENT**

The current school includes grades Pre-K to 5 and houses various classroom's, gymnasium, art rooms, music rooms, nurse's office, kitchen, server, cafeteria, custodial spaces, storage, boiler room and school administration offices.

Acoustics: Ceilings: If ceiling tiles are damaged due to water leaking

through the roof, they will be replaced as part of the project. As well, if there are any water marks on the walls,

they will be cleaned and repainted.

Lighting: Not Applicable.

HVAC: Roof-top units will be temporarily moved and then returned

to original location as necessary during the roof

replacement.

Plumbing: New piping to accommodate new roof drains.

Windows/Doors: Not applicable.

FF+F: Will not be affected.

6. **SITE DEVELOPMENT**

Site Acquisition:
Parking:
Not applicable.
Prives:
Not applicable.
Not applicable.
Not applicable.
Not applicable.
Not applicable.
Landscaping:
Not applicable.
Not applicable.
Not applicable.
Not applicable.
Not applicable.

7. **CONSTRUCTION BONUS REQUESTS**

Dr. Charles G. Barnum School does not house any of the special programs eligible for a school construction bonus.

School Readiness: C.G.S. 10-285a(e)--Not applicable. Lighthouse Schools: C.G.S. 10-285a(f)--Not applicable. C.G.S. 10-285a(g), as amended--Not

applicable.

Full-day Kindergarten: C.G.S. 10-285a(h)--YES

Reduced Class Size:

Regional Vo-Ag Center:

Interdistrict Magnet School:

Interdistrict Cooperative School:

Regional Special Education Center:

C.G.S. 10-285a(h)--Not applicable.

C.G.S. 10-264h--Not applicable.

C.G.S. 10-158a--Not applicable.

Regional Special Education Center: C.G.S. 10-76e--Not applicable

8. **COMMUNITY USES**

Dr. Charles G. Barnum School is designed for community uses during the school hours, before and after school hours and on many weekends throughout the school year and summer. The uses include but are not be limited to the following:

- PTO
- Groton Recreation Department
- Summer Enrichment Programs
- Neighborhood and Town wide public meetings

Various and sometimes multiple areas are used for these functions.

EDUCATIONAL SPECIFICATIONS ROOF-MOUNTED SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC ARRAY

Dr. Charles G. Barnum School 68 Briar Hill Rd. Groton, CT 06340

May 9th, 2024

Educational Specifications Groton, Connecticut Dr. Charles G. Barnum School Roof-mounted Solar Photovoltaic Project

May 9th, 2024

1. **PROJECT RATIONALE**

The long-range plan for Dr. Charles G. Barnum School ("Site") in Groton, CT calls for a photovoltaic solar project ("Project") installed on various sections of the roof. The energy generated by the Project will be consumed by the Site. The installation of this Project will follow a planned roof replacement. The Town and Board of Education will realize the financial benefits of the Project through avoided energy costs. The Town will fund the Project and seek applicable reimbursement through CT Department of Administrative Services ("DAS") Office of School Construction Grants & Review (OSCG&R).

2. **LONG-RANGE PLAN**

The long_ range plan for the Town and Board of Education is to develop solar projects on multiple school properties in order to reduce operating costs. The Project will have a minimum lifetime of twenty (20) years, but energy production can be expected for up to thirty (30) years.

3. THE PROJECT

Groton proposes the following components for this Project:

- The Project size shall be based on available roof space, historical electricity usage data.
 - Project system size of 127.4 kilowatt-direct current ("kWdc")
 - Annual production of 154,973 kilowatt-hours ("kWh")
 - Site's annual historical usage of 233,163 kilowatt-hours ("kWh")

- A structural analysis shall be performed by a professional engineer licensed in the State of Connecticut. The analysis will quantify the available structural capacity of the roof.
- The Project shall interconnect to the Site's existing electrical service entrance equipment.
- Tree removal may be required in order to maximize energy production of the Project.
- Project design shall meet industry standards, utility company requirements and applicable building codes.
- The Project will consist of the following major system components:
 - Module (i.e solar panels) manufacturers must be listed on the most recent version of the Bloomberg New Energy Finance ("BNEF") Tier 1 list.
 - Racking, the module mounting structures, shall be designed to resist wind uplift based on an analysis of the Project footprint and existing site conditions.
 - String level inverters shall be roof mounted throughout the array.
 - Rapid shutdown devices and/or direct-current optimizers shall be installed to ensure compliance with the adopted National Electric Code ("NEC").
 - A data acquisition system shall display real-time energy production data in the school lobby.
- The roof warranty shall remain in full effect following installation of the Project.
 All work shall be performed in accordance with the roofing manufacturer's specifications.
- The Project shall be commissioned and tested to confirm installation was in accordance to Project specifications and forecasted production values are achieved.

4. **PARTIES**

The Board of Education has engaged CSW Energy and Klee Sustainability Advisors ("Project Team") who together will provide project management, legal and administrative support. This includes overseeing the development, contracting and construction of the Project. The Project Team will assist the Town securing DAS funding, issuing a public request for proposals ("RFP"), assisting in the selection of a contractor,

and observing the Project design, installation and commissioning activities. The awarded contractor ("Contractor") will be responsible for the design, installation and commissioning of the Project while maintaining the existing roof warranty. In addition, an add-alternate could be included in the RFP for operation and monitoring services ("O&M"). The O&M scope shall include monitoring the Project's energy production, performing annual preventative maintenance, and conducting reactive maintenance visits as a response to energy production shortfalls. The O&M contract removes the burden of monitoring and maintaining the Project from the Board of Education and helps ensure the projected benefits are realized for the life of the project.

5. **ATTACHMENTS**

The following conceptual layout and production report are included in the Educational Specifications to supplement, clarify, and augment the above information.

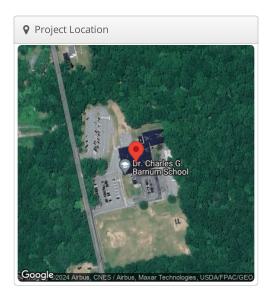


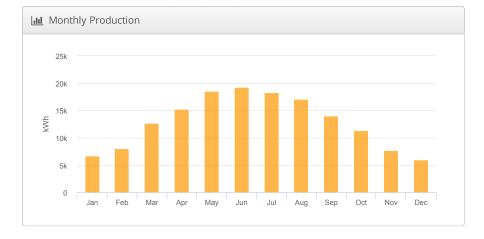
Layout w/ Structural Considerations (3/22) Groton DAS - Barnum School, 68 Brian

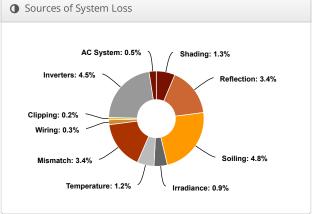
Hill Rd, Groton, CT 06340

& Report	
Project Name	Groton DAS - Barnum School
Project Address	68 Briar Hill Rd, Groton, CT 06340
Prepared By	CSW Energy chris@cswenergy.com

[III] System Metrics							
Design	Layout w/ Structural Considerations (3/22)						
Module DC Nameplate	127.4 kW						
Inverter AC Nameplate	100.0 kW Load Ratio: 1.27						
Annual Production	155.0 MWh						
Performance Ratio	81.3%						
kWh/kWp	1,216.9						
Weather Dataset	TMY, PROVIDENCE T F GREEN STATE AR, NSRDB (tmy3, I)						
Simulator Version	4c6441182e-e5d686d44a-b7181c5173- 9942b3e8d3						







Annual Production Report produced by CSW Energy

7 Annual P	roduction						
	Description	Output	% Delta				
	Annual Global Horizontal Irradiance	1,390.0					
	POA Irradiance	1,496.4	7.7%				
Irradiance	Shaded Irradiance	1,476.9	-1.3%				
(kWh/m ²)	Irradiance after Reflection	1,426.9	-3.4%				
	Irradiance after Soiling	1,359.0	-4.8%				
	Total Collector Irradiance	1,359.0	0.0%				
	Nameplate	173,242.2					
	Output at Irradiance Levels	171,641.3	-0.9%				
	Output at Cell Temperature Derate	169,634.1	-1.2%				
Energy	Output After Mismatch	163,936.3	-3.4%				
(kWh)	Optimal DC Output	163,388.6	-0.3%				
	Constrained DC Output	163,114.3	-0.2%				
	Inverter Output	155,751.8	-4.5%				
	Energy to Grid	154,973.1	-0.5%				
Temperature N	letrics						
	Avg. Operating Ambient Temp		13.2 °C				
Avg. Operating Cell Temp							
Simulation Met	rics						
Operating Hours							
		Solved Hours	4592				

Condition Set														
Description	Condition Set 1													
Weather Dataset	TMY, F	TMY, PROVIDENCE T F GREEN STATE AR, NSRDB (tmy3, I)												
Solar Angle Location	Metec	Meteo Lat/Lng												
Transposition Model	Perez	Perez Model												
Temperature Model	Sandia	a Mode	el											
	Rack ⁻	Гуре		а		b			Те	mper	ature	Delta		
Tamananahan Madal	Fixed	Tilt		-3.5	6	-0.0	075		3°0	С				
Temperature Model Parameters	Flush	Moun	t	-2.8	31	-0.0)45	5	0°0	С				
	East-V	Vest		-3.5	6	-0.0	075		3°0	С				
	Carpo	rt		-3.5	6	-0.0)75		3°0	С				
Soiling (%)	J	F	М	Α	M	J		J	Α	S	0	N	D	
55g (75)	12	15	8	3	3	3		3	3	3	3	3	10	
Irradiation Variance	5%													
Cell Temperature Spread	4° C	4° C												
Module Binning Range	-2.5%	to 2.5%	6											
AC System Derate	0.50%													
	Modu	le					U _I	pload /	ded	Ch	naracte	erizatio	tion	
Module Characterizations	TSM-DEG18MC.20(II) 475 (Trina Solar)					na	HelioScope			Ch	Spec Sheet Characterization, PAN			
	CS3W-450MS (1000V) ((Canadian Solar)				022)	HelioScope		Ch	Spec Sheet Characterization, PAN					
Component	Device					Uploaded By		d	Characterization					
Characterizations	PVI50kW-480 (Solectria Renewables)						HelioScope			CEC 2014-08-16				

☐ Components								
Component Name Count								
Inverters	PVI50kW-480 (Solectria Renewables)	2 (100.0 kW)						
Strings	10 AWG (Copper)	30 (3,025.6 ft)						
Module	Canadian Solar, CS3W-450MS (1000V) (2022) (450W)	283 (127.4 kW)						

Description		Combiner Poles S		Strii	ng Size	Stringing			
Wiring Zone		-	8-10		Along Rac	Along Racking			
₩ Field Seg	ments								
Description	Racking	Orientation	Tilt	Azimuth	Intrarow Spacing	Frame Size	Frames	Modules	Power
Field Segment 1	Fixed Tilt	Landscape (Horizontal)	10°	168.12599°	1.4 ft	1x1	283	283	127.4 kW
Field Segment 2	Fixed Tilt	Landscape (Horizontal)	5°	168.661°	0.8 ft	1x1			0

♣ Wiring Zones



