

**GROTON BOARD OF EDUCATION
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING MINUTES
AUGUST 19, 2024 @ 6:00 P.M.
CENTRAL OFFICE, ROOM 11 / HYBRID**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jay Weitlauf – Chairperson (arrived at 6:30 p.m.), Beverly Washington – Vice Chairperson, Andrea Ackerman, Dean Antipas, Adrian Johnson, Matthew Shulman (remote), Ian Thomas (remote), Jennifer White, Michael Whitney

ALSO PRESENT: Susan Austin, Ray Engle (remote), Clint Kennedy, Lauren Casini (remote), Attorney Floyd Dugas (remote)

I. CALL TO ORDER – Mrs. Beverly Washington, Vice Chairperson called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m.

II. REVIEW OF AUGUST 12, 2024, MEETING MINUTE

MOTION: Johnson, Whitney: To approve the minutes of August 12, 2024, meeting.
PASSED – UNANIMOUSLY

III. REVIEW LOTTERY AND ENROLLMENT (Attachment #1)

Lauren Casini gave an overview of the PowerPoint presentation of the Lottery and Enrollment data.

IV. DISCUSSION RE: ATTORNEY OPINION-UPDATE FROM THE BOARD ATTORNEY

MOTION: Shulman, White: To go into Executive Session at 6:43 p.m. to discuss the Attorney Opinion-Update from the Board Attorney with regard to Impact Aid and to invite Superintendent Austin, Ray Engle, and Attorney Dugas.
YES – Weitlauf, Washington, Antipas, Johnson, Shulman, Thomas, White
NO – Whitney
ABSTAINED – Thomas
PASSED

The Board returned to open session at 7:42 p.m. No action was taken.

V. AD HOC BUDGET PROCEDURE COMMITTEE UPDATE

The Ad Hoc Budget Procedure Committee voted to bring the proposed budget procedure document to the full Board. Mr. Thomas, with input from Committee members, gave an overview of the proposed budget procedure document. The Board held extensive discussion of the proposed budget procedure document.

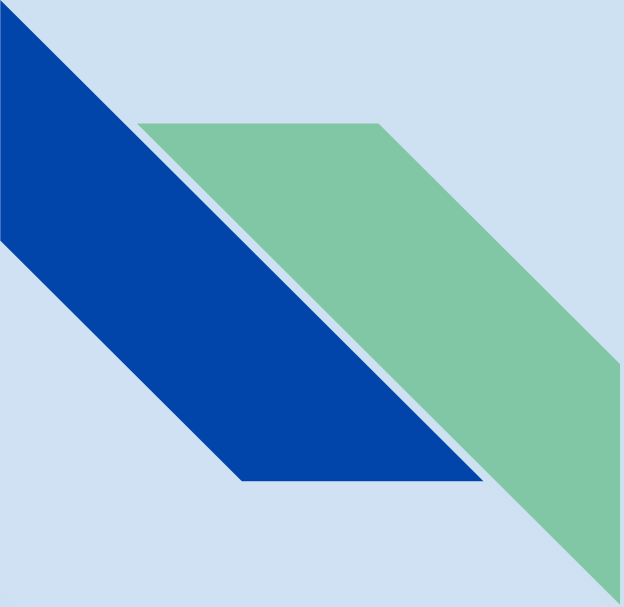
VI. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Washington, Ackerman:

To adjourn at 8:24 p.m.

YES – Weitlauf, Washington, Ackerman, Antipas,
Johnson, Shulman, White, Whitney, Thomas

PASSED



Groton Public Schools

Enrollment Overview



Enrollment Overview

- Highly complex process
 - Ongoing tracking (intra- & inter-district)
 - Overlapping data tracking and management
 - Many variables including:
 - Magnet seat movement and considerations
 - Highly mobile district (military & socio economics related)
 - Special programming
 - Building/grade level capacity



Enrollment at a Glance

New Student Entrances

2023-2024 School Year

- 808 new and/or returning students

2024-2025 School Year (To Date)

- 457 new and/or returning students

Student Exits

2023-2024 School Year

- 607 students transferred out of GPS

**Does not include movement between Groton schools*



GPS Lottery - 2023-2024

Overview

Total Submissions: 180

Total Students Seated: 104

Total Students Waitlisted: 69

By School

Kolnaski: (Seated) 39 (Waitlisted) 8

Barnum: (Seated) 4 (Waitlisted) 2

MRMS: (Seated) 12 (Waitlisted) 36

NEA: (Seated) 25 (Waitlisted) 14

TRMS: (Seated) 24 (Waitlisted) 35



GPS Lottery - 2024-2025

Overview

(Application window February-April)

Total Submissions: 167

Kindergarten/Transitional Kindergarten
Interest: 101 students

Total Students Seated: 81

Total Students Waitlisted: 78

By School

Kolnaski: 23 (Seated) 26 (Waitlisted)

Barnum: 5 (Seated) 6 (Waitlisted)

MRMS: 21 (Seated) 19 (Waitlisted)

NEA: 24 (Seated) 13 (Waitlisted)

TRMS: 8 (Seated) 49 (Waitlisted)




GPS Transitional Kindergarten

The Connecticut General Assembly has raised the minimum age for automatic entry into public schools. Effective for 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.

Groton Public Schools responded to the call for action by:

- Expanding our transitional kindergarten program from 1 to 4 schools (CK, TRMS, MRMS, NEA)
- Providing screening opportunities since February, 2024 to all incoming kindergarten AND transitional kindergarten students
- Ensuring student placement was developmentally appropriate
- Responding and working with families to proactively register & screen incoming students

GPS Enrollment - 2024-2025



	Enrollment as of: August 15, 2024	Transitional Kindergarten
Catherine Kolnaski Magnet School	393	16
Charles Barnum Magnet School	341	NA
Mystic River Magnet School	504	18
Northeast Academy Magnet School	395	13
Thames River Magnet School	506	17
Groton Middle School	934	NA
Fitch High School	992	NA