GROTON BOARD OF EDUCATION
SPECIAL MEETING
JANUARY 14, 2025 @ 6:00 P.M.
CENTRAL OFFICE, ROOM 11/HYBRID

MEMBERS PRESENT: Adrian Johnson – Vice Chairperson, Andrea Ackerman, Dean Antipas, Matthew Shulman, Ian Thomas, Jay Weitlauf, Jennifer White, Michael Whitney (arrived at 6:18 p.m.)

MEMBERS ABSENT: Beverly Washington - Chairperson

ALSO PRESENT: Susan Austin, Sam Kilpatrick, Clint Kennedy, Anne Marie Mancini, Lauren Casini, Denise Doolittle, Laurie LePine, Floyd Dugas (Board Attorney)

I. CALL TO ORDER – Mr. Adrian Johnson, Vice Chairperson called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

II. DISCUSSION RE: SAFETY & SECURITY

MOTION: Johnson, White: To go into Executive Session at 6:01 p.m. to discuss matters concerning security strategy and/or the deployment of security personnel or devices affecting public security and to invite Superintendent Austin, Attorney Floyd Dugas, Clint Kennedy, Anne Marie Mancini, and Sam Kilpatrick.
PASSED – UNANIMOUSLY

Safety and Security was discussed. No action was taken.

MOTION: Johnson, Whitney: To return to Open Session at 8:12 p.m.
PASSED – UNANIMOUSLY

Superintendent Austin made the following statement: "Tonight I updated the Board of Education regarding the threat that was made against Groton Public Schools earlier this month. We engaged in a discussion about safety and security measures, and I want to assure you that the district has been working closely with the town police and the city police to enhance security. Additional resources have been made available, such as counseling and other resources, that would be needed by students and staff because of this. On Thursday, January 16, representatives from the Board of Education and the district will meet with Chief Fusaro, Chief Burton, and town manager John Burt to further address these concerns. Administrators, teachers, staff, and police officers remain committed to maintaining safety and security. We will be highly vigilant."

III. BUDGET WORK SESSION

Superintendent Austin discussed the date or dates of the Public Hearing – January 21, February 10 postponed to February 21, 2025.

Mike Whitney left at 8:27 p.m.

Superintendent Austin, with input from Laurie LePine, Denise Doolittle, and Sam Kilpatrick, gave an overview of the following pages of the proposed FY26 Budget:

- FY26 Proposed Budget Versus FY25 Budget & FY24 Actual
- Non-Certified Staff FTE Report
- Certified Teachers/Administrators FTE Report

IV. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Ackerman, Shulman: To adjourn at 9:32 p.m.
PASSED UNANIMOUSLY