GROTON BOARD OF EDUCATION
SPECIAL MEETING
JANUARY 27, 2025 @ 6:00 P.M.
CENTRAL OFFICE, ROOM 11/HYBRID

Mission Statement: Our mission is teaching and learning.

Board Goals: In a richness of cultures and with a respect for all, (1) Provide Dynamic Rigorous Curriculum, (2) Ensure Effective and Engaging Instruction, and (3) Embrace Excellent Learning Environment.

AGENDA

I. CALL TO ORDER

A. Pledge of Allegiance

II. RECOGNITION AND PARTICIPATION OF VISITORS AND DELEGATIONS

III. COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS RE: AGENDA ITEMS AND OTHER SUBJECTS OF CONCERN THAT LIE WITHIN THE JURISDICTION OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION - This is the portion of the agenda where the Board welcomes comments from citizens. Each presentation should be limited to five minutes or less, and citizens should, if possible, submit written comments. Presentations should be related to matters pertinent to Groton. Board members will only ask questions in order to clarify the speaker's presentation and cannot respond during the Comments of Citizens' portion of the Board meeting. Citizens should make their presentations from the podium and state their names and addresses for the record.

IV. RESPONSE TO COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS

V. STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

VI. SUPERINTENDENT AND ADMINISTRATION REPORTS

A. Superintendent & Assistant Superintendent Report
   1. Update on FY26 Budget Process (Attachment #1)

B. Reports and Information from the Staff
   1. Interim Director of Finance
      - Financial Update
      - General Fund Financial Report (Attachment #2)
   2. Director of Buildings and Grounds
      - Update re: School Facilities

VII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Policy
B. Curriculum
C. Finance/Facilities
D. Other
- LEARN
- Athletic Fields
- Trails
- Library

VIII. ACTION ITEMS

A. Consent Agenda – all matters listed under the Consent Agenda are considered to be routine and will be enacted by one motion. Points of clarification will be allowed.

1. Approval of the regular meeting minutes of December 9, 2024 (Attachment #3)
2. Approval of the special meeting minutes of December 16, 2024 (Attachment #4)
3. Approval of the special meeting minutes of January 6, 2025 (Attachment #5)
4. Approval of the special meeting minutes of January 7, 2025 (Attachment #6)
5. Approval of the special meeting minutes of January 13, 2025 (Attachment #7)
6. Approval of the special meeting minutes of January 14, 2025 (Attachment #8)
7. Approval of the special meeting minutes of January 16, 2025 (Attachment #9)
8. Approval of the special meeting minutes of January 21, 2025 (Attachment #10)
9. Approval of the special meeting minutes of January 22, 2025 (Attachment #11)

B. Old Business

C. New Business

1. Discussion and possible action regarding approval of Charles Barnum Magnet School's 4th & 5th grade field trip request to Nickerson Park Family Campground in Chaplin, CT scheduled for May 22, 2025 through May 25, 2025 (Attachment #12)

   MOTION: To approve Charles Barnum Magnet School's 4th & 5th grade field trip request to Nickerson Park Family Campground in Chaplin, Connecticut scheduled for May 22, 2025 through May 25, 2025.

2. Discussion and possible action regarding approval of the Robotics Team's field trip request to Eastern States Exposition in West Springfield, MA scheduled for April 3, 2025 through April 5, 2025 (Attachment #13)

   MOTION: To approve the Robotics Team's field trip request to Eastern States Exposition in West Springfield, MA scheduled for April 3, 2025 through April 5, 2025.

VIII. ACTION ITEMS (Cont'd)

C. New Business (Cont'd)

3. Discussion and possible action regarding approval of Fitch High School's Music Department's field trip request to Orlando, Florida scheduled for April 9, 2026 through April 12, 2026 (Attachment #14)

   MOTION: To approve Fitch High School's Music Department's field trip request to Orlando, Florida scheduled for April 9, 2026 through April 12, 2026.

4. Discussion and possible action regarding the approval of the Ed Rising 2 curriculum (Attachment #15)

   MOTION: To approve the Ed Rising 2 curriculum.

5. Discussion and possible action regarding the approval of the Event and Sports Photography curriculum (Attachment #16)

   MOTION: To approve the Event and Sports Photography curriculum.

6. Discussion and possible action regarding the approval of the Unified Music curriculum (Attachment #17)

   MOTION: To approve the Unified Music curriculum.

7. Discussion & possible action regarding a first reading of policy P 5131.81 Electronic Devices (Attachment #18)

   MOTION: To approve policy P 5131.81 Electronic Devices as a first reading.

8. Discussion & possible action regarding rescinding policy P 4118.112/P 5145.5 Prohibition of Sex Discrimination approved on January 7, 2025 and reinstate policies P 4118.112 & P 5145.5 Sexual Harassment revised on January 25, 2021 (Attachment #19 and Attachment #20)

   MOTION: To rescind policy P 4118.112/P 5145.5 Prohibition of Sex Discrimination approved on January 7, 2025 and reinstate policies P 4118.112 & P 5145.5 Sexual Harassment revised on January 25, 2021.

9. Discussion and possible action regarding recognition of School Counselor Appreciation Week

   MOTION: To recognize February 3, 2025 through February 7, 2025 as School Counselor Appreciation Week, and to direct the Superintendent of Schools to send a letter of appreciation to the school counselors.

10. Discussion & possible action regarding conducting a public hearing on the 2025-2026 budget on February 10, 2025

    MOTION: To conduct a public hearing on the 2025-2026 budget on February 10, 2025.

IX. INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS (Non-Action Items)

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

X. ADVANCE PLANNING

A. Future Meeting Dates and Calendar Items for Board Attention

Date	Meeting	Location	Time
Feb. 3	Special - Budget Work Session	CO, Room 11	6:00 p.m.
Feb. 4	Finance/Facilities Committee - CANCELLED		
Feb. 6	Curriculum Committee	CO, Room 11	6:00 p.m.
Feb. 10	COW - CANCELLED		
Feb. 10	*Special - Public Hearing re: budget???*	*Thrive55+*	*6:00 p.m.*
Feb. 11	Policy Committee	CO, Room 11	6:00 p.m.
Feb. 12	Special - Budget Work Session	CO, Room 11	6:00 p.m.
Feb. 19	COW - CANCELLED		
Feb. 19	Special - Budget Review/Follow-up Session	CO, Room 11	6:00 p.m.
Feb. 20	Special - Budget Review/Follow-up Session	CO, Room 11	6:00 p.m.
Feb. 24	Regular	CO, Room 11	6:00 p.m.

Meetings w/Town Bodies:

Feb. 6	PSBC	Town Hall Annex, CR 2	6:00 p.m.
Feb. 20	PSBC	Town Hall Annex, CR 2	6:00 p.m.

B. Suggested Agenda Items

XI. ADJOURNMENT