GROTON BOARD OF EDUCATION
CURRICULUM COMMITTEE MEETING MIUTES
MONDAY, MAY 5, 2025 @ 6:00 P.M.
CENTRAL OFFICE, ROOM 11 / HYBRID

Members Present: Adrian Johnson, Mike Whitney

Members Absent: Andrea Ackerman

Also Present: Susan Austin, Anne Marie Mancini

1. Call to Order – Chairperson Johnson called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

2. Review April 7, 2025 Meeting Minutes – The minutes were reviewed; no corrections were submitted.

3. Discussion on the Professional Development Plan for SY 2025-2026 – Assistant Superintendent Mancini led a discussion regarding the PD Plan for SY 2025-2026 and shared the attached PowerPoint presentation. The focus areas of the plan include K-5 Literacy, K-5 Science, K-8 Mathematics, Artificial Intelligence, Digital SAT, and IB Self Study.

4. Review Referral Tracking Sheet – The committee reviewed the tracking sheet items listed under the Curriculum/Instruction section.

5. Future Meeting Topics – None at this time.

6. Adjournment – The meeting adjourned at 6:50 p.m.



BOE SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING

MAY 5, 2025

Professional Learning: A Research Based Approach

- Annually, districts spend approximately $18,000 per teacher per year on professional development/learning.
- Research (Molla, 2021; Bradley, et al., 2023) indicates that for professional development to be have an impact on teacher practice and student outcomes, it must include the following elements:
  - Be designed using an intentional or systems-based approach to meet teachers' needs
  - Include opportunities for teachers to actively participate
  - Incorporate opportunities for teacher collaboration and reflection
  - Be reinforced by leaders through coaching, feedback, and support

Professional Learning: Design/Philosophy for SY 2025-26

EFFECTIVE PROFESSIONAL LEARNING

- Teachers' Needs
- Systems Approach
- Active Participation and Collaboration
- PD Feedback
- Ongoing Support

GPS PROFESSIONAL LEARNING PLAN

- Identified by members of GTLC, review of district data
- Intentionally designed to build upon one another, helping to enhance teacher learning.
- Presenters are vetted and sessions are reviewed before the PD date.
- Opportunity to complete surveys after each session
- Coaching from district leaders and specialists

Professional Learning Plan: Focus Areas

- **K-5 Literacy** – continued reinforcement of the Wit and Wisdom program
- **K-5 Science** – work with the CT Science Center will focus on improving teachers' instructional practice in a student-centered approach (making thinking visible)
- **K-8 Mathematics** – building coherence and improve classroom instruction (e.g., Building Thinking Classrooms, IM pilot)
- **Artificial Intelligence (A.I.)**– as a tool to enhance lesson development and student assessment
- **Digital SAT** – providing teachers with an overview of the revised assessment and tools to improve student performance
- **IB Self Study** – preparation for re-accreditation visit (SY 2026-2027) will involve revising policies, updating curricula, and reflecting on current practice



Professional Learning Sequences

Sample Plans

Our Mission is Teaching and Learning
GROTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Groton, Connecticut

Learning Sequence: K-2 Teachers

Date	Session (AM/PM)	Topic	Presenter
August 26	8:00 – 9:30 a.m.	Wit and Wisdom Program Prep and Review- Module 1	SB Stonoha and Elem. Literacy Specialist Team
	9:30 – 11:00 a.m.	Elem. Report Card Review and Calibration	SB Stonoha and Elem. Literacy Specialist Team
	12:00 – 3:00 p.m.	Improving Instructional Practices in Math- Part 1	Robin Moore, EdAdvance
November 4	8:00 – 11:00 a.m.	Making Thinking Visible in Science	CT Science Center
	12:00 – 3:00 p.m.	Wit and Wisdom Program Review and Prep: Module 2	SB Stonoha and Elem. Literacy Specialist Team
March 6	8:00 – 11:00 a.m.	Wit and Wisdom Program Review and Prep: Module 3	SB Stonoha and Elem. Literacy Specialist Team
	12:00 – 3:00	Improving Instructional Practices in Math-Part 2	Robin Moore, EdAdvance

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	12:00 – 3:00	Improving Instructional Practices in Math-3	Robin Moore, EdAdvance

Learning Sequence: HS Science Teachers

Date	Session (AM/PM)	Topic	Presenter
August 26	8:00 – 11:00 a.m.	Understanding the Digital SAT (Overview)	Sam Rosensohn, College Planning Partnerships
	12:00 – 3:00 p.m.	Enhancing Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment using AI- Part 1	Dr. Clint Kennedy
November 4	8:00 – 11:00 a.m.	Enhancing Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment using AI- Part 2	Dr. Clint Kennedy
	12:00 – 3:00 p.m.	The Digital SAT: EBRW	Sam Rosensohn, College Planning Partnerships
March 6	8:00 – 11:00 a.m.	Enhancing Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment using AI- Part 3	Dr. Clint Kennedy
	12:00 – 3:00 p.m.	The Digital SAT: Planning and Classroom Alignment	Sam Rosensohn, College Planning Partnerships

Questions and Feedback

