

GROTON BOARD OF EDUCATION
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING MINUTES
MAY 12, 2025 @ 6:00 P.M.
CENTRAL OFFICE, ROOM 11/HYBRID

MEMBERS PRESENT: Beverly Washington – Chairperson, Adrian Johnson – Vice Chairperson, Andrea Ackerman (remote), Dean Antipas (remote), Matthew Shulman, Jay Weitlauf (remote), Jennifer White, Michael Whitney

MEMBERS ABSENT: Ian Thomas

ALSO PRESENT: Susan Austin, Anne Marie Mancini, Ray Engle, Sam Kilpatrick

I. CALL TO ORDER – Mrs. Beverly Washington – Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

II. REVIEW OF APRIL 21, 2025, MEETING MINUTES

MOTION: Shulman, Johnson: To approve the April 21, 2025, meeting minutes.
PASSED - UNANIMOUSLY

III. DISCUSSION RE: FY26 BUDGET

Mr. Engle noted that the proposed FY26 budget was at a 7.2% and the RTM reduced it to a 4.6%; therefore, the Board was looking at a 2.6% cut to the proposed budget. Superintendent Austin gave an overview of a list of proposed reductions. (Attachment #1)

Informal vote on proposed reductions (Yes = reduce; No = keep):

- Nurse Yes-2; No-4; Abstained-2
- Tutors Yes-5; No-3; Abstained-0
- SE Teacher Yes-7; No-0; Abstained-1
- Contingency Yes-2; No-5; Abstained-0
- Fuel Yes-0; No-8; Abstained-0
- Electricity Yes-1; No-6; Abstained-0
- IT Equipment Yes-6; No-0; Abstained-0
- Health and Reserve Yes-8; No-0; Abstained-0
- SW at NEA Yes-0; No-8; Abstained-0
- 1700 2312 2314 The Board requested the Superintendent look for \$40,000
- Truck Sam Kilpatrick said to cut it
- Supplies: Yes-0; No-4; Abstained-2
 - Art, Music, Athletic JROTC, PE – 10% reduction for each
- Hold on 3 elem teachers and 1 PE teacher

IV. AGSA/GEA/BOE MEETING REPORT

Mr. Johnson gave a report of the AGSA/GEA/BOE meeting held on April 1, 2025. The committee discussed:

- Student attendance at GMS
- Block Scheduling at the middle school
- Support for family transportation i.e. for parent conferences
- Teacher Planning Time
- Teacher Burnout
- Communication with parents
- They made a referral of discussion of Block Scheduling at the middle school to COW or Curriculum Committee
- Sub coverage
- Wit and Wisdom
- Maintenance Items
- CK/NEA Exhaust

V. ADJOURNMENT

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

RTM approved	\$92,004,575.00			
\$94,361,650.00			net balance	
\$94,291,650.00	\$70,000.00	Remove middle school nurse 2130		
\$94,131,650.00	\$160,000.00	remove 5 added utors		
\$94,067,650.00	\$64,000.00	remove added SPED Teacher		
\$93,819,926.00	\$247,724.00	remove contingency		
\$93,819,926.00	\$0.00	reduce IT equipment		(\$51,100) per clint
\$93,619,926.00	\$200,000.00	Health Benefits Estimate Function 1700 obj 201		
\$93,619,926.00	\$ -	Workman's Compensation	hard number	cannot reduce
\$93,564,926.00	\$ 55,000.00	Fuel Adjustment Estimate 633		
\$93,364,926.00	\$ 200,000.00	Electricity Adjustment Estimate 631		
\$93,364,926.00	\$ -	FTE Adjustment Realignment	-137484	
\$93,364,926.00	\$0.00	601 gen classroom supplies	-100,000	across the board
\$93,300,926.00	\$64,000.00	NE Academy Social Worker 2110		
\$93,300,926.00	\$0.00	Function 2210 obj 101	-15000	
\$93,300,926.00	\$0.00	Function 2210 obj 584	-5000	
\$93,300,926.00	\$0.00	1700, 2312 , 2314	\$1,296,351.00	
\$93,225,926.00	\$75,000.00	Remove new truck	\$1,221,351.00	
\$93,215,926.00	\$10,000.00	Arts Supplies	\$1,211,351.00	
\$93,213,426.00	\$2,500.00	Music Supplies	\$1,208,851.00	
\$93,188,426.00	\$25,000.00	AthleticSupplies	\$1,183,851.00	
\$93,185,426.00	\$3,000.00	PE supplies		
\$92,327,925.00	\$860,501.00	Tap Health Savings Reserve		
	\$2,036,725.00			
	\$92,324,925.00			
	\$92,129,925.00	3 elementary teachers	-195000	
\$60,350.00	\$92,064,925.00	1 PE Elementary	-65000	
\$43,350.00	\$92,047,925.00	After school enrichment	-17000	
	\$92,004,575.00	Central office	-43350	To be determined