

**GROTON BOARD OF EDUCATION
CURRICULUM COMMITTEE MEETING
MONDAY DECEMBER 1 @ 6:00 P.M.
REMOTE**

Members Remote: Andrea Ackerman, Adrian Johnson, Mike Whitney
Also Remote: Anne Marie Mancini, Matt Brown, Carmita Hodge, Amy McKenna

Johnson called the meeting to order at 6:26 p.m.

1. Review November 3, 2025 Meeting Minutes

There was no motion to approve the minutes. The committee discussed the desire to include the PowerPoint presentation and supplemental handout as part of the minutes. Mancini discussed the need to review the presentation and take out any identifiable information to protect student privacy. The committee would like to find a way to present the information yet maintain student privacy.

2. Review Honors/Advanced Level Credit (Quality Points)

Mancini, along with the Administration team at the high school, looked at the existing Quality Point scale at the high school as well as the scales of other CT high schools that offer advanced-level courses, including AP, IB and ECE. The members in attendance expressed their viewpoints on the way classes should be rated and fairness to all students.

3. Curriculum Development Process

The committee discussed the Curriculum Development process in regards to policy P 6141. Mancini explained that there was a misunderstanding about the process. Step 3 was to be removed not step 5. Whitney is against that change and expressed his desire to only change step 3 from COW to full Board. He also thinks that Step 2 should change from recommendations to recommend and add “and make recommendations” to the end of line 5. There is a financial cost associated with developing curriculum /implications to writing curriculum. In practice Whitney stated that it is a lot to ask of a teacher to present twice before the curriculum is written and twice after it is written.

The committee has a few other recommendations on the wording of Step 5.

4. Committee Recommendations for Board Discussion/Action

Johnson put this on the agenda because there have been a lot of meetings in the last few months and wanted to know if any of the committee members wanted to send anything to the Board. Johnson would like to recommend to the Board that additional offerings in American Sign Language based on discussion and family and student desire. Whitney would like to do another survey on World Language. He would like to discuss the balance of World Language we offer. We would need to make sure the timing is right. Recommend Board discussing current and future World Language offerings.

Whitney would like the Board to discuss student performance on AP & IB tests.

5. Review Referral Tracking Sheet

See notes on attached tracker.

6. Future Meeting Topics

Program of studies, Illustrative Math, Review of English Language Arts 6-8, Robotics course

7. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 P.M

Advanced-Level Credit and Quality Point Scale

BOE CURRICULUM
COMMITTEE
MEETING

DECEMBER 1, 2025

Robert E. Fitch High School
Program of Studies

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2025 - 2026
Groton, Connecticut



- **Quality Point Scale at FHS**
- **IB Schools in CT: Quality Point Scales**
- **High Schools in Southeast CT: Quality Point Scales**
- **Summary**
- **BOE Referral Tracker: Curriculum**



Agenda

Existing Quality Point Scale at FHS

- Honors Courses = + .5
- AP Courses = + 1.0
- IB Courses = + 1.0
- ECE Courses = + 1.0

Letter Grade	%	AP/IB/ECE	Honors	All Others
A+	97-100	5.33	4.83	4.33
A	93-96	5.0	4.5	4.0
A-	90-92	4.67	4.17	3.67
B+	87-89	4.33	3.83	3.33
B	83-86	4.0	3.5	3.0
B-	80-82	3.67	3.17	2.67
C+	77-79	3.33	2.83	2.33
C	73-76	3.0	2.5	2.0
C-	70-72	2.67	2.17	1.67
D+	67-69	2.33	1.83	1.33
D	63-66	2.0	1.5	1.0
D-	60-62	1.67	1.17	0.67
F	0-59	0	0	0

District Comparisons: CT IB Schools

- **Connecticut IB Academy (CIBA)- East Hartford**
 - Full IB Magnet School
 - MYP Courses - Grades 9 and 10 = + .5
 - DP Courses - Grades 11 and 12 = + 1.0
 - No distinction between IB HL and SL Levels
- **Valley Regional HS (Region 4)- Deep River, Essex, Chester**
 - Comprehensive HS with Embedded IB Program
 - IB Courses = + 1.2
 - No distinction between IB HL and SL Levels
- **Academy of International Studies (CREC)**
 - Full IB Magnet MS and HS
 - Honors and IB SL = +.25
 - IB HL= + .5
- **Brien McMahon HS- Norwalk**
 - Comprehensive HS with Embedded IB Program
 - Honors = + .5
 - AP and IB = + 1.0
 - No distinction between IB HL and SL Levels
- **Guilford HS- Guilford**
 - Comprehensive HS with Embedded IB Program
 - Honors = + .25
 - AP, IB and ECE= + .5
 - No distinction between IB HL and SL Levels

District Comparisons: SE CT High Schools

- **Marine Science HS (LEARN)**

- Offers ECE and AP Courses
- Honors= + .25
- AP, CCP, ECE= + .50

- **Lyme-Old Lyme HS**

- Offers AP, ECE and College Prep Courses
- Honors= + 1.05
- AP and ECE= + 1.1

- **East Lyme HS**

- Offers AP, ECE, Advanced College Prep, and College Prep Courses
- AP and ECE= + 1.15
- Honors= + 1.1
- Adv. College Prep.= + 1.05
- College Prep= +1.0

- **Stonington HS**

- Offers ECE and AP Courses
- Honors= + .5
- AP, CCP, ECE= + 1.0

District Comparisons: SE CT High Schools

- **Haddam-Killingworth HS (Region 17)**

- Offers ECE, AP, College and Career Pathways (CCP), Honors and College Prep courses
 - Honors= + .3
 - AP, CCP, ECE= + .5

- **Daniel Hand HS- Madison**

- Offers ECE, AP and Honors + Level 2 track
 - Honors= + 5
 - AP and ECE= + 1.0
- Freshman (Grade 9) courses are not weighted

- **Westbrook HS**

- Offers Honors, AP and ECE courses
 - Honors= + 1.05
 - AP and ECE= + 1.10

- **Waterford HS**

- Offers Standard, Honors, and Advanced-Level Courses (e.g., AP, ECE and CCP)
- Adds quality points to students taking Honors and Advanced-level courses (vs. Standard-level) in one of five core academic areas: English, Math, Social Studies, Science and World Language

Summary: Comparison of CT High Schools

- There are five (5) high schools in Connecticut that offer the IB Diploma.
 - Of the five, three are large comprehensive high schools that offer the IB Diploma as one of its options for students. The remaining two are full IB magnet high schools.
 - All five offer advanced-level credit or quality points to students who enroll in IB courses.
 - Only one of the five schools makes a distinction between the IB Higher-Level (HL) and Standard-Level (SL) courses.
- I examined the program of studies for the top eight (8) high schools in Southeast CT as identified by *US News & World Report* (April 2025).
 - All eight offer some combination of advanced, college-prep, and standard-level courses for students.
 - None of the eight make a distinction between AP, ECE and CCP courses. All of these courses count for each school as the same type of advanced-level credit (+ 1.0).
 - All eight schools recognizes honors courses by awarding it lower quality points.
 - Most of the schools vary in the way that they award quality points (e.g., Honors= + .25 vs. +.5)

BOE Referral Tracker

BOARD OF EDUCATION - REFERRAL TRACKING SHEET

Revised: October 14, 2025

CURRICULUM/INSTRUCTION			
Referral #	Date Initiated	Subject	Date Completed
R2015-37	12/10/18	Review of English Language Arts Curriculum – Writing 6-12 (AA)	3/3/25
R2022-16	5/17/22	Review Program of Studies for GMS & FHS	
R2023-22	11/3/23	Development of a schedule for curriculum updates in all subjects	
R2023-23	12/18/23	Discussion re: Reading & Writing K-5 (AJ)	COW: 4/28/2025
R2024-12	4/15/24	Discussion re: the foreign language survey from 2 years ago and what we currently offer (AJ)	11/3/2025
R2024-22	9/16/24	Integrated Financial Literacy Update (MS)	4/7/2025
R2024-23	9/16/24	Discussion re: honors classes beyond the 10 th grade (IT)	1/16/2025
R2024-34	12/2/24	Discussion re: the study of IB (IT)	11/16/2025
R2024-35	12/2/24	Review of the math curriculum (BW)	Ongoing 4/4/25/11/24/25 (BOE)
R2025-6	4/21/25	Discussion re: the number of credits for high school graduation (MW)	10/22/25
R2025-7	7/14/25	Mastery-based Assessment & Credit Reduction (BW)	10/22/25
R2025-9	8/18/25	Discussion re: Awarded Quality Points (AJ)	12/1/25

Questions and Feedback



Instruction

Curriculum Design/Development

The curriculum is the cornerstone of the Groton Public Schools instructional program and reflects philosophical beliefs about what children need to know and what they should be able to do. It is designed to ensure that students will succeed in the work place, be prepared for advance education, and become lifelong learners. Curricula shall include all instructional activities of the Groton Public schools and shall provide for the continuous growth and development of each student throughout his/her school experience. The curriculum reflects the philosophy and goals of the Groton Board of Education, i.e., all students can learn at higher levels than commonly recognized or expected; high but reasonable standards must be established for all students in all courses; learning is lifelong; a strong curriculum and adequate support resources are necessary conditions for academic success; and a curriculum must prepare students for life in a global society.

As outlined in the Groton Public Schools Curriculum Handbook, new courses and major course revisions which propose a major change in the objectives for a course or program or in instructional materials shall be:

1. Presented to the Superintendent or Assistant Superintendent for approval.
2. Presented to the Board of Education Curriculum Subcommittee for review and recommendations.
3. Presented to the ~~Committee of the Whole (COW)~~ full Board for approval of drafting curriculum
4. Upon approval, curriculum is written.
5. ~~Board of Education Curriculum Subcommittee will review.~~
6. Curriculum is then presented to the Board of Education for final approval.

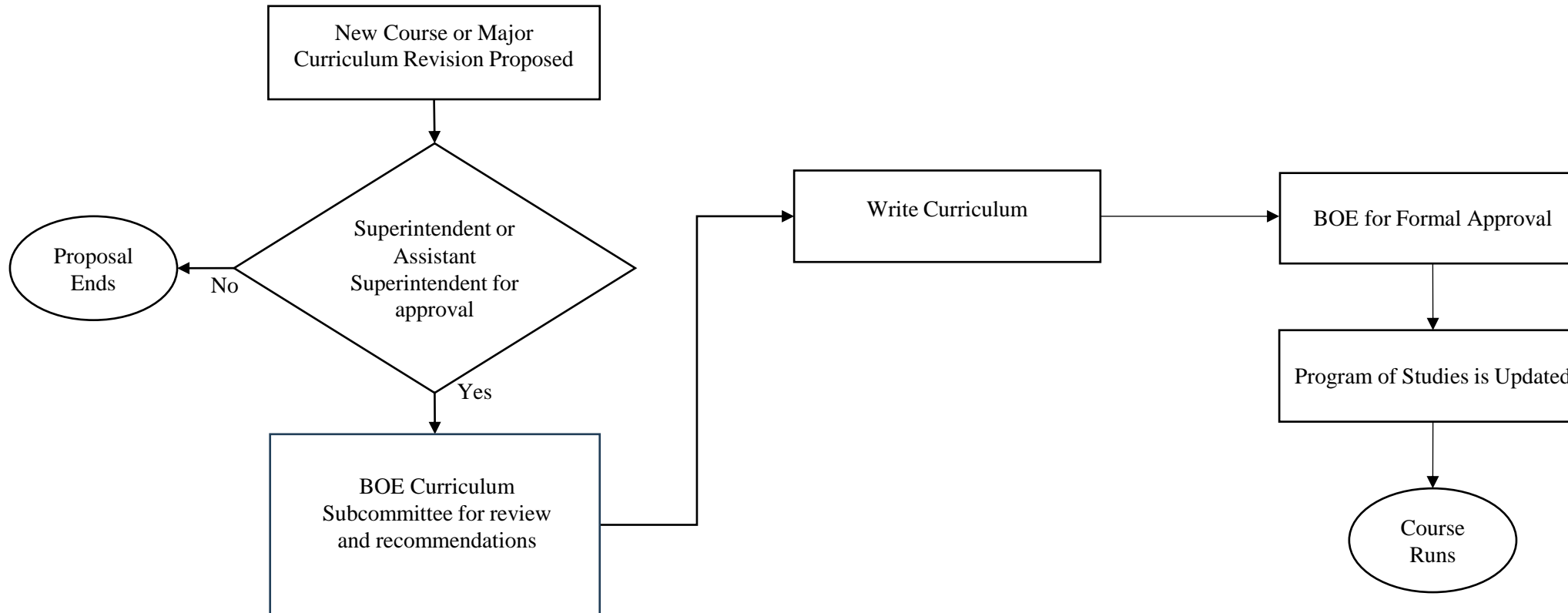
The Board of Education has responsibility and authority for the District's curriculum, subject to any limits specified by the State.

Legal Reference:	Connecticut General Statues
	10-15 Towns to maintain schools
	10-15c Discrimination in public school prohibited
	10-16b Prescribed courses of student
	10-18 Courses in United States history, government and duties and responsibilities of citizenship
	10-18a Contents of textbooks and other general instructional materials
	10-19 Effect of alcohol, nicotine, or tobacco and drugs to be taught
	10-221a High School graduation requirements

Policy Adopted: December 8, 2003
 Revised: April 26, 2010
 Revised: June 24, 2019

GROTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
 Groton, Connecticut

How New Courses/New Curriculum or Major Revisions are Approved



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R2025-7	7/14/25	Mastery-based Assessment & Credit Reduction (BW)	
R2025-9	8/18/25	Discussion re: Awarded Quality Points (AJ)	

POLICY			
Referral #	Date Initiated	Subject	Date Completed
R2024-9	2/26/24	Appropriate student use of generative AI (MS)	
R2024-31	10/15/24	Discussion re: P1312 & P1312.4 - public/anonymous complaint process and procedure (IT)	
R2025-8	7/14/25	Review Attendance policy (BW)	
R2025-10	8/18/25	Review financial reconciliations policy on a monthly basis (BW)	
R2025-12	10/14/25	Modify Policy 6141 in regards to the six steps (AJ)	

FINANCE/FACILITIES			
Referral #	Date Initiated	Subject	Date Completed
R2025-2	4/21/25	Discussion re: a four-month Facilities Plan (BW)	
R2025-3	4/21/25	Discussion re: staffing levels relative to the budget (MW)	
R2025-11	10/14/25	Discussion re: launching an employee efficiency suggestion campaign (JW)	

COMMUNICATIONS			
Referral #	Date Initiated	Subject	Date Completed
R2024-20	5/28/24	Discussion re: how the district communicates and engages families of children of all levels of abilities (JW)	
R2022-13	4/11/22	Discussion of the Mentor Program re: promotion & advertisement (MS)	

COW			
Referral #	Date Initiated	Subject	Date Completed
R2022-13	4/11/22	Discussion of Mentor Program – How are we doing? (MS)	
R2024-4	1/5/24	Discussion re: the development of Board goals (JW)	COW - 10/14/2025
R2024-10	4/15/24	Discussion re: the Board's interest in drafting a policy regarding family and BOE notification of testing data (AJ)	
R2024-13	4/15/24	Review of the Tier 2 & Tier 3 interventions for ELA in the K-5 curriculum (AJ)	
R2024-19	5/28/24	Create a monetary threshold for moving money within the budget for BOE approval regarding enterprise funds (IT)	
R2024-24	9/16/24	Discussion re: dashboard proposal (IT)	
R2024-25	9/16/24	Discussion re: climate survey data details and consistent tracker (IT)	
R2024-27	9/16/24	Discussion re: transplant map re: bus routes and summer school (IT)	COW - 10/14/2025
R2024-28	10/15/24	Board Retreat to hold the Board's self-evaluation and Board Goals in November (JW)	COW - 10/14/2025
R2024-30	10/15/24	Discussion regarding open communication with state delegation to allow for interpreters or interpretative technology of SBAC testing (IT)	
R2024-33	10/28/24	Discussion re: space - or lack thereof - in schools (MS)	
R2024-36	12/2/24	Update re: Robotics (IT)	
R2025-1	3/17/25	Discussion re: an Early Childhood Center (MW)	
R2025-4	4/21/25	Discussion re: Board approval of Grants (AJ)	
R2025-5	4/21/25	Discussion re: a simple student exit survey (MS)	
R2025-6	4/21/25	Discussion re: the number of credits for high school graduation (MW)	COW - 10/14/2025