

**REGULAR MEETING
GRISWOLD BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**THURSDAY,
JANUARY 22, 2026**

GBE approved 2/12/2026

1. Call to Order - A regular meeting of the Griswold Board of Education was held on Thursday, January 22nd, 2026, in the Cafeteria located at Griswold Middle School, 211 Slater Avenue, Griswold, CT. The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM by Stuart Norman, Jr., Griswold Board of Education Chair.

PRESENT

Stuart Norman, Jr., BOE Chair; Terry Cholewa, BOE Vice Chair; Kimberly Neilson, BOE Secretary; Yvonne Palasky, Jaimee O’Neill-Eaton, Cathy Waselik and Eileen Ego, Griswold BOE Members.

ALSO PRESENT

Sean McKenna, Griswold Superintendent of Schools; Glenn LaBossiere, GPS Assistant Superintendent of Schools; Erik Christensen, GPS Director of Fiscal & Personnel Services; Christopher Champlin, GPS Director of Student Services; Erin Palonen, GHS Principal; Arthur Howe, GHS Associate Principal; Louis Zubek, GMS Principal; Steven Bourque, GMS Assistant Principal; Joseph Bordeaux, GES Principal; Patricia Feeney & Jessica Gillespie, GPS Directors of the TLI Department, Thomas O’Connor, GPS Food Service Director; Thomas Verville, GPS Facilities Director.

ABSENT

Stephen Cravinho, GPS Campus-Wide Activities & Athletic Director; and Jacqueline Love, GES Assistant Principal.

2. Pledge of Allegiance – The Board, administration and audience members performed the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. Approval of the Minutes
 - A. Special Minutes-January 8th, 2026

MOTION

By Cathy Waselik
Seconded by Jaimee O’Neill-Eaton
To approve the special meeting minutes of January 8th, 2026, as presented.
Motion unanimously carried.

4. Communications – There were no communications to review on this agenda.
5. Awards/Recognitions
 - A. Honoring GES Library Media Specialist/Retiree - Judith Beahan
 - B. Honoring GES Paraeducator/Retiree - Christine Atkins

The Board, the Superintendent, administrators and audience members took a moment to honor and recognize two of our GPS retirees: Judy Beahan has been the Library Media Specialist at GES; and Christine Atkins has been a Paraeducator at GES. They have both decided to retire and we wish them well.

6. Consent Agenda

- A. Review, Discussion, and Possible Action to Approve Revised Policy 6159—Instruction—Individualized Education Program, Second Reading
- B. Review, Discussion, and Possible Action to Approve Revised Regulation 6159 - Instruction - Individualized Education Program, Second Reading
- C. Review, Discussion, and Possible Action to Approve Revised Policy 6146—Instruction—Graduation Requirements, Second Reading

MOTION

By Cathy Waselik

Seconded by Jaimee O’Neill-Eaton

To approve revised policy #6159, revised regulation #6159 and revised policy #6146.

Motion unanimously carried.

7. Public Comment – There was no public comment to record this evening.

8. New Business

- A. Review and Discussion on New England School Development Council (NESDEC) 2025/2026 Enrollment Projections Report – The Board received an update from Superintendent, Sean McKenna, on the enrollment projections for Griswold Public Schools based on data from the New England School Development Council. The Superintendent was pleased to report that our enrollment is very encouraging. We are showing an increase in enrollment where many districts are seeing declines in enrollment.
- B. Review, Discussion and Possible Action to Appoint a Griswold Board of Education Member to Serve on the Cable TV Advisory Council of Eastern Connecticut – The Board was asked to consider appointing one member of the Griswold Board of Education to serve on the Cable TV Advisory Council of Southeastern Connecticut. The Board moved to table this item at this time

MOTION

By Cathy Waselik

Seconded by Yvonne Palasky

To table item 6B at this time.

Motion unanimously carried.

- C. Review and Discussion on Initial Budget Presentation for 2026/2027 – The Board received a first look at the initial budget proposal put together by GPS administration for the 2026/2027 school year.

MOTION

By Cathy Waselik

Seconded by Terry Cholewa

To table review and discussion on initial budget presentation for 2026/2027.

Motion unanimously carried.

D. Gifts/Donations

1. CHESLA Counselor Connect Event - \$500 Gift Card Awarded to Elaine Taylor, GHS Counselor, to Use for a FAFSA Completion Event to be Hosted on or before June 30, 2026

MOTION

By Yvonne Palasky

Seconded by Kimberly Neilson

To accept the very generous donation from the CHESLA Counselor Connect Event in the form of a \$500 gift card awarded to Elaine Taylor, GHS Counselor, to use for a FAFSA Completion Event to be hosted on or before June 30, 2026, with gratitude.

Motion unanimously carried.

9. Unfinished Business

- A. Review, Discussion, and Possible Action to Update the Board of Education Capital Committee Proposed Projects for the 2026-2027 School Year - The Board received an update/revision to the original Capital Committee proposed projects for the 2026/2027 school year. A replacement of the scoreboard at GHS was added to the capital committee proposed projects as item 1A – scoreboards at GHS.

MOTION

By Cathy Waselik

Seconded by Jaimee O’Neill-Eaton

To amend the capital committee proposed projects for the 2026/2027 school year and add new capital item 1A - Scoreboards at Griswold High School.

Motion unanimously carried.

10. Administrators Reports

- A. Financial Forecast Update for 2025/2026 School Year - Erik Christensen – The Board received an update from Erik Christensen, GPS Director of Fiscal & Personnel Services, on the current status of the 2025/2026 school budget.
- B. Review of Student Activity Accounts for GES, GMS and GHS – The Director of Fiscal & Personnel Services, Erik Christensen, provided an update to the Board on the balances of the student activity accounts for GES, GMS and GHS.

11. Superintendent’s Report

- A. Vacancies/Appointments/Resignations/Retirements – The Board received an update on vacancies, appointments, resignations and retirements.
- B. *Superintendent Goals Mid-Year 2025/2026 – This topic will be reviewed in executive session following the regular business portion of this meeting.

C. Timely Updates:

1. Mid-Year Reviews – The Board received an update from Superintendent Sean McKenna on mid-year reviews for our certified staff in all buildings. These reviews are consistent with contracts and are currently being completed.
2. Upcoming Meetings – The Board received an update on upcoming meetings, which will focus on budget development for the 2026/2027 school year. The Board set a special meeting on February 9th, 2026, at 6 PM in the GMS Learning Commons/Library Media Center.

12. Committee Reports

- A. Public Relations - Jaimee O’Neill-Eaton, Chair of the Public Relations subcommittee, provided an update to the Board on the Public Relations meeting that took place prior to this Board of Education meeting.
- B. TLI Subcommittee Update – Terry Cholewa, Chair of the new TLI Subcommittee, provided an update to the Board on the meeting that took place prior to this evening’s Board of Education meeting.

13. Other Business that May Properly Come before this Board – None.

MOTION

By Yvonne Palasky

Seconded by Jaimee O’Neill-Eaton

To move into executive session at 7:03 PM for the purpose of discussing item 11B, Superintendent Goals Mid-Year 2025/2026, and invited Sean McKenna into executive session.

The Board came out of executive session at 7:37 PM with no action taken.

14. Adjournment

MOTION

By Cathy Waselik

Seconded by Terry Cholewa

To adjourn the meeting at 7:37 PM.

Motion unanimously carried.