

**PUBLIC HEARING
GRISWOLD BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**THURSDAY,
February 5th, 2026**

GBE approved 2/12/2026

1. Call to Order: A special meeting of the Griswold Board of Education took place on Thursday, February 5th, 2026, at Griswold Middle School in the cafeteria, located at 211 Slater Avenue, Griswold, Connecticut. The meeting was called to order at 5:30 PM by BOE Chair, Stuart Norman, Jr.

PRESENT Stuart Norman, Jr., Griswold BOE Chair; Terry Cholewa, Griswold BOE Vice Chair; Kimberly Neilson (participated via zoom), Griswold BOE Secretary; Yvonne Palasky, Cathy Waselik, and Eileen Ego, Griswold BOE Members.

ALSO PRESENT Sean McKenna, GPS Superintendent of Schools; Glenn LaBossiere, GPS Assistant Superintendent; Christopher Champlin, GPS Director of Student Services; Erik Christensen, GPS Director of Fiscal & Personnel Services; Steve Cravinho, GPS Campus Wide Activities & Athletic Director; Erin Palonen, GHS Principal; Art Howe, GHS Associate Principal; Louis Zubek, GMS Principal; Steve Bourque, GPS Assistant Principal; Joseph Bordeau, GES Principal; Katy Sawaryn, GPS Special Services & Family Engagement Coordinator; and Patricia Feeney and Jessica Gillespie, GPS Directors of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment.

ABSENT Jaimee O’Neill-Eaton, Griswold BOE Member; and Jacqueline Love, GES Assistant Principal.

2. Pledge of Allegiance – The Board and the audience performed the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. Public Forum on the Initial Budget Proposal for the 2026-2027 School Year – Stuart Norman, Jr., Chair of the Griswold Board of Education, turned the meeting over to the GPS Superintendent of Schools, Mr. Sean McKenna, who presented details on the initial school budget proposal created for the 2026/2027 school year. This evening’s meeting was conducted and considered the Public Hearing on the proposed budget.

Following the presentation by Mr. McKenna, he turned the meeting back to BOE Chair, Stuart Norman, Jr., who asked the audience if there were any requests to speak during the public comment section of this meeting. The following people spoke during the public comment section:

Matthew Danieluk, 12 Tyler Terrace, Griswold, CT, is a selectman for the Town of Griswold, a resident of Griswold, and a staff member at GHS. He thanked all those who helped in creating the initial budget proposal for the 2026/2027 school year and he asked if the Board would give a hard look at the quality of food at the high school café, safety on campus with one school district security officer and one security guard. He also felt compelled to ask all to support our school system.

Melissa Beyer, who does not reside in Griswold but is a teacher at GES who works within the early childhood program spoke in favor of this budget and her hope that this early childhood program will be protected.

Stuart Norman, Jr., BOE Chair, took a moment to share how the budget is a difficult task for our Board members because they are all tax payers of this town and they all understand how budgets. He understands that the budget is an investment in our students' successes as well as the success of our town.

As there were no other requests for public comment, Stuart Norman. Jr. closed the public hearing/forum portion of the meeting at 5:50 PM.

4. Review, Discussion, and Possible Action on the Initial Budget Proposal for the 2026/2027 School Year – No further discussion took place at this time. The Board will be meeting again on Monday evening, February 9th, to continue discussion on the budget. There will also be another opportunity on Thursday, February 12th, for the Board to deliberate on the budget. The plan is to submit a finalized initial budget proposal for the 2026/2027 school year to the Town of Griswold, Board of Finance, on Friday, February 13, 2026.
5. Adjournment

MOTION

By Yvonne Palasky
Seconded by Cathy Waselik
To adjourn the special meeting at 5:55 PM.
Motion unanimously carried.

Minutes prepared by: Robin Drobiak