

**GROTON BOARD OF EDUCATION
SPECIAL MEETING
FEBRUARY 19, 2026 @ 6:00 P.M.
CENTRAL OFFICE, ROOM 11/HYBRID**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Beverly Washington – Chairperson, Adrian Johnson – Vice Chairperson, Andrea Ackerman (remote), Sean Corcoran (remote), Mitch Shinbrot, Ian Thomas, Jay Weitlauf (remote), Jennifer White, Michael Whitney (remote)

ALSO PRESENT: Susan Austin, Anne Marie Mancini, Denise Doolittle (remote), Laurie LePine (remote), Rita Parciak, Sam Kilpatrick, Lauren Casini (remote), Clint Kennedy (remote)

I. CALL TO ORDER – Mrs. Beverly Washington, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

II. Budget Work Session

Mrs. Parciak gave an overview of the following sections on the revised Budget Tracker Sheet:

- Add \$4,000 for food insecurities: Yes – 6 (Thomas, Johnson, Shinbrot, Corcoran; No – 4 (White, Ackerman, Weitlauf, Whitney); Washington agrees for 1 year to see how it goes
- Clint Kennedy gave an overview of line 45, Unknown: half an FTE in the amount of \$55,000 for help desk; he gave an overview of what typically has been the practice over the years – Yes – 6 (Johnson, Shinbrot, Thomas, Corcoran, Washington, Whitney; No – 2 (White, Weitlauf), Abstained – 1 (Ackerman)
= 6.33%
- Other Student Activities in the amount of \$1500: Yes – 8 (Thomas, White, Johnson, Shinbrot, Washington, Weitlauf, Corcoran, Ackerman), No – 1 (Whitney)

Mitch Shinbrot suggested the removal of lines 54, 55, 56, 57, 59, 61,62, 63, 64 which totals \$377,050, which is a 5.92 increase over the FY26 budget.

MOTION: Shinbrot, (no second): To approve the FY27 budget in the amount of \$97,455,191, which is a 5.92% increase of the FY26 budget.
DEFEATED

MOTION: Weitlauf, Washington: To approve the FY27 budget in the amount of \$97,825,941, which is a 6.33% increase of the FY26 budget.

MOTION: Johnson, Thomas: To amend the motion to approve the FY27 budget in the amount of \$97,825,941, as reflected in the Superintendent’s budget and Tracker dated February 19, 2026, at 8:19 p.m. and in-meeting adjustments that were undertaken in the February 19, 2026 meeting, which is a 6.33% increase of the FY26 budget.

VOTE ON AMENDMENT: Yes – 9 (Weitlauf, Ackerman, Corcoran, Johnson, Shinbrot, Thomas, White, Whitney, Washington)
PASSED – UNANIMOUSLY

VOTE OF MAIN MOTION AS AMENDED: Yes 9 (Thomas, Shinbrot, White, Johnson, Weitlauf, Ackerman, Washington, Corcoran, Whitney)

IV. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Ackerman, Shinbrot: The meeting adjourned at 8:47 p.m.
PASSED – UNANIMOUSLY