

**REGULAR MEETING
GRISWOLD BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**THURSDAY,
March 26, 2026**

GBE approved 4/9/2026

1. Call to Order - A regular meeting of the Griswold Board of Education was held on Thursday, March 26th, 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; Christopher Champlin, GPS Director of Student Services; Katy Sawaryn, GPS Assistant Director of Student Services; Erik Christensen, GPS Director of Fiscal & Personnel Services; Joseph Bordeau, GES Principal; Patricia Feeney and Jessica Gillespie, GPS Directors of Teaching, Learning and Innovation.

ABSENT

Stephen Cravinho, GPS Campus-Wide Activities & Athletic Director; Erin Palonen, GHS Principal. Art Howe, GHS Associate Principal; Louis Zubek, GMS Principal; Steven Bourque, GMS Assistant Principal; 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. Regular Minutes-March 12th, 2026

MOTION

By Yvonne Palasky

Seconded by Cathy Waselik

To approve the regular meeting minutes of March 12th, 2026, as presented.

Motion unanimously carried.

4. Communications

- A. March 16, 2026, Letter to Griswold Board of Finance Chairman, Scott Davis – The Board received a copy of a communication to the Town of Griswold, Board of Finance Chair, Scott Davis.

5. Awards/Recognitions

- A. Recognizing Tycen LaBelle, GHS Student and Track & Field Athlete, as the New England Champion, State Open Champion, and Class M Champion – The Board, the superintendent, administrators, and audience members were pleased to recognize Tycen LaBelle, GHS junior and scholar athlete, for all of his wining accomplishments during the Indoor Track season this winter.

7. Public Comment – There were no public comments to add to the minutes from this evening’s meeting.

8. New Business

- A. Review, Discussion, and Possible Action to set Tuition Revenue Projection for the 2026/2027 School Year
– The Board set the tuition revenue projection, to be provided to the Town of Griswold, Board of Finance, in the amount of 4.6 million dollars for the 2026/2027 school year.

MOTION

By Yvonne Palasky

Seconded by Cathy Waselik

To set the tuition revenue projection for the 2026/2027 school year at 4.6 million dollars.

Motion unanimously carried.

- B. Review, Discussion and Possible Action to Authorize the Superintendent to Purchase the Replacement Scoreboard for the Softball Field Using Grant Funding – The Board authorized the Superintendent to purchase a replacement scoreboard for the softball field at Griswold High School using grant funding.

MOTION

By Cathy Waselik

Seconded by Kimberly Neilson

To authorize the Superintendent to purchase a replacement scoreboard for the GHS softball field using grant funding.

Motion unanimously carried.

C. Gifts/Donations

1. 2025 Connecticut Higher Education Trust (CHET) Dream Big! Competition for K-12 Students - \$5,000 School Technology Prize – Awarded to GES on Behalf of Kindergarten Student Emmett Michaud

MOTION

By Kimberly Neilson

Seconded by Eileen Ego

To accept the \$5,000 school technology prize on behalf of the 2025 CT Higher Education Trust (CHET) Dream Big! Competition for K-12 Students, on behalf of Kindergarten Student Emmett Michaud.

Motion unanimously carried.

2. \$4,000 AI Rural Grant to Support Griswold High School’s Participation in a Lab Opportunity

MOTION

By Kimberly Neilson

Seconded by Terry Cholewa

To accept the \$4,000 AI Rural grant to support Griswold High School’s participation in a lab opportunity.

Motion unanimously carried.

D – Review, Discussion, and Possible Action to Set the Graduation Date for Griswold High School and 8th grade Promotion Date for Griswold Middle School – The Board set the GHS graduation date for Wednesday, June 17, 2026 and the GMS promotion date for Thursday, June 18, 2026.

MOTION

By Yvonne Palasky

Seconded by Cathy Waselik

To set the GHS graduation date for Wednesday, June 17, 2026 and the GMS promotion date for Thursday, June 18, 2026.

Motion unanimously carried.

9. Old Business

A. Review, Discussion, and Possible Action on Initial Budget Proposal for the 2026/2027 School Year

MOTION

By Cathy Waselik

Seconded by Kimberly Neilson

To table any action on the initial budget proposal for the 2026/2027 school year.

Motion unanimously carried.

B. Review, Discussion, and Possible Action to Update the Board of Education Capital Committee Proposed Projects for the 2026-2027 School Year

MOTION

By Eileen Ego

Seconded by Yvonne Palasky

To table any action on the Board of Education Capital Committee proposed projects for the 2026/2027 school year.

Motion unanimously carried.

10. Administrators' Reports

A. Semi-Annual Student Services Update – The Board received a semi-annual update from Christopher Champlin, GPS Director of Student Services, and Katy Sawaryn, GPS Assistant Director of Student Services, on the work of the student services department.

B. Financial Forecast, 2025/2026 School Year – Erik Christensen – The Board received an update from Erik Christensen, GPS Director of Fiscal & Personnel Services, on the current financial status of the 2025/2026 school year budget.

C. Update on Student Activity Accounts for GES, GMS, And GHS – Erik Christensen – The Board received an update from Erik Christensen, GPS Director of Fiscal & Personnel Services, on the student activity accounts and their balances, as of March 2026, for all three schools.

11. Superintendent's Report

- A. Attendance Committee Update
- B. Access and Opportunity Committee Update
- C. District Health, Safety, and Wellness Committee Update
- D. Town Tuition Partner Meeting Update
- E. Labor Relations Meeting Update

The Board received an update from Sean McKenna, Superintendent of Schools, on the topics listed above A-E.

12. Committee/Board Reports

- A. Town of Griswold, Board of Finance Update – The Superintendent provided an update to the Board on the recent Town of Griswold, Board of Finance meeting that took place.
- B. Policy Subcommittee Update – Yvonne Palasky, Chair of the Policy subcommittee, provided an update to the Board on the recent meeting that took place.
- C. Public Relations Subcommittee Update – Jaimee O'Neill-Eaton, Chair of the Public Relations subcommittee, provided an update to the Board on their recent meeting.
- D. TLI Subcommittee Update – Terry Cholewa, Chair of the TLI Subcommittee, provided an update to the Board on their recent meeting.
- E. Facilities Subcommittee Update – Kimberly Neilson, Chair of the Facilities subcommittee, provided an update to the Board on their recent meeting.

13. Other Business that May Properly Come before the Board – The Superintendent informed the Board that the district is currently working on a strategic plan and he hopes to bring it forward to a Board of Education meeting prior to the end of the school year.

14. Adjournment

MOTION

By Cathy Waselik
Seconded by Kimberly Neilson
To adjourn the regular BOE meeting at 6:45 PM.
Motion unanimously carried.

Minutes prepared by: Robin Drobiak