

**SPECIAL MEETING
GRISWOLD BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**MONDAY,
April 20, 2026**

GBE approved 5/14/2026

1. Call to Order - A special meeting of the Griswold Board of Education was held on Monday, April 20th, 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; Erik Christensen, GPS Director of Fiscal & Personnel Services; Erin Palonen, GHS Principal; Louis Zubek, GMS Principal; Joseph Bordeau, GES Principal;

ABSENT

Stephen Cravinho, GPS Campus-Wide Activities & Athletic Director; Art Howe, GHS Associate 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-April 9th, 2026

MOTION

By Yvonne Palasky

Seconded by Cathy Waselik

To approve the regular meeting minutes of April 9th, 2026, as presented.

Ayes – Terry Cholewa, Kimberly Neilson, Yvonne Palasky, Jaimee O'Neill-Eaton, Cathy Waselik, and Eileen Ego.

Nays –

Abstain – Stuart Norman, Jr.

Motion carried.

4. Communications – There were no communications to discuss.
5. New Business
 - A. Review, Discussion, and Possible Action to Approve the Griswold Forward 2.0 Mission, Vision, Goals and Beliefs – The Board approved the Griswold Forward 2.0 Mission, Vision, Goals, and Beliefs as presented.

MOTION

By Yvonne Palasky

Seconded by Kimberly Neilson

To approve the Griswold Forward 2.0 Mission, Vision, Goals and Beliefs, as presented.

Motion unanimously carried.

B. Gifts/Donations

1. Donation of Four Walmart Gift Cards totaling \$1,065 to GES on behalf of the Griswold Youth & Family Services and Park & Recreation Department

MOTION

By Kimberly Neilson

Seconded by Cathy Waselik

To approve the generous donation of four Walmart gift cards totaling \$1,065 to GES on behalf of the Griswold Youth & Family Services and Park & Recreation Department.

Motion unanimously carried.

6. Old Business

- A. Review, Discussion, and Possible Action on Initial Budget Proposal for the 2026/2027 School Year – Budget Scenarios - The Superintendent provided the Board with a document outlining proposed budget reductions totaling \$900,000, consistent with the reduction amount recommended by the Griswold Board of Finance. The document detailed the areas identified for potential cuts to meet the requested budget adjustment. The Board reviewed the information and presented questions to the Superintendent. No action was taken this evening.

MOTION

By Kimberly Neilson

Seconded by Terry Cholewa

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 – This topic was tabled as no action was taken on the Capital Committee proposed projects.

MOTION

By Cathy Waselik

Seconded by Kimberly Neilson

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

Motion unanimously carried.

7. Administrators' Reports

A. Financial Forecast, 2025/2026 School Year – Erik Christensen, GPS Director of Fiscal & Personnel Services – The Board received an update from Erik Christensen, GPS Director of Fiscal & Personnel Services, indicating that, although the district has been under a spending freeze for much of the school year, current projections show that he is hopeful we will close the fiscal year in a favorable financial position.

B. Spring Athletic Participation Numbers – Stephen Cravinho, GPS Director of Athletics – The Superintendent updated the Board on spring athletic participation at GHS and GMS, including enrollment figures for students from tuition towns. The report also highlighted participation in newly established club sports, including softball and baseball at GMS and boys' volleyball at GHS.

8. Superintendent's Report

A. Vacancies/Appointments/Resignations – The Board received a list of vacancies, appointments, and resignations.

B. Timely Updates

1. Administrative Comparisons
2. Teacher and Staff Appreciation
3. Teacher of the Year

The Board received an update from the Superintendent on items 1-3 above.

9. Committee/Board Reports – There were no Committee/Board reports this evening.

10. Adjournment

MOTION

By Kimberly Neilson

Seconded by Cathy Waselik

To adjourn the regular BOE meeting at 6:35 PM.

Motion unanimously carried.

Minutes prepared by: Robin Drobiak