GROTON BOARD OF EDUCATION
SPECIAL CURRICULUM COMMITTEE MEETING
JUNE 2, 2026 @ 6:00 P.M.
REMOTE

Members Remote: Andrea Ackerman, Mitch Shinbrot
Members Absent: Ian Thomas
Also Remote: Anne Marie Mancini

Shinbrot called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

1. Review Meeting Minutes: May 4, 2026

   The minutes were reviewed and accepted.

2. GPS Strategic Plan Pillar #1: Accelerate Academic Achievement

   Mancini explained that she wanted to go over the first pillar of the Strategic plan, Pillar 1: Accelerate Academic Achievement because it relates to the work that the BOE committee does. Mancini explained the different parts of the pillar and what is being done to move outcomes forward.

3. BOE Curriculum Committee: A Year in Review- SY 2025-2026

   Mancini explained that the committee felt that they had a lot to do. At the beginning of the year, they would meet twice a month. The Curriculum Handbook was updated, the district's curriculum writing and approval was streamlined, revised the IB Personal Project course, revised the graduation requirements, reviewed student performance, World Language offerings and current course enrollment. Also reviewed the process for quality points given, reviewed the program of studies (HS/MS), proposed discontinuing publishing class rank, reviewed 4 new courses, new math resource (K-8) selection and ELA 6-8 resource.

4. Review BOE Referral Tracking Sheet

   The committee reviewed the referral tracker.

5. Adjournment

   The meeting adjourned at 6:44 P.M.

BOE Curriculum Committee Meeting

June 2, 2026

Agenda

1. Minutes: May 4 2026 Meeting

2. GPS Strategic Plan Pillar #1: Accelerate Academic Achievement

3. BOE Curriculum Committee: A Year in Review- SY 2025-2026

4. Referral Tracking Sheet

GPS Strategic Plan: Pillar #1 Accelerate Academic Achievement

GPS Strategic Plan Pillars

1



2



3



4



5



Pillar #1: Accelerate Academic Achievement

Ensure a comprehensive, standards-aligned curricula for all students, PreK-Grade 12

- Researched, piloted and selected a new curriculum resource for mathematics; established instructional coherence in Grades K-8
- Researched, piloted and selected a new curriculum resource for ELA, Grades 6-8, which will build on existing routines and structures and maintain the rigor and momentum of the K-5 literacy program
- Revised or wrote curricula for twenty (20) different courses in the summer of 2025 and developed a plan for updating and writing new curricula for an additional 24 courses in the summer of 2026

Pillar #1: Accelerate Academic Achievement

Provide engaging, student-centered instruction that promotes active learning and meaningful connections

- Worked with the GTLC to create a common definition/understanding of high-quality, student centered instruction
- Conducted two-three instructional walkthroughs in each school and provided written feedback as well as suggestions and resources to support improvement
- Offered professional learning sessions designed to promote active learning (e.g., Building Thinking Classrooms)

Pillar #1: Accelerate Academic Achievement

Use district, school, and classroom assessment data to make informed decisions about instruction and improve student outcomes

- Identified common district-wide assessments in math, literacy, and science
- Developed district assessment calendar
- Scheduled and facilitated Student Achievement Meetings (3x/year) for each school to review data from the fall, winter, and spring assessments

Pillar #1: Accelerate Academic Achievement

Ensure equitable access to resources and opportunities, including differentiated interventions and multi-tiered systems of support (MTSS)

- Identified a list of current supports available at each school
- Created an informational resource for families and posted it on the GPS website
- Reviewed DIBELS and iReady data with Elementary Literacy and Math Specialists and principals to identify growth and areas in need of opportunity

BOE Curriculum Committee
A Year in Review: SY 2025-2026

Work Accomplished: SY 2025-2026

- Updated the GPS Curriculum Handbook (Last Update: 2019)
- Streamlined curriculum writing and approval process
- Approved revisions to the IB Personal Project- required course for all Grade 10 students
- Revised district's graduation requirements (from 27 →25 credits) and made recommendations to the full BOE
- Reviewed student performance in AP, IB, ECE, and dual enrollment courses during SY 2024-2025
- Reviewed current WL offerings and current course enrollment
- Reviewed justification/rationale given for quality points given to advanced-level courses and approved no change

Work Accomplished: SY 2025-2026

- Reviewed programs of study for Groton MS and Fitch HS for SY 26-27
- Approved proposal to discontinue publishing class rank and moved forward to the full BOE
- Reviewed new course proposals for four (4) new classes to write curriculum; reviewed and approved 1 completed curriculum document (IB Personal and Professional Skills)
- Reviewed new math resource selection, Grades K-8, and moved proposal forward to the full BOE
- Reviewed new ELA resource selection, Grades 6-8, and moved proposal forward to the full BOE

Referral Tracking Sheet

BOARD OF EDUCATION - REFERRAL TRACKING SHEET

Revised: April 27, 2026

CURRICULUM/INSTRUCTION			
Referral #	**Date Initiated**	**Subject**	**Date Completed**
R2023-22	11/3/23	Development of a schedule for curriculum updates in all subjects	
R2023-23	12/18/23	Discussion re: Reading & Writing K-12 (AJ) – Discussed at COW on 4/28/2025	Ongoing
R2024-34	12/2/24	Discussion re: the study of IB (IT)	
R2024-35	12/2/24	Review of the math curriculum (BW) – Discussed on 4/4/2025 & 11/24/2025	Ongoing

POLICY			
Referral #	**Date Initiated**	**Subject**	**Date Completed**
R2024-31	10/15/24	Discussion re: P1312 Public Complaints process and procedure (IT)	
R2026-1	2/23/26	Review policy P3542.43 Food Service-Charging Policy (SC)	
R2026-2	2/23/26	Development of a policy re: lawsuits filed against the district/BOE/employees be reported by the Superintendent/Attorney to the Board within 30 days (IT)	

Our Roadmap to Success





District Improvement Plan



School Improvement Plan

Key Performance Indicators and State Data Measure Progress