GROTON BOARD OF EDUCATION
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING MINUTES
JUNE 15, 2026 @ 6:00 P.M.
CENTRAL OFFICE, ROOM 11/HYBRID

MEMBERS PRESENT: Beverly Washington – Chairperson, Adrian Johnson – Vice Chairperson, Andrea Ackerman (remote), Sean Corcoran, Mitch Shinbrot (left at 8:10 p.m.), Ian Thomas, Jay Weitlauf (remote), Jennifer White, Michael Whitney

ALSO PRESENT: Susan Austin, Anne Marie Mancini, Sam Kilpatrick, Shannon Weigle

I. CALL TO ORDER – Mrs. Beverly Washington, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

II. Review of the May 18, 2026 Meeting Minutes

The Board approved the minutes of the May 18, 2026 meeting with correction to item V to read, "Mr. Johnson explain his understanding of Mr. Thomas's request for discussion of the Data Dashboard so the Board can see data in real time."

III. Review of the June 8, 2026 Meeting Minutes

The Board approved the minutes of June 8, 2026.

IV. Grants Update – Attachment #1

Shannon Weigle gave an overview of grants as of June 2026:

- New grants
- Applications submitted
- Grants coming up soon
- Ongoing grants

V. Discussion re: Charles Barnum Facility

Superintendent Austin gave an update of the Charles Barnum facility.

VI. Review of the Three Options for the Robotics Field – Attachment #2

Shannon Weigle gave an overview of the three options and the specs for the Robotics Field:

- Previous Options
  - Bubble
  - Temporary Structure
  - Fabric
- Option 1 – ClearSpan Metal Building (Half Field)
- Option 2 – ClearSpan Metal Building (Full Field)

The consensus of the Board to request Town Funding after vetting from an architect on the project
YES - Weitlauf, Washington, Shinbrot,
Johnson, Corcoran, Thomas, White, Whitney
NO – Ackerman
PASSED

VI. Review of the Three Options for the Robotics Field – (cont.)

- Option 3 – Short Term Rental

VII. Update re. ECC at Mary Morrisson

Superintendent Austin and Mrs. Weigle gave an update, with input from Mr. Kilpatrick, on the ECC program at Mary Morrisson.

VIII. REVIEW OF REFERRAL TRACKING SHEET

Mr. Johnson asked again to add discussion of World Language offerings.

Mr. Whitney asked for consideration of having less COW meetings.

REMOVED – R2025-4 Discussion of Board approval grants
REMOVED – R2024-19 Create a monetary threshold for moving money within the budget for BOE approval regarding enterprise funds

IX. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Ackerman, Whitney: The meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

GROTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS PROJECT GRANTS REPORT – June 2026

I. Grants Awarded to Groton Public Schools Between Nov 2025 – June 2026		
Grant	**Description**	**Award**
National Corporate Grant	To support development of Robotics practice field. Corporation name will be shared on July 1st after official award announcement by corporation.	$50,000
Kendall Foundation	To replace worn equipment and expand Farm to School gardens at each school.	$100,000
Nature Everywhere	To enhance GPS school playgrounds with nature-inspired equipment.	$50,000
Smart Start (Office of Early Childhood)	To convert Mary Morrison into Early Childhood Center.	$750,000 (capital funds); $975,000 (operational costs – year one)
State and Local Security Grant Program (DESPP)	To purchase and install new cybersecurity equipment and software.	$191,030 (through Nov 2027)

II. Submitted Grant Applications (Award Announcements Pending)		
Grant	**Description**	**Award**
Farm to School Program (USDA)	To replace worn equipment and expand Farm to School gardens at each school.	$100,000 (submitted on December 5)
Military-Connected Schools Construction, Modernization, and Facilities Maintenance Program (DoWEA)	To replace or build new Charles Barnum Elementary School.	$25M (submitted on May 1)

III. Upcoming Grant Applications		
Grant	**Description**	**Award and Due Date**
21st CCLC (CSDE)	To continue afterschool program at GMS and expand to FHS.	$120,000 Due July 8th
LEAP	To pilot a relational home-visit program to improve school attendance.	$125,000 Due July 8th

IV. Grant Funded Projects in Progress		
Grant	**Description**	**Award**
21st CCLC (CSDE)	For new afterschool program at GMS to engage uninvolved students with an emphasis on teamwork and leadership.	Ending September 2026
ARP Mental Health Specialist (CSDE Bureau of Nutrition)	To extend the Early Childhood School Social Worker position for two years. Professional development for staff who work with students ages 3-6.	Ending June 2026
ARP Right to Read (CSDE)	To purchase supplies and provide professional development to teachers around the new GPS K-3 Literacy Plan.	Ending June 2026
ARP Stronger Connections (CSDE)	For Social Worker and Community Coordinators and to expand restorative justice programming.	Ending June 2026

ARP Summer Mental Health Support (CSDE Bureau of Nutrition)	For additional Social Workers / School Psychologists to support the ESY and FHS summer school programs.	Ending June 2026
COPS Hiring Program (DOJ) (*via Town of Groton Police Department)*	To hire two School Resource Officers for elementary schools.	$250,000 (over four years); matching funds required
Community Wi-Fi Round 2 (CEN)	Expansion of wi-fi to FHS and GMS athletic fields.	Ending June 2026
Military Connected Academic and Support Program (DoDEA)	To enhance elementary magnet themed programming and incorporate culturally responsive teaching practices into the K-12 curriculum.	$1.25M (ends May 2028)
World Language Advancement and Readiness Program (DoDEA)	Professional development for all world language teachers to align to ACTFL standards and to expand the WL program to the elementary level.	$1M (June 2027)

Attachment #2

Fitch High School Robotics Field

June 15, 2026

Previous Options - Bubble



Est. cost $220,000

Short lifespan

Not hurricane proof

Previous Options - Temporary Structure



Est. cost $85,000

Short lifespan

Not hurricane proof

Previous Options - Fabric



Est. cost $240,000

Quick deployment

Recurring costs

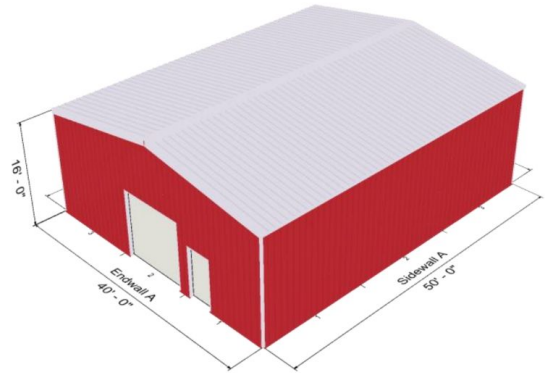
Not hurricane proof

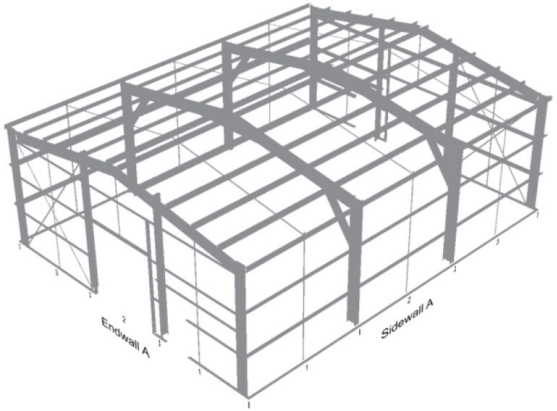
Option 1 - ClearSpan Metal Building (Half Field)

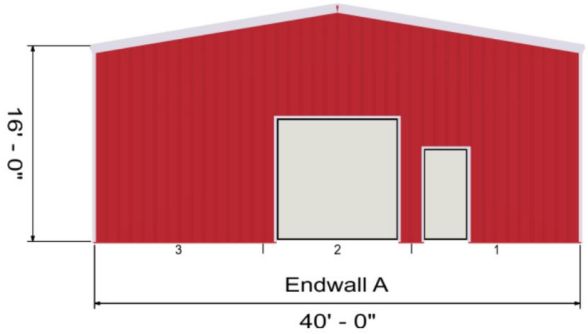
- Pre-Engineered Structure
- Metal Building
- 40’ x 50’
- BYO Floor
- Wind Load/Exposure: 135 mph
- Design Roof Snow Load: 43 psf
- Drop Shipped to FHS

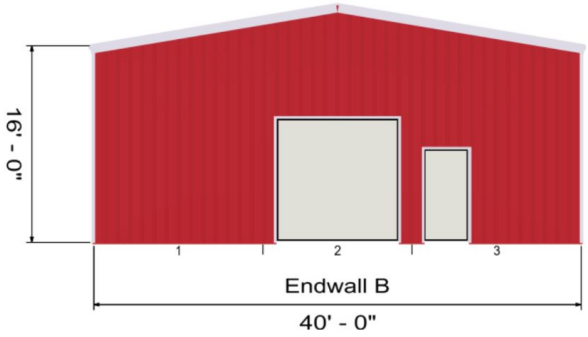
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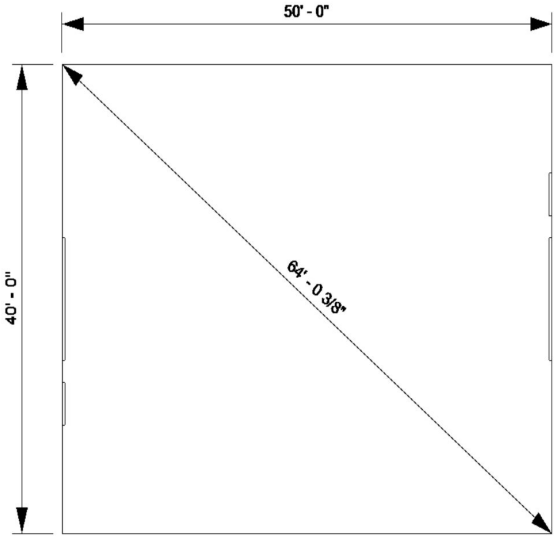
GROTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Groton, CT











ClearSpan

Corporate
703 Hebron Avenue, Floor 3, Glastonbury, CT 06033
p: 1.860.760.0046 • f: 1.888.958.1393 • www.clearspan.com

Customer ID: 9236681
Quote Number: 1185219

QUOTE

Sourcewell Contract #: 071223-CSS
110822-CSS
Page: 1 of 2

Quote To:
CLINT KENNEDY
CLINT KENNEDY
101 GROTON LONG POINT RD
GROTON CT 06340
UNITED STATES

Phone:
ckennedy@groton.k12.ct.us
Sales Person: BRAD WILLIAMS
Office Phone: 800-603-4445 x1241
BWILLIAMS@CLEARSPAN.COM

Ship To:
CLINT KENNEDY
101 GROTON LONG POINT RD

GROTON, CT 06340

Date: 5/7/2026 Valid for 10 Days

Quote Total 106,672.14

USD

Line	Part	Description	Expected Qty	Unit Price	Ext. Price
1	100113	40W BY 50L COLD FORM MTL BLDG PACKAGE PER SPEC PROVIDED	1.00	41,170.00	41,170.00
2	700011	CUSTOM BEAM DESIGN AND ENGINEERING BUILDING AND SLAB INCLUDED	1.00	0.00	0.00
3	700000	STANDARD WAGE BUILDING INSTALLATION (ON SLAB BY OTHERS)	1.00	46,255.00	46,255.00
		Installation estimate for a Cold Form structure that is 40x50. Building to be installed on concrete foundation at grade that is to be prepared by others and ready upon crews' arrival to site. This estimate includes installation of gutters, man doors, and framing for overhead doors. Overhead doors to be installed by others. *The installation quote is based on the following assumptions: full and unrestricted access to the site for both crew and equipment; a clear, obstruction-free work area; and sufficient space on-site to unload and stage all necessary materials. The quoted price does not include any foundation work. It is also assumed that all work will be performed under standard labor conditions, including regular working hours and wage rates.*			
4	700000	STANDARD WAGE DOOR INSTALLATION	1.00	11,077.00	11,077.00

QUOTE - Miscellaneous Charge -

	Description	Ext. Price
1.)	Freight	8,170.14

GROTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Groton, CT

Option 1 ClearSpan Metal Building (Half Field)

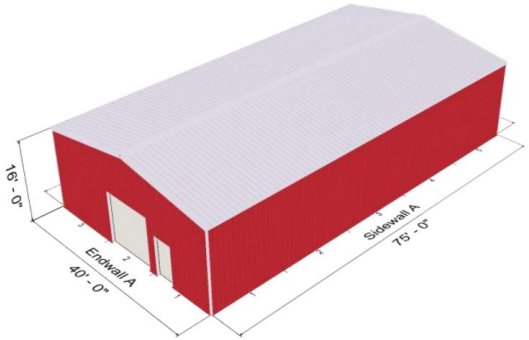
COST:

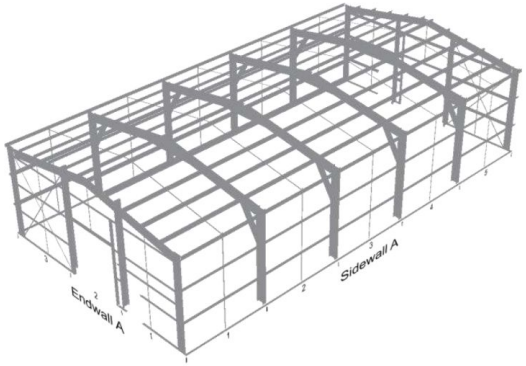
1) **Building shipped and constructed: $106,672**
2) **Cement floor: $40,000**
3) **Utilities+HVAC: $50,000**
4) **TOTAL: $196,672**

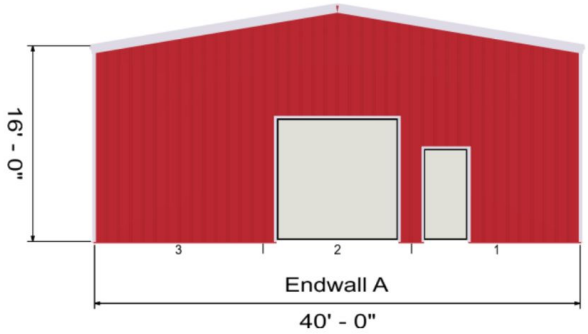
Option 2 - ClearSpan Metal Building (Full Field)

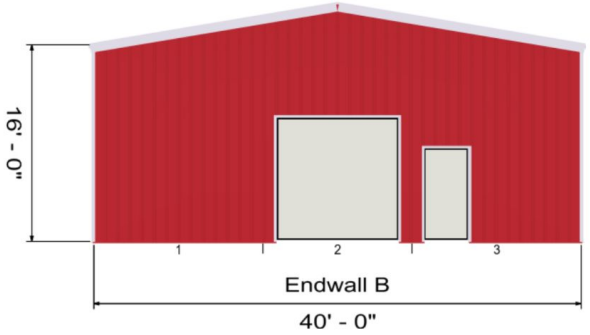
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- Metal Building
- 40’ x 75’
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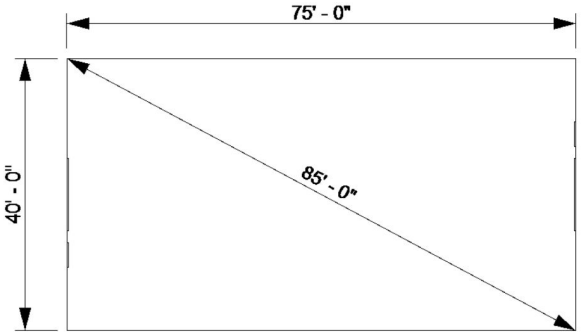
Option 2 - ClearSpan Metal Building











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CLINT KENNEDY CLINT KENNEDY 101 GROTON LONG POINT RD GROTON CT 06340 UNITED STATES Phone: ckennedy@groton.k12.ct.us **Sales Person:** BRAD WILLIAMS **Office Phone:** 800-603-4445 x1241 BWILLIAMS@CLEARSPAN.COM	CLINT KENNEDY 101 GROTON LONG POINT RD GROTON, CT 06340 **Date:** 6/12/2026 Valid for 10 Days **Quote Total** **143,252.14**

USD

Line	Part	Description	Expected Qty	Unit Price	Ext. Price
1	100113	40W BY 75L COLD FORM MTL BLDG PACKAGE PER SPEC PROVIDED	1.00	54,668.00	54,668.00
2	700011	CUSTOM BEAM DESIGN AND ENGINEERING BUILDING AND SLAB INCLUDED	1.00	0.00	0.00
3	700000	STANDARD WAGE BUILDING INSTALLATION (ON SLAB BY OTHERS)	1.00	69,337.00	69,337.00
		Installation estimate for a Cold Form structure that is 40x75. Building to be installed on concrete foundation at grade that is to be prepared by others and ready upon crews' arrival to site. This estimate includes installation of gutters, man doors, and framing for overhead doors. Overhead doors to be installed by others. *The installation quote is based on the following assumptions: full and unrestricted access to the site for both crew and equipment; a clear, obstruction-free work area; and sufficient space on-site to unload and stage all necessary materials. The quoted price does not include any foundation work. It is also assumed that all work will be performed under standard labor conditions, including regular working hours and wage rates.*			
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QUOTE - Miscellaneous Charge -

	Description	Ext. Price
1.)	Freight	8,170.14

GROTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Groton, CT

Option 2 ClearSpan Me Building (Full Field)

COST:

1) **Building shipped and constructed: $143,252**
2) **Cement floor: $50,000**
3) **Utilities+HVAC: $50,000**
4) **TOTAL: $243,252**

Option 3 - Short Term Rental



Mystic Business Park:
$985/month for 30’ x 40’ space
Currently unavailable

Mystic Indoor Sports:
Unavailable