GROTON BOARD OF EDUCATION
COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
AUGUST 13, 2026 AT 6:00 PM
REMOTE MEETING

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jay Weitlauf, Jennifer White, Sean Corcoran

MEMBERS ABSENT: Beverly Washington, Anne Marie Mancini, Rebecca Beyus

1. **Call to Order** - J. Weitlauf called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

2. **Review of Meeting Minutes** - The meeting minutes from June 4, 2026 were accepted.

3. **Communications and Publicity for the opening of the Mary Morrisson Early Childhood Center -** R. Beyus provided an overview of communication efforts supporting the Mary Morrisson Early Childhood Center, focused on creating awareness and excitement, engaging the community and driving registration, and informing families about school and district services. Highlights included the community survey conducted early in the year, articles in *The Day* newspaper, family communications and reminders, the pilot of a transportation optional opt-out, and welcome messages. A Meet and Greet for families is being held on September 2, and planning for a ribbon-cutting ceremony in September is underway, with additional publicity coverage expected. Board members want to ensure local and state officials are invited.

4. **Additional Topics** - The Board requested an update on publicity for the D.R.E.A.M. machine shop opening. R. Beyus recommended targeting a November date for an open house and ribbon cutting. Additional publicity and photo opportunities will showcase the program, students, staff, and the new shop. The group briefly discussed other back-to-school communications and community engagement.

5. **Next Meeting -** The next meeting will be Thursday, October 22, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.

6. **Adjournment** - The meeting adjourned at 6:58 p.m.