REGULAR MEETING **THURSDAY,**
GRISWOLD BOARD OF EDUCATION **September 24, 2026**

DRAFT

1. Call to Order - A regular meeting of the Griswold Board of Education was held on Thursday, September 24th, 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 Terry Cholewa, BOE Vice-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, BOE Members.

ALSO PRESENT Sean McKenna, Griswold Superintendent of Schools; Glenn LaBossiere, GPS Assistant Superintendent of Schools; Patricia Feeney, GPS Director of TLI; Jessica Gillespie, Director of TLI; Stephen Cravinho, GPS Campus Wide Activities & Athletic Director; Katy Sawaryn, GPS Assistant Director of Student Services & Early Childhood; Erik Christensen, GPS Director of Fiscal & Personnel Services; Erin Palonen, GHS Principal; Louis Zubek, GMS Principal; Joseph Bordeau, GES Principal; and Thomas Verville, GPS Facilities Director.

ABSENT Christopher Champlin, GPS Director of Student Services; Art Howe, GHS Associate Principal; Steven Bourque, GMS Assistant Principal; and Jacqueline Love, GES Assistant Principal.

2. Pledge of Allegiance – The Board, the superintendent, administration, and audience members performed the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Approval of the Minutes
   A. Special Meeting Minutes-September 8, 2026

MOTION
By Kimberly Neilson
Seconded by Jaimee O'Neill-Eaton
To approve the special meeting minutes of September 8, 2026, as presented.
Ayes – Stuart Norman, Jr. Terry Cholewa, Jaimee O'Neill-Eaton, Cathy Waselik; and Kimberly Neilson.
Nays –
Abstain – Yvonne Palasky and Eileen Ego
Motion carried.

   B. Regular Meeting Minutes – September 10, 2026

MOTION

By Kimberly Neilson
Seconded by Jaimee O'Neill-Eaton
To approve the regular meeting minutes of September 10, 2026, with correction to note that Yvonne Palasky was not present at the meeting.
Ayes – Stuart Norman, Jr., Kimberly Neilson, Jaimee O'Neill-Eaton and Cathy Waselik
Nays –
Abstain – Yvonne Palasky, Terry Cholewa and Eileen Ego.
Motion carried.

4. Communications
   A. Thank You Note from The Board of Trustees for Slater Library
   B. September 16th, 2026, Morning Transportation Adjustment MEMO
   The Board received copies of communications A and B listed above.

5. Recognitions
   A. Recognizing and Honoring Evelyn Cholewa, GES Secretary, as the GPS *Outstanding Employee for the 1st Quarter* of the 2026/2027 School Year – The Board, the superintendent, administrators and audience members recognized Evelyn Cholewa, GES Secretary, as Griswold's choice for *Outstanding Employee of the First Quarter* for the 2026/2027 school year.

6. Public Comment –None.

7. Consent Agenda (All routine items can be approved with one motion and without discussion. Points of clarification and discussion requests can be allowed.)
   A. Review, Discussion and Possible Action on Revised Policy 1312—Community Relations—Public Complaints—to the Full Board - Second Reading
   B. Review, Discussion, and Possible Action on New Policy 4222—Personnel - Non-Certified—Paraeducators/Title Paraeducators—to the Full Board - Second Reading
   C. Review, Discussion, and Possible Action on New Policy 5118.3—Students—Homeless Students—to the Full Board - Second Reading
   D. Review, Discussion, and Possible Action on New Policy 5124.1—Students—Reporting to Parents, District/School Report Cards—to the Full Board - Second Reading

MOTION

By Yvonne Palasky
Seconded by Jaimee O'Neill-Eaton
To approve the consent agenda, as presented.
Motion unanimously carried.

8. New Business
   A. Review, Discussion, and Possible Action on Capital Improvement Requests for the 2027/2028 School Year – The Board was provided with a copy of the capital improvement requests for the 2027/2028 school year and they approved the requests, as presented.

MOTION

By Cathy Waselik
Seconded by Yvonne Palasky
To approve the capital improvement requests for the 2027/2028 school year to present to the town, with the option of making changes and prioritizing in the future.
Motion unanimously carried.

   B. Internal Accounts--Erik Christensen, Director of Fiscal and Personnel Services – The Board received an update from Erik Christensen, GPS Director of Fiscal & Personnel Services, provided an update on the balances for the student activities internal accounts for GES, GMS and GHS.

   C. Entitlement Grants - Overview and Presentation on Funding Allocations - Erik Christensen, Director of Fiscal and Personnel Services – The Board received an update from Erik Christensen, GPS Director of Fiscal & Personnel Services, who provided an overview of the district's entitlement grants and the allocation of associated funds. The presentation included a review of the various grant funding sources, allowable uses of funds, and how the allocations are designated to support specific programs, services, and district initiatives.

   D. Superintendent's Report Pursuant to and Required by Public Act 25-93 - Sean McKenna – The Board received an update from Superintendent, Sean McKenna, on a new superintendent's report, per public act 25-93, which includes information regarding community-based organizations providing student support services, workforce development programs involving outside partners, and certified and noncertified staff attrition data.

   E. *Review of Superintendent Goals for the 2026/2027 School Year - Sean McKenna – This topic was referred to executive session following the regular business portion of this meeting for review and discussion.

   F. Grants
      1. Review, Discussion, and Possible Action on District Repair and Improvement Project (DRIP) Grant Use of Funds in the Amount $130,616.26.

MOTION

By Eileen Ego
Seconded by Yvonne Palasky
To approve the District Repair and Improvement Project Grant Use of Funds in the amount of $130,616.
Motion unanimously carried.

9. Old Business – None.

10. Administrators' Reports
    A. Department of Student Services--Katy Sawaryn, Assistant Director of Student Services
        1. Department Initiatives – The Board received an update from GPS Assistant Director of Student Services and Early Childhood – Katy Sawaryn – on department initiatives that are happening in the area of special education and student services.

        2. Overview of Enrollment Figures - The Board received an update from Assistant Director of Student Services and Early Childhood – Katy Sawaryn – on enrollment figures for the start of the 2026/2027 school year, including total number of students in the district, total number of students identified as special education and total number of students identified as 504. The report also included the number of students outplaced this year and the total number of students experiencing homelessness. Also included are the number of students from Griswold and tuition towns attending the Griswold Soule Street Academy.

    B. Department of Athletics--Stephen Cravinho, Director of Athletics
        1. Overview of Fall Participation Numbers – The Board received an update from Stephen Cravinho, GPS Districtwide Activities & Athletic Director, on the overall number of students from Griswold and tuition towns participating in fall 2026 sports.

        2. Update on Scoreboards – The Board received an update from Stephen Cravinho, GPS Districtwide Activities & Athletic Director, on the status of the repairs/replacements to scoreboards on campus.

11. Assistant Superintendent's Report
    A. Update on District Meeting Schedule – GPS Assistant Superintendent, Glenn LaBossiere, provided an update to the Board on several district meetings that happen throughout the school year. Several of the meetings that take place include AP meetings, TLI meetings, DPAC meetings, learner access meetings, district safety and wellness meetings, tuition town meetings with our sending towns, attendance meetings, labor relations meetings with union leaders, sound/vision/word committee meetings, and recruiting of sending town students.

12. Superintendent's Report
    A. Vacancies/Appointments/Resignations/Retirements – The Board received a list of vacancies, appointments, and resignations.

    B. Superintendent Updates
        1. School Safety Plan – The Board received an update from the Superintendent on the School Safety Plan.

        2. Open House at Griswold High School – The Board received an update from the Superintendent on the GHS open house that will take place on Tuesday, September 29th from 5-7 PM.

13. Committee/Board Reports

A. Athletic Subcommittee Update – Cathy Waselik - The Board received an update from Cathy Waselik, Chair of the Athletic subcommittee, on the recent meeting that took place.

B. Public Relations Subcommittee Update – Jaimee O'Neill-Eaton – The Board received an update from Jaimee O'Neill-Eaton, Chair of the Public Relations subcommittee, on the recent meeting that took place.

C. TLI Subcommittee Update – The Board received an update from Terry Cholewa, Chair of the TLI subcommittee, on the recent meeting that took place.

D. Town of Griswold – Board of Finance Update – Sean McKenna – The Board received an update from Superintendent Sean McKenna on the recent Board of Finance meeting that took place.

14. Other Business that May Properly Come before the Board – None.

MOTION By Jaimee O'Neill-Eaton
Seconded by Terry Cholewa
To move into executive session at 7:13 PM for the purpose of reviewing New Business, 8E, Review of Superintendent Goals for the 2026/2027 school year, inviting Sean McKenna into executive session.
Motion unanimously carried.

The Board came out of executive session at 7:26 PM with no further action.

15. Adjournment

MOTION By Kimberly Neilson
Seconded by Cathy Waselik
To adjourn the regular BOE meeting at 7:26 PM.
Motion unanimously carried.

Minutes prepared by: Robin Drobiak/Sean McKenna