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

Members Remote: Andrea Ackerman, Mitch Shinbrot
Absent: Ian Thomas
Also Remote: Adrian Johnson, Ann Marie Mancini

Shinbrot called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

1. Review Meeting Minutes: October 7, 2026

   The minutes were reviewed. Shinbrot would like the words "as we can" in the third sentence under FHS Course enrollment changed to "possible". The minutes were accepted as amended.

2. World Language Enrollment

   Groton offers World Languages in grade 3 thru 12. Per the request, we will focus on World Language enrollment in the upper grades. At Groton Middle School, 81 students are taking one of the French courses offered. When looking at the number of requests received, it looks like most of the students who requested French wind up getting French. There seems to be more demand for Spanish with a total of 674 students enrolled. There is 1 French, and 4 Spanish teachers. We also offer Spanish for Spanish Speakers. They are tailored for students who have Spanish as their native language. Ackerman questioned why someone who speaks Spanish would need to take a Spanish course. Mancini stated she would look into this.

   At the high school, ASL is offered mainly to students in grades 10 thru 12. We only have 1 teacher and there is a high demand. ASL 3 and 4 are held in 1 class. There was some discussion on the IB/MYP program. We have 1 French teacher at the high school. We have students taking Spanish 1 all the way through Honors Spanish. The trend of students enrolled in ASL and French has decreased in the last two years while the enrollment in Spanish has increased.

   Johnson wants to see the district's plan for elementary World Language go to the full Board for discussion before budget discussion. Shinbrot and Ackerman agreed to send this to the Board for discussion.

3. CPFA Data Review and the Physical Fitness Curriculum

   The purpose of Physical Education is to develop the whole student. They apply movement skills, fitness knowledge, social skills and choosing personal skills and value activities. It helps them build knowledge, confidence and stay active their whole life. It is based on four standards: motor skills, movement and fitness knowledge, social skills, and personal skills and meaning. Mancini explained the data of the CT Physical Fitness Test.

4. Review of Referral Tracker

   The committee reviewed the Referral Tracker.

5. Adjournment

   The meeting adjourned at 7:15 P.M.