

**GROTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
GROTON, CONNECTICUT**

(*Attachments are available upon request from the Superintendent's Office.)

Committee of the Whole

March 18, 2019

A Committee of the Whole of the Groton Board of Education was held on March 18, 2019 in Room 11 of the School Administration Building.

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Mrs. Kim Watson, Board Chairperson, at 6:07 p.m.

PRESENT

ABSENT

Mrs. Kim Shepardson Watson, Chairperson
Dr. Andrea Ackerman, Vice Chairperson
Mrs. Jane Giulini
Mrs. Katrina Fitzgerald (arrived at 6:10 p.m.)
Mrs. Gretchen Newsome (arrived at 6:15 p.m.)
Mrs. Rosemary Robertson (arrived at 6:50 p.m.)
Mr. Jay Weitlauf
Mrs. Lee White

Mrs. Rita Volkmann

Dr. Michael Graner, Superintendent of Schools
Ms. Susan Austin, Assistant Superintendent of Schools
Mr. Sam Kilpatrick, Director of Buildings and Grounds
Mr. Dennis Colclough, Director of Technology Services
Miss Addie Clark, Student Representative

1. Approval of Minutes of March 11, 2019

MOTION: White, Giulini:

To approve the minutes of March 11, 2019 with correction to the wording of the motion regarding item #3.

PASSED – UNANIMOUSLY

2. Review of the Technology Replacement Plan [ATTACHMENT #1]

Mrs. Watson inquired of the status of the Board “drop box” where items related to Board matters could be stored electronically. It was noted that it could be found on the Google Drive. Mr. Colclough noted that he would investigate options of a more efficient program.

Mr. Colclough gave an overview of the Technology Replacement Plan. He explained the rationale for replacement of each item over a 10 year cycle. Mr. Colclough stated that the replacement plan does not include active panels at the middle schools.

There was an extensive discussion that allowed Board members to have a better understanding of the technology in the district.

3. Discussion of Board involvement with parent groups

Board discussion ensued on the merits of Board members visiting schools and/or classrooms or attending parent group meetings. It was suggested that prior notification should be given to the Principal and/or the Superintendent. Dr. Graner invited Board members to join him on his weekly walk through of the district.

Mrs. Watson suggested an Ad Hoc committee to plan community conversations and meetings on topics relevant to education. Mrs. Fitzgerald, Mrs. Robertson, Mrs. White, and Mrs. Giuliani agreed to serve on the committee; Susan Austin and Rebecca Beyus will assist the committee with planning.

Mrs. Fitzgerald suggested the need for a process to follow when visiting schools.

4. Discussion of video taping of COW presentations

Mrs. Watson asked Board members their opinion of having COW presentations taped. The overall consensus was to have only presentations taped at COW meetings. The overall meeting would not be taped. The presentations would be placed on Channel 19 and on the website.

5. Suggested Future Topics

Mrs. Fitzgerald made the following referrals for discussion:

- Climate Survey Results
- Lottery mechanics
- Discussion of information give to the RTM and Town Council

6. Adjournment

MOTION: Ackerman, Robertson:

To adjourn at 8:00 p.m.

PASSED – UNANIMOUSLY