

GROTON BOARD OF EDUCATION
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
AUGUST 3, 2020 @ 6:00 P.M.
REMOTE MEETING

Members Present: Chairman Kim Shepardson Watson, Vice Chairman Andrea Ackerman, Jane Giuliani, Gretchen Newsome, Elizabeth Porter, Rosemary Robertson, Rita Volkmann, Jay Weitlauf, Lee White

Also Present: Michael Graner, Susan Austin, Sam Kilpatrick, Ken Knight, Dennis Colclough, Denise Doolittle

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

1. Presentation of the Groton Public Schools Reopening Plan

Dr. Graner noted the 3 options submitted to the State:

- Face-to-Face
- Distance Learning
- Hybrid Model

Ms. Susan Austin explained the exceptions to the Hybrid Model. Ms. Austin noted that there were 8 subsections to the Reopening Plan:

- Academics
- Cancellation of Classes
- Career & Technical Education
- Facilities & Operations
- Family & Student Engagement
- Health Practices, Protocols & Monitoring
- Staffing & Personnel
- Transportation

Ms. Austin gave an overview of the Academics section regarding Special Education and ELs. Mrs. Doolittle highlighted the Special Education piece. Ms. Austin highlighted the ELs section. Ms. Austin highlighted the Remote Blended Learning section with input from Jamie Giordano, Matt Brown, Amy McKenna, Steve Wheeler on what their respective committees worked on.

Dr. Graner addressed the Cancellation of Classes by noting that the district will work closely with Ledge Light Health District when cancelling classes.

Mr. Kilpatrick highlighted the Facilities and Daily Operations section.

Mr. Kilpatrick gave an overview of the Custodial Scope and Frequency section. Christy Post highlighted social distancing and following all safety protocols.

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Mrs. Doolittle gave an overview of the Health Practices and Protocols section noting input from Leah Hendricks, VNA Director, and Ledge Light Health District. Mrs. Doolittle also highlighted Reporting Illnesses and Addressing Vulnerable Populations, Social Distancing, Use of Face Covering Masks and Face Shields, Health Monitoring as well as Planning and Distribution of Information, Containment Plan.

Staffing and Personnel – Ms. Austin highlighted staffing, Mrs. LePine highlighted personnel, and Mr. Knight highlighted the financial portion. Mrs. LePine noted that the staffing model is anticipating students every day; substitutes for teachers and paraprofessionals are being mapped to specific schools, and the protocols in place over the summer have been going well. Mr. Knight gave an overview of the ordering process in spending the CARES Act funds.

Mr. Kilpatrick gave an overview of the Transportation section.

The Board held an extensive discussion of the overall report presented.

MOTION: Ackerman, Robertson: To adjourn at 8:54 p.m.
PASSED UNANIMOUSLY