A special meeting of the Groton Board of Education, GEA and AGSA Liaison Committee was held on May 29, 2013, at the Par Four Restaurant.

A. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 5:14 p.m.

PRESENT

Elizabeth Gianacoplos, BOE
Kirsten Hoyt, BOE
Rita Volkmann, BOE
Larry Croxton, GEA
Beth Horler, GEA
Amy Hunsinger
Laura Johnson, GEA
Sue Johnson, GEA
David Laffargue, GEA
Paul Pattavina, AGSA
Peter Bass, AGSA
Christine Dauphinais, AGSA
Monica Franzone, AGSA
Valerie Nelson, AGSA
John Ramos, Central Office

1. Substitutes – The district is still having trouble getting substitutes onto the list. Applications are processed periodically - not continually - throughout the year. Dr. Ramos will pursue this concern.

2. Respect Document - The Safe School Climate Committee is meeting on Monday to finalize proposed changes. Folks will be given an opportunity to make suggestions and it will be delivered to the Superintendent by the end of this school year.

3. School Climate Survey data is currently being analyzed and summarized.

4. New volunteer procedures seem to be onerous. It is understandable that fingerprinting and background checks are a good idea for any volunteer working with a child without a certified teacher present. But everyone agreed this seems excessive for any parent volunteer just helping out in the class room, at a book fair, etc. Dr. Ramos will look into the procedure and the BOE will check to see if they have a policy regarding this.
5. The GEA is grateful that they were included in the budget process this year and are grateful to the BOE for helping to keep the district moving forward during this tumultuous year.

6. Redistricting process moving forward. Letters have all been sent out and open houses are being held. The district is honoring all 4th grade requests to remain in their school. Any other requests will be looked at in August once class sizes are more clearly defined. The goal is to let all teachers know where they will be assigned next year by the end of the school year. Beth Horler is working with Laurie LePine to clarify the process for teacher transfers.

7. The Leadership Development Conference held the last 2 days was attended by Dr. Ramos, Sean McKenna, Laurie LePine, Kirsten Hoyt, and Kim Watson. One of the strong themes of the workshop was the importance of relationships.

8. The AGSA was also very grateful to be included in the budget process this year. However, there is concern on their part about the elimination of Audrey Chase's position. (She is retiring.)

9. The first meeting of the next school year will be Wednesday, Oct. 9 at 4:30 PM at Central Office. At that time the remainder of the dates for the 2013-14 school year will be set.

10. Many, many thanks to the GEA for providing appetizers for our meeting!

    A motion was made by Kirsten Hoyt and seconded by Amy Hunsinger to adjourn at 5:45 p.m.

    PASSED - UNANIMOUSLY