Special Meeting
November 5, 2012

A special meeting of the Groton Board of Education was held on November 5, 2012, in Room 11 of the School Administration Building, for the purpose of discussing redistricting and the use of Veteran’s Day as a school day.

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Kirsten Hoyt, Chairperson of the Board, at 7:00 p.m.

PRESENT
Dr. Kirsten Hoyt, Chairperson
Mrs. Patricia Doyle
Mrs. Shelley Gardner
Mr. Robert Peruzzotti
Mrs. Kim Shepardson Watson
Mr. Chaz Zezulka

ABSENT
Mrs. Elizabeth Gianacoplos, Vice Chairperson
Mrs. Rita Volkmann
Mrs. Beverly Washington

Dr. John Ramos, Interim Superintendent of Schools
Mr. Sean McKenna, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction
Mr. Michael Zuba, Milone and MacBroom
Ms. Rebecca Auger, Milone and MacBroom

1. Veteran’s Day as a School Day

Dr. Hoyt stated that there were eight (8) days built into the calendar for snow make-up days, five of which were used last week. The Board discussed having Veteran’s Day as a school day. Dr. Ramos stated that he received a request from 2 Board members to consider using Veteran’s Day. Therefore, he polled the neighboring districts with the following results:

- One district was already using Veteran’s Day as a school day;
- Norwich, No. Stonington, Montville, and New London all said they were not changing their calendar.

Dr. Ramos stated that he had spoken with the GEA President and the AGSA President who experienced concerns about using Veteran’s day noting the military community, three day weekend plans, too short a notice, calendar does not say days are subject to change. Dr. Ramos also contacted the military community, in particular the Command Master, who stated that he did not see a problem, he understood the need to use Veteran’s Day and he would help get the word out to the military community should the Board wish to use Veteran’s Day as a school day.

The consensus of the Board was:
Opposed – Peruzzotti, Zezulka, Hoyt, Watson due to too short notice and military Community
For – Gardner
Veteran’s Day will not be used as a storm make-up day.

2. **Redistricting**

Mr. Zuba reviewed how the Redistricting Plan was developed. He stated that we were up to scenario H which best satisfies the criteria to date. Mr. Zuba gave an overview of the following slides [ATTACHMENT 1]:

- PreK-12 Enrollment Projection
- Elementary (K-5) School Projections
- Operational Capacities
- Projected Capacities
- Elementary School Diversity
- Redistricting Criteria

Mr. Zezulka left at 7:43 p.m.

- Neighborhood Planning Units
- Scenarios Explore
- Scenarios G to H
- Branford Manor
- Scenario H
- Scenario H – Areas of Change
- Scenario H – Movement Summary
- Scenario H – Enrollment Snapshot
- Scenario H – Historic Enrollment Snapshot
- Scenario H – Elementary (K-5) School Projections

Mr. Zuba also noted slides on Transition Plan and FAQs. Mr. Zuba asked for direction from the Board. The Board noted:

- Make sure to assign Pre-K classes where they are needed and keep them in a stable location.
- Ensure that CK has space for Pre-K as the classrooms there are built for it.
- Make sure students are not “leap frogging.”
- CK should have a larger enrollment buffer.
- Remove the bullet regarding “socio-economical” from the presentation material.
- Keep Pre-K classes in pairs.
- Conversation ensued around that this was about not only redistricting but about the overcrowding issue.

A motion was made by Dr. Hoyt and seconded by Mr. Peruzzotti to adjourn at 9:25 p.m.

**PASSED - UNANIMOUSLY**