Regular Meeting

The regular meeting of the Groton Board of Education was held on May 14, 2012, in CR 1 of the Town Hall Annex.

A. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Kirsten Hoyt, Board Chairperson, at 7:02 p.m.

The first order of business was the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag led by Mayor Sommers.

PRESENT

Dr. Kirsten Hoyt, Chairperson
Mrs. Elizabeth Gianacoplos, Vice Chairperson
Mrs. Patricia Doyle
Ms. Shelley Gardner
Mrs. Kim Shepardson Watson
Mrs. Rita Volkmann
Mrs. Beverly Washington
Mr. Chaz Zezulka
Mrs. Mary Anne Butler, Acting Superintendent of Schools
Mrs. Carolyn Dickey, Business Manager
Mrs. Denise Doolittle, Director of Pupil Personnel Services
Mr. Wesley Greenleaf, Director of Buildings and Grounds
Mrs. Laurie LePine, Director of Human Resource Services
Mr. Matthew Buechel, Student Representative

ABSENT

Mr. Robert Peruzzotti

Mrs. Amy Semerjian, Principal Analyst & Grants Investigator

Miss Jaryn Burgis, Student Representative

Dr. Hoyt read the Board Mission Statement.

B. COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS

1. Mayor Heather Bond Sommers, 67 Ramsdell Street, spoke as the Mayor and stated that on behalf of the Town Council, she wanted to extend their full support to the Board in their efforts to move forward. Secondly, she extended her gratitude to the volunteers being honored.
B. COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS – cont.

2. Mr. Joe Zerenda, 305-1 Ferry Road, Old Lyme, made a request to the Board for consideration for the War at The Shore League to use the Fitch High School Baseball Field over the Memorial Day Weekend. He stated that their biggest stumbling block has been that they are not non-profit.

C. RECOGNITION AND PARTICIPATION AND DELEGATIONS

Dr. Hoyt, Mrs. Butler and Mrs. LePine presented the Friends of Education Awards and the Support Personnel Awards to the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Friends of Education</th>
<th>Support Personnel</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Juliette Parker, CK</td>
<td>Doretta Tynan-Brown, CK</td>
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<tr>
<td>Allison Chesnut, CB</td>
<td>Denise Wehner, CK</td>
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<td>Gail Munn, CC</td>
<td>Phyllis Fletcher, C. O.</td>
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<td>Rob Saunders, CMS</td>
<td>Catherine Hanson, CB</td>
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<td>Melissa DiBuono-Russo, FMS</td>
<td>Heather Cobb, CC</td>
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<td>Fedelina Weitlauf, NEA</td>
<td>Kristin Fournier, CMS</td>
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<td>Jay Weitlauf, NEA</td>
<td>Erika Sproul, FHS</td>
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<td>Joy Morin, PV</td>
<td>Paulette Gilman, FMS</td>
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<td>Kim LaLima, SB</td>
<td>Pamela Croxton, MM</td>
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<td>Sandra Harrison, NEA</td>
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<td>Sandy Guild, PV</td>
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<td>Paula Dickinson, SB</td>
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<td>Judith Evans, WSM</td>
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Mrs. Washington left at 7:53 p.m.

D. STUDENT LIAISON REPORT

The student representative reported:

- Junior Prom is Saturday May 19, 2012 at the Mystic Hilton.
- Track ECCs are at Fitch on Saturday, May 19, 2012.
- Fitch Varsity Baseball is on a 13 game win streak, 14-2.
- Boys Track went undefeated during the regular season, 7-0.
- Successful late amp Artistic Ability and Talent shined.
- AP and IB Testing will occur during May.
- Perkins Test will take place May 16, 2012 and May 17, 2012.
- May 24, 2012 is the date for the Arts and Athletic Award Ceremony at 6:30 p.m.
D. STUDENT LIAISON REPORT – cont.

- May 31, 2012 is the underclassmen Award Ceremony at 6:30 p.m.
- June 4, is the Honor Cord Ceremony at 6:30 p.m.
- June 7, 2012 is the Senior Scholarship Award Ceremony at 6:30 p.m.
- June 8, 2012 is when exams begin.
- June 9, 2012 is the Senior Prom to be held at the Mystic Marriott.
- June 22, 2012 is Graduation.

II. RESPONSE TO COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS

Mr. Zezulka made a referral to the Policy Committee to look at for profit use of fields and facilities.

III. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

A. REPORTS AND INFORMATION FROM STAFF

NONE

B. ACTING SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

The Acting Superintendent reported:

- April Volunteer Data – There were 627 volunteers who generated over 2600 volunteer hours.
- Redistricting Efforts – Mrs. Butler stated that the district has identified the attorney at the State level in charge of Magnet Schools; however, she is on vacation and will not be back at the end of the month. Mrs. Butler also stated that the district has identified two experts relative to redistricting and Racial Imbalance issues.
- Mrs. Butler stated that today she spoke with Mr. Pendolphi who has met (this Wed.) with middle school Principals regarding schedules and that they are asking to meet with the union heads and the team of middle school teachers who was working with Mr. Kadri.
- Mrs. Butler stated that the administration is trying to address staffing issues.

IV. COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. District Quality Council:

   There was no report.

2. Finance Committee:

   There was no report.
IV. COMMITTEE REPORTS – cont.

3. Communications Committee:
   Mrs. Volkmann stated that the Communications Committee met during the Committee of the Whole meeting and discussed middle school and reaching out to the community and redistricting.

4. Negotiations Committee:
   There was no report.

5. LEARN:
   Mrs. Volkmann stated that LEARN met at the Marine Science Magnet High School. She stated that Dr. Speara, new Director, shared the demographics; 108 students enrolled – 78 in ninth grade and 23 in tenth grade. It is hope to increase enrollment to 175 student. Their enrollment is 44% minority and 17 districts are represented; next year 53 students will be from Groton. Mrs. Volkmann noted a new bill that was passed, “Fish Bill”, on May 9, 2012.

6. Wellness Committee:
   There was no report.

7. Policy Committee:
   Mrs. Doyle stated that the Policy Committee met tonight and discussed policies for Social Media, minority hiring and high school credit for middle school courses.

8. Curriculum Committee:
   Mrs. Gianacoplos stated that the Curriculum Committee met and had a presentation of the Program of Study and the addition of some courses for September.

9. Facilities Committee:
   Mr. Greenleaf shared dates of note:
   - Portable Classrooms – still not out to bid.
   - City of Groton will hold a Public Hearing on Tuesday on portables for WSM.
IV. COMMITTEE REPORTS – cont.

- The Town of Groton Planning Dept. will hold a meeting on May 23, 2012 on portables for CMS.
- The Permanent School Planning Committee meets this Thursday at 7:00 p.m.

10. Groton Parent Council:
   Mrs. Gianacoplos stated that the Groton Parent Council will meet on Tuesday.

11. Town & City Councils/RTM/BOE Liaison Committee:
   There was no report.

12. GEA/AGSA/BOE Liaison Committee:
   Mrs. Gianacoplos stated that the GEA/AGSA/BOE Liaison Committee meeting schedule for May 15, 2012 is cancelled.

13. CABE:
   There was no report.

14. Ad Hoc Board Handbook:
   Mrs. Volkmann stated that the Ad Hoc Board Handbook Committee presented the draft Handbook to Board members for their review at the last COW meeting.

15. Ad Hock Vision Report
   Dr. Hoyt asked the Boards member on this committee to inform her who the Chair will be.

V. ACTION ITEMS

A. CONSENT CALENDAR

1. RESOLUTION ACCEPTING BOARD MINUTES

   RESOLVED, that the minutes of the Special Meetings of April 2, two on April 4, 9, 23 and May 7, 2012, are hereby accepted and approved.
A. CONSENT CALENDAR – cont.

2. RESOLUTION ACCEPTING WARRANTS

RESOLVED, that the Warrants dated May 18, 2012 are hereby accepted and approved.

3. RESOLUTION ACCEPTING GIFTS

- Pfizer United Way Campaign (Carlin Okerberg) made a donation of $66.36 to the Fitch High School Robotics Team.
- The Connecticut Light & Power and Yankee Gas made a donation of $500.00 to the Fitch High School Robotics Team.
- Pfizer United Way campaign (Carlin Okerberg) made a donation of $66.36 to the Fitch High School Robotics Team.
- Mason and Normal Wilson, Jr. made a donation of $150.00 to Mary Morrisson School for Sophia McKnight Memorial Garden.
- The Electric Boat United Way Campaign made a donation of $74.36 to the Fitch High School Robotics Team.
- The Electric Boat United Way Campaign 2012 (Danny M Holman) made a donation of $100.00 to the Fitch High School Robotics Team.
- The Electric Boat United Way Campaign 2012 (Michael B. Nowak) made a donation of $546.00 to the Fitch High School Robotics Team.
- The Electric Boat United Way Campaign 2012 (Richard J. Stark) made a donation of $1,014.00 to the Fitch High School Robotics Team.
- The Electric Boat United Way Campaign 2012 (Tina W. Entwistle) made a donation of $39.00 to the Fitch High School Robotics Team.
- The Electric Boat United Way Campaign 2012 (Justin W. Foss) made a donation of $390.00 to the Fitch High School Robotics Team.
- The Electric Boat United Way Campaign 2012 (Joshua J. Miller) made a donation of $130.00 to the Fitch High School Robotics Team.
- The Electric Boat United Way Campaign 2012 (Wayne A. Rennie) made a donation of $104.00 to the Fitch High School Robotics Team.
- The Electric Boat United Way Campaign 2012 (Martin A. Spackman) made a donation of $26.00 to the Fitch High School Robotics Team.
A. CONSENT CALENDAR – cont.

- The Pfizer Foundation Volunteer Program (Andrew Prpich) made a donation of $1,000.00 to the Fitch High School Softball Team.

A motion was made by Mr. Zezulka and seconded by Mrs. Gianacoplos.

PASSED - UNANIMOUSLY

B. OLD BUSINESS

NONE

C. NEW BUSINESS

1. APPROVAL OF THE PROPOSED 2012-2013 CALENDAR

WHEREAS, the Board of Education adopted on February 13, 2012 the Southeastern Region of Connecticut regional calendar established for the 2012-2013 school year, for the purpose of cost savings and professional development opportunities, and

WHEREAS, the Groton Administration reviewed, consulted and added some local information to the calendar; therefore be it

RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Acting Superintendent of Schools, graduation is moved from June 21, 2013 to June 14, 2013.

A motion was made by Mrs. Gianacoplos and seconded by Mr. Zezulka.

An amendment was made by Mrs. Gianacoplos and seconded by Mr. Zezulka to approve the 2012-2013 school calendar as presented with graduation on June 21, 2013.

VOTE ON AMENDMENT:

YES – Gardner, Doyle, Zezulka, Gianacoplos, Hoyt, Watson
NO – Volkmann

PASSED
C. NEW BUSINESS – cont.

VOTE ON MAIN MOTION AS AMENDED:

YES – Gardner, Doyle, Zezulka, Gianacoplos, Hoyt, Watson

NO – Volkmann

PASSED

2. APPROVAL OF THE STATE TECH PLAN

WHEREAS, the district Technology Planning Committee developed the Groton Public Schools Educational Technology Plan, July 1, 2012 - June 30, 2015, and

WHEREAS, the district Technology Planning Committee presented the Groton Public Schools Educational Technology Plan, July 1, 2012 – June 30, 2015 to the Committee of the Whole on April 30, 2012, and

WHEREAS, the Groton Public Schools Educational Technology Plan, July 1, 2012 - June 30, 2015, will begin implementation during the 2012-13 school year, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole and the Acting Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education adopts the Groton Public Schools Educational Technology Plan, July 1, 2012 – June 30, 2015.

A motion was made by Mr. Zezulka and seconded by Mrs. Volkmann.

PASSED - UNANIMOUSLY

3. NATIONAL TEACHER DAY AND WEEK

WHEREAS, May 8, 2012 has been designated as National Teacher Day and May 7-11, 2012 has been designated as National Teacher Appreciation Week, and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education acknowledges that May 8, 2012 has been designated as National Teacher Day, and May 7-11, 2012 has been designated as National Teacher Appreciation Week, and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education wishes to express its appreciation and gratitude to all teachers who serve the children of the Groton Public Schools, and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education recognizes that quality teaching is the single most important factor influencing students’ learning; therefore be it
RESOLVED, that the Board of Education and Mary Anne Butler, Acting Superintendent of Schools, thank all teachers for their commitment and dedication to the children of Groton.

A motion was made by Mrs. Volkmann and seconded by Mr. Zezulka.

PASSED – UNANIMOUSLY

4. APPROVAL OF CHANGES TO THE 2011-2012 CALENDAR

RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Acting Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the revisions to the 2011-2012 school calendar.

A motion was made by Mrs. Doyle and seconded by Mr. Zezulka.

Mrs. Butler explained that the administration is requesting that teachers be allowed to use the May 25, 2012 early release time to enable middle school teachers to pack up their classrooms instead of attending Professional Development and June 13, 2012 as early release time for middle school students only and Mary Morrisson students only to enable teachers to pack up their rooms.

PASSED – UNANIMOUSLY

5. APPROVAL OF MODIFICATIONS TO IDENTIFIED CENTRAL OFFICE PERSONNEL CONTRACTS

WHEREAS, the Board of Education met in an executive session on April 2, 2012 to consider a recommendation by the Superintendent to make modifications to employment contracts for certain Central Office personnel, and

WHEREAS, based on that discussion, certain recommendations are being made which will be detailed at this meeting; therefore be it

RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Acting Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the stated modifications.

A motion was made by Mrs. Gianacoplos and seconded by Mrs. Volkmann.

An amendment was made by Dr. Hoyt and seconded by Mr. Zezulka as follows:
C. NEW BUSINESS – cont.

WHEREAS, The Board of Education met in Executive Session on April 2, 2012 and again on May 14, 2012 to consider a recommendation by the Acting Superintendent of Schools to make modifications to employment contracts for certain Central Office personnel, specifically Wesley Greenleaf, Director of Buildings and Grounds, and

WHEREAS, based on that discussion, certain recommendations are being made which will be detailed at this meeting, specifically a recommendation for a 2.5% salary increase, retroactive to January 1, 2012, for an approximate increase, before taxes of $1,350 and a recommendation to modify Mr. Greenleaf’s contract and increase the vacation days that can be paid to Mr. Greenleaf when he leaves the district from 22 days to the day Mr. Greenleaf has accumulated at the time he leaves the district. This provision will sunset on December 31, 2012; therefore be it

RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Acting Superintendent of School, the Board of Education approves the stated modifications.

VOTE ON AMENDMENT:

PASSED - UNANIMOUSLY

VOTE ON MAINMOTION AS AMENDED:

PASSED – UNANIMOUSLY

VI. INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS

A. LETTERS, COMMUNICATIONS, AND COMMENTS

1. Mrs. Gardner noted that she attended the Kindergarten Orientation at PV.

2. Mrs. Doyle noted that she received e-mails regarding consolidation and redistricting.

3. Mr. Zezulka noted:
   1. That he received e-mail relative to credit for middle school courses at the high school level.
   2. That the Fitch High School Alumni Foundation is sponsoring a presentation about Robert E. Fitch High School this Sunday, 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.

4. Mrs. Gianacoplos noted calls, message and e-mail relative to a bus driver.
A. LETTERS, COMMUNICATIONS, AND COMMENTS – cont.

5. Mrs. Watson noted:
   1. That she attended a redistricting meeting.
   2. Attended Kindergarten night.
   3. That she attended the Fitch High School Jazz and Orchestra Concert.
   4. That she attended Talent Night.
   5. That the Fitch High School Golf Tournament in support of Graduation this Friday.

6. Mrs. Volkmann noted:
   1. That she attended a Guidance meeting.
   2. That she visited SB and attended the CC Craft Fair.

7. Dr. Hoyt noted:
   1. That she received replies to messages sent to parents regarding what is going on in the schools.
   2. That she received a request from CABE Convention, which will be held in November, looking for talent for the Convention. Dr. Hoyt stated that the Fitch High School Strings will be applying.

VII. ADVANCE PLANNING

A Future Meeting Dates and Calendar Items

As noted in the agenda.

B Suggested Agenda Items

Mrs. Volkmann made a referral to the COW regarding playground supervision for lunchtime at the elementary schools.

Mr. Zezulka noted a conflict on June 11, 2012 – Board of Education meeting and the CMS Terry Awards.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Mr. Zezulka and seconded by Mrs. Gianacoplos to adjourn at 8:53 p.m.

PASSED - UNANIMOUSLY