

Groton-Dunstable Regional School District
SCHOOL COMMITTEE AGENDA
Wednesday, February 4, 2009
High School Library
Regular Business Meeting – 7:00 p.m.
SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING

- 7:00 PM I. Call to Order
- 7:01 PM II. Announcements / Spotlight
- Children’s Hospital – Poems from the Heart – Scott Middlemiss
- 7:10 PM III. Presentations / Discussions
- Dan Twomey – Field Trip Approval
 - Ice Hockey
 - Alpine Ski Team
 - Alice Lenhart – YRBS
 - FY09 Calendar Modifications
 - Advertising Policy
 - Budget Presentation
- 9:00 PM IV. Questions and Comments (10 Minutes)
- 9:20 PM V. Reports
- Policy Subcommittee
 - Budget & Finance
 - Communications Committee
 - Think Tank Committee
 - Retirement of Facilities
 - Report of Director of Business & Finance
 - Report of the Chair
 - Report of the Superintendent
- 9:40 PM VII. Action Items
- *Non Consent Action Items Discussion, if needed*
 - *Vote Consent Action Items*
 - *Business Meeting Minutes of 12/17/08*
 - *Business Meeting Minutes of 01/21/09*
 - Vote
 - *Approval of Ice Hockey & Alpine Ski Team Trips*
 - *To modify FY09 Calendar*
 - *Accept Policy Subcommittee recommendation (if necessary)*
- 9:50 PM VIII. Adjournment

Handouts

- Town of Groton – Annual Town Meeting Schedule
- Letter to bargaining Unit Members Re: District Finances
- Article “Veterans Encouraged to Write Letters For Big Book”
- Communications Subcommittee Minutes 01/08/09
- V.5 Budget Timeline
- Math Task Force Committee Minutes
- Letter to Harvard Pilgrim Health Care

Groton-Dunstable Regional School District Goals

1. To support the development of the whole student
2. To retain and support quality staff
3. To provide and maintain facilities which serve the needs of students and fulfill the district's stewardship responsibility

Please note: Meeting content, start times and duration are subject to change

Upcoming meetings:

School Committee:	February 25, 2009	HS Lib	7:00 pm
Communications:	February 5, 2009	Prescott	9:00 am
Policy Sub Committee:	March 10, 2009	Prescott	6:30 pm
Think Tank:	March 5, 2009	MSN Lib	7:00 pm
B&F (w/Town Officials):	February 12, 2009	HS Library	7:00 pm

Groton-Dunstable Regional School District School Committee

Rules for Public Comment

A School committee Meeting is a meeting of a government body at which members of the body deliberate over public business. We welcome the attendance of members of the school district community to view your School Committee as it conducts its regular business meeting.

Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 39 Section 23C governs public participation at open meetings of municipal government bodies.

Chapter 39: Section 23C Regulation of participation by public in open meetings

Section 23C. No person shall address a public meeting of a governmental body without permission of the presiding officer at such a meeting, and all persons shall, at the request of such presiding officer, be silent. If, after warning from the presiding officer, a person persists in disorderly behavior, said officer may order him to withdraw from the meeting, and, if he does not withdraw, may order a constable or any other person to remove him and confine him in some convenient place until the meeting is adjourned.

The School committee believes that the school district community should have an opportunity to comment to the Committee on issues that affect the school district and are within the scope of the Committee's responsibilities. Therefore the Committee has set aside a period of time at each School Committee meeting to hear from the public. In addition, if the Committee believes that an issue requires a dialogue with the school district community, the Committee may schedule a separate public hearing on that issue.

Any citizen who wishes to make a presentation to the School Committee on an item which is of interest to him/her and within the scope of the Committee's responsibilities may request to be placed on the agenda for a particular meeting. Such request should be in writing and should be received by the Superintendent to formulate the meeting agendas. Together they will determine whether or not to place an item on the agenda and if the item is to be taken up they will also determine when to place an item on the agenda and all parameters to be required of the presenter.

Here are the general rules for the Committee's public comment period:

1. Public Comment shall be for a period of 20 minutes and shall generally follow the opening of the meeting. The Committee reserves the right to rearrange its agenda to accommodate scheduled presenters.
2. Any citizen wishing to speak before the Committee shall identify themselves by name and address and shall speak for no longer than 3 minutes. No citizen may speak more than once without permission of the Chair. All citizens shall speak to the full Committee through the Chair and shall not address individual members or administrators.
3. Individuals may address topics on the agenda, items specified for public comment, or items within the scope of responsibility of the School Committee. The Chair shall rule out of order any individual who fails to honor the guidelines or who addresses a matter inappropriate for public comment.
4. It shall be in order for any Committee member to direct questions to the speaker through the Chair in order to clarify comments of the speaker.
5. A group of citizens appearing at a meeting to express favor or opposition to a particular agenda item should designate one member of the group as spokesperson to be heard on the topic. Other members of the group may be heard if they feel that they can contribute additional information regarding the topic.
6. Public comment is not a discussion, debate, or dialogue between citizens and the Committee. It is a citizen's opportunity to express his/her opinion on issues of School Committee business. The Committee and/or administrator's may not be prepared to directly respond to citizen questions posed in this forum but the Chair may request that citizens put the question in writing to the appropriate person or body so that the matter is given the proper consideration.