



# FY 26 Budget Overview

The Board of Education recognizes that finances and fiscal management are critical to the support of high-quality education and the FY26 budget supports our mission of teaching and learning - balancing the needs of our students with our responsibility to the Groton taxpayers.

**Proposed FY26 Budget**  
**\$94,361,560**



**7.28% increase**

**7-Year Average Increase**

2018 - 2025

**2.14%**

## Increase Drivers ↑

**Health Insurance**

**Utilities**

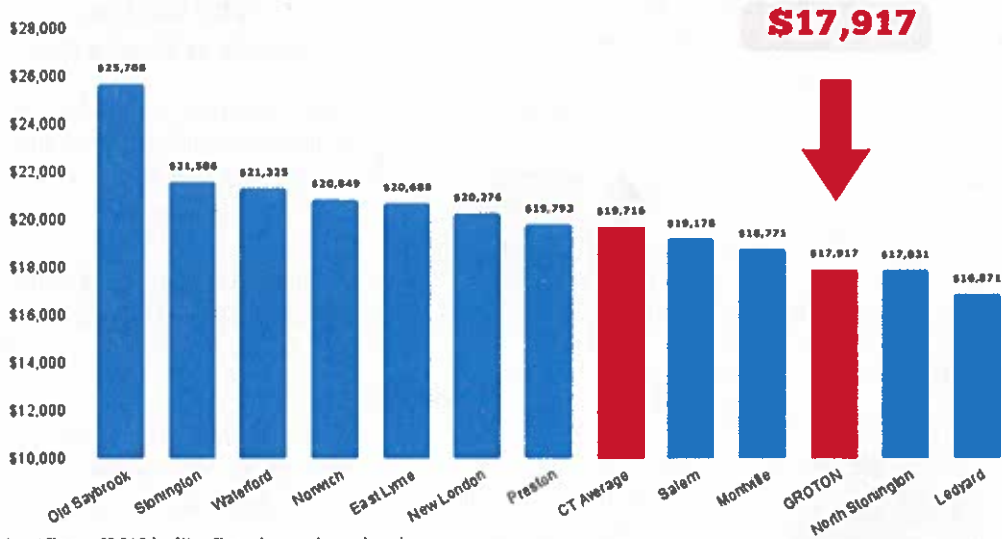
**Salaries**

**Transportation**

**Unfunded Mandates**

## 2022-2023 Net Expenditures Per Pupil

Groton Public Schools provides standards based curriculum, engaging instruction, and enriching learning opportunities, while consistently spending less per pupil than local school districts and below the state average.



Latest Figures. 23-24 School Year Figures have not been released.

**75%**  
of the school district's budget is the salary and benefits with annual contractual obligations

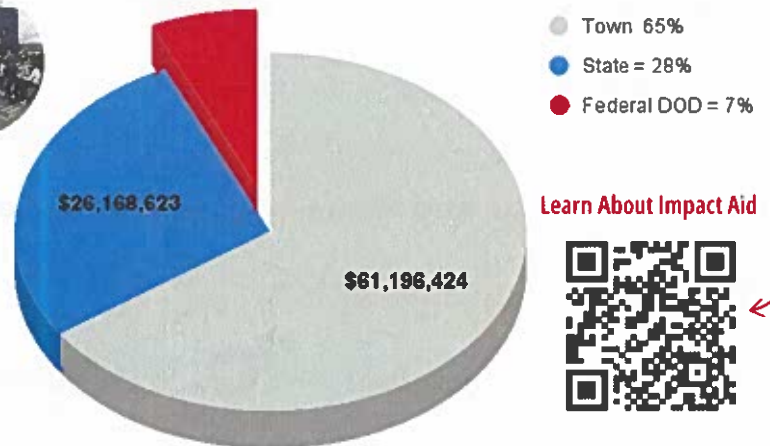
### What is the most important thing we provide our students?

We provide them with an education, delivered by highly-qualified teachers, administrators, paraprofessionals, coaches, counselors, nurses, secretaries, food service workers and every staff member who supports our mission of teaching and learning.

## Federal Revenue and Grants

**Provides Groton with the Missing Piece to Enrich Our Students' Education and Future**

The Town of Groton receives Federal Department of Defense (DOD) Supplemental Impact Aid to support education. Additionally since 2014, Groton Public Schools has been awarded over \$7 million in grant funding from the Department of Defense Education Activity (DoDEA). These grants have provided valuable resources, including technology, professional development, and embedded coaching for educators, as well as a dynamic and rigorous curriculum for students. The funding has strengthened instruction in areas such as literacy, math, science, STEM, World Language, and support Career Pathways initiatives.



Learn About Impact Aid



# Groton Public Schools District Overview



Groton Public Schools is proud to offer nurturing and challenging opportunities for every student to reach their fullest potential and make a meaningful future as global citizens. Our district proudly educates 5,000 unique students each year, and we embrace our community's rich history as home to SUBASE New London.

Susan L. Austin  
Superintendent

Anne Marie Mancini, Ed.D.  
Assistant Superintendent

## Budget Priorities

- Increase student performance in literacy, math, and science by:
  - Elevating literacy instruction K-12 and science of reading principles at K-5.
  - Strengthening K-12 math rigor, relevance, and coherence through Connecticut Core Standards.
  - Amplifying K-12 GPS Science Curriculum with Next Generation Science Standards.
- Salaries and benefits, including new positions and nurses, which have shifted from being funded by the Town to the Board of Education.
- Advance classroom technology, infrastructure, and the 1:1 computer initiative.
- Increase Special Education supports from preschool through age 22 based on enrollment needs.
- Prioritize Social-Emotional Learning (SEL) with robust mental health resources.
- Expand School Resource Officers and security personnel through grant opportunities.
- Align K-12 STEAM enrichment with 9-12 Career Pathways.
  - Expand the National Naval Defense Cadet Corps (NNDCC) with the goal of securing Junior Naval Reserve Officer Training Corps (JNROTC) funding from the Department of Defense.
- Future infrastructure improvements:
  - Athletic fields
  - FHS water heater
  - FHS Culinary Arts and Manufacturing center renovations
  - HVAC systems
  - FHS public address system



## The Groton Board of Education

The Groton Board of Education supports Groton Public Schools' students through its mission of teaching and learning with the following goals:

- Provide Dynamic Rigorous Curriculum
- Ensure Effective and Engaging Instruction
- Embrace Excellent Learning Environment

Beverly Washington, Chairperson  
Adrian Johnson, Vice Chairperson/Secretary  
Andrea Ackerman, Ed.D.  
Constantine Antipas  
Matthew Shulman  
Ian Thomas  
Jay Weitlauf  
Jennifer White  
Mike Whitney, Ph.D.



## About Our Students

**FY26 Projected Student Enrollment:**

**4,427**



**↑ 2.5% Increase**

- 68% Free/Reduced Lunch
- 54% Racial Minority
- 4% ELL
- 20% Special Education
- 20% Military Connected

October 1, 2024 Data

## Did You Know?

GPS has registered 822 new students this school year to date. Roughly 25% of our student population transitions each year.

## Connect with us and share your feedback on the FY26 Budget



Website: [www.grotonschools.org](http://www.grotonschools.org)



Facebook: @grotonpublicschools



YouTube: @grotonpublicschools

