

Town of Dunstable
**Joint Meeting of the Selectboard, Advisory Board,
Groton Finance Committee, Groton Selectboard,
& GDRSD School Committee**
Meeting Minutes
September 13, 2017
Town Hall, Dunstable, MA 01827

Convened: 7:05 pm

Present: Walter F. Alterisio, chair, Leah D. Basbanes, vice chair, Ronald J. Mikol member; Tracey Hutton, Town Administrator; Groton Selectboard members; Groton Finance Committee, members; GDRSD School Committee, members

Preliminary School Budget Discussion & Finding a Sustainable Approach

The purpose of the meeting was to have the three entities come to a planned, predictable, and sustainable approach to budgeting that meets the municipal and educational needs of the member communities. The School Committee Chair reviewed data on the tax base for each community.

While much of the data came from DOR, the home values were from MLS. The school district has an average growth rate of 3.744% over the next 5 years, but it is 5.34% in FY19. This does not include capital planning expenditures. The 5-yr rolling average of student in the district will cause an increased percentage in FY19 for the Dunstable side.

The Dunstable representatives reviewed the district's desire to have a dedicated stabilization fund. This proposal would create the fund that the communities can choose to fund or not to fund and Town Meeting approval is require to spend the funds.

Meeting adjourned at 8:35 pm

Respectfully Submitted by

Tracey Hutton
Town Administrator

Approved and adopted on 10/3/17