



# On Board Newsletter

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Winter 2011-2012



## President's Message

HAPPY 2012!

On behalf of the GCS Board of Directors, I want to start off the New Year with a big thank you to our Groton Community Home Tour Co-Chairs, Jen Kane and Jessica Williams, and the Home Tour Committee for putting on an incredible 7th Home Tour, raising over \$15,000 for GCS! I also want to thank the many volunteers who helped the committee to run such a large scale event. The Home Tour would not have come together without the enormous gift of time and energy from so many of you.

While we are in the middle of winter, many of us are looking forward to those warmer spring and summer months. As we approach the end of the school year, there will be a few openings on the GCS Board. If you are interested in joining the Board or would like to learn more about the many initiatives we oversee, I encourage you to contact a member of the Board and/or join us at an upcoming meeting.

We hope everyone had a wonderful holiday break and happy New Year!

Amy Lovell Kelly, President

## Consider joining the GCS Board of Directors

At the close of the school year, there will be openings on the GCS Board of Directors, and we will be looking for a few dedicated and caring candidates to fill these volunteer positions. The Board oversees school operations and offers its members an exciting opportunity to enrich our school and promote early childhood education. ***If you would like to explore volunteer opportunities, we encourage you to*** attend a future board meeting to learn more about board initiatives and activities. Feel free to contact one of the members of the Board's Nominating Committee, Amy Lovell Kelly ([a\\_lovell\\_kelly@hotmail.com](mailto:a_lovell_kelly@hotmail.com)) or Rhea O'Brien ([rnbob@hotmail.com](mailto:rnbob@hotmail.com)) if you have any questions. Remember board meetings are held on the 2nd Monday of the month at 7:30 pm.

## Board of Directors

[boardofdirectors@grotoncommunityschool.org](mailto:boardofdirectors@grotoncommunityschool.org)

President	Amy Lovell Kelly
Vice President	Rhea O'Brien
Director	Linda Kosinski
Asst. Director	Lisa Stafford
Treasurer	Krista Ingram
Secretary	Debbie Kennedy
Public Relations	Holly Kuzdzal
Buildings & Grounds	Natina Perrotti
Fundraising	Jen Kane
Fundraising	Jessica Williams
Parent Rep	Krista Kubick
Parent Rep	Meredith Ouellette
Member-at-Large	Pam Keith
Member-at-Large	Kate McEleney
Member-at-Large	Nicole Ouellette

**Ask us about great volunteering opportunities!**

## Quotes from Board Members

"When you join the Board, you gain an opportunity to utilize your skills to positively impact our community. Additionally, it is a wonderful way to become part of a team that encourages acceptance and provides an environment where each child is prized as an individual." ...Nicole Ouellette

"It's a true privilege to work with a group of fabulous, smart, fun and committed individuals." ...Natina Perrotti

"Being on the board at GCS has been a positive and rewarding experience. It has been a great way for me to get involved, and also to meet some wonderful people!" ...Meredith Ouellette

## Spring Spruce Up

With the winter chill it's hard to believe we're on our way to spring and our annual Spring Spruce Up. Please join GCS families on **Saturday, May 5<sup>th</sup>** from noon to four. We'll be tackling various landscape projects throughout the GCS property. As a special treat we'll be celebrating Cinco de Mayo at the end of our afternoon's work with **Mexican bubbly beverages and pizza.** Volunteer hours such as these help the school save overhead costs which saves us all valuable dollars. Due to safety concerns, we ask parents to attend without their children.

## Family Lecture

GCS families are invited to a free community lecture, "Nutrition and Young Children" with Joanne Csaplar. The lecture will cover nutrition topics such as portion size, defining "healthy foods", and what to do about "picky eaters". The lecture will be on the evening of **Thursday, March 1st, 7 pm to 9 pm.** Please see an upcoming flyer for more information about registration.

## Open House

GCS Open House will be **Sunday, March 4<sup>h</sup>, 1 to 3 pm.** We encourage you to spread the word and invite other interested parents whose children may be future GCS students. More information will be coming soon!

## Garden Club Kicks Off

The 2012 Garden Club will kick off in May. We'll continue our successful garden assignment system with the option to garden with an experienced gardener during the week day mornings. Please email Natina Perrotti at [nperrotti@charter.net](mailto:nperrotti@charter.net) to volunteer.

## Fundraising Opportunities

In 2012 there are a number of ways you can help ***maintain and enhance the quality of education and childcare at our school.*** Please watch your mailboxes in March for a sample of your child's Square 1 Art project. This year we have included siblings! The finished products that you order will be here in time for Mother's Day! ***Class photos***, our third major fundraising event, are scheduled for late April. Please continue to clip ***box tops and Tyson labels***; and remember to recycle your paper in our recycling bin in the parking lot.

## Taylor Young Memorial Scholarship

Groton Community School is beginning an annual scholarship which will be awarded to a graduating high school senior who is one of our GCS alumni. The scholarship is in memory of Taylor Benjamin Young, a beloved and treasured Groton Community School student, who lost his life at the tender age of four. It was remarkable how someone as young as Taylor understood and embodied principles that we hold dear at GCS - our school's dedication to "peace" and "bucket filling" (delivering thoughtful words and deeds to our family, friends and community). The award recipient will exemplify these very qualities demonstrated by Taylor during his life. For full scholarship guidelines and an application, please refer to the Groton Community School website at [www.grotoncommunityschool.org](http://www.grotoncommunityschool.org). All completed applications and accompanying materials must be submitted to the GCS Scholarship Committee, 100 Boston Road, Groton, MA on or before **Friday, March 30, 2012.** Please contact us at [BoardofDirectors@GrotonCommunitySchool.org](mailto:BoardofDirectors@GrotonCommunitySchool.org) with any questions. All of our GCS students will always be in our hearts. And we are especially happy to acknowledge a past student, and honor Taylor who will always occupy a very special place in the GCS community.