

Groton Community School

Board of Directors

2016-2017



Shannon Baxevanis

Board of Directors Secretary

Serving as a Director since November 2016
Current GCS Parent

I am so grateful to GCS for the love, nurture and assistance given to my children to build fundamental social, emotional and academic skills. The mission of GCS is vital to our community and I wanted to become a Board of Directors member to assist with the on-going growth of the school and to ensure that it remains vibrant and sound. I am sharing my knowledge as a public affairs and communications professional to this end.



Sarah Belcher

Board of Directors Vice President

Serving as a Director since March 2013
Current GCS Parent

I live in Littleton with my husband, daughter (GCS alumna) and son (who currently attends). Groton Community School is a "home away from home" for my children, so it was important to me that I become more involved in the GCS community by joining the Board of Directors. Before my current role, I served as Fundraising Co-Chair. I enjoy helping children and their families through my professional work as a private Pediatric Speech-Language Pathologist, and also as a Speech and Language Development Consultant at the school.



Jen Burke

Board of Directors Parent Representative Co-Chair

Serving as a Director since April 2016
Current GCS Parent

I live in Pepperell with my husband and two sons. My oldest has been at Groton Community School for three years now, and my youngest will attend eventually. I volunteer on the Board of Directors because I want to support the dedication to and enthusiasm for early childhood education that the Groton Community School staff exhibits on a daily basis. As a school counselor in the Acton-Boxborough School District, I firmly believe in providing children and families the very best educational experiences.



Jeremy Chapman

Board of Directors Building and Grounds Co-Chair

Serving as a Director since September 2016
Current GCS Parent

My wife and I are happy to be sending two children to the school she attended as a young child. The newest addition to our family will follow in their footsteps in a couple years. I enjoy helping out and being a member of the GCS community, and want to set a good example for my children. I have a PhD in particle astrophysics and work as a technical scientist at MIT Lincoln Laboratory.

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Christine Emma
Board of Directors Treasurer

*Serving as a Director since April 2013
Past GCS Parent*



Kate Ferriola
Board of Directors Public Relations Co-Chair

*Serving as a Director since April 2016
Current GCS Parent*

I am thoroughly enjoying being a part of this community and learning about all the effort it takes to make this school so wonderful. With one child currently at GCS, and another scheduled to attend this fall, I wanted to become as involved as I could in giving the children that choose to attend GCS the best learning and social experience possible. I am a native of Dunstable, a graduate of the GDRSD, and have a Master's Degree in English and Publishing. I am Managing Editor for a legal publishing company.



Jenn Greenwood
Board of Directors President

*Serving as a Director since December 2013
Past GCS Parent*

I became a GCS parent in 2013 when we moved to the area and joined the Board of Directors shortly afterward. Two of my three girls attended. I hold the value of a high quality early childhood experience close to my heart as both a parent and as an educator. I have a degree and certification in education, and have worked with young children for close to 20 years in teaching and administration. I am honored to have a hand in the continued success of GCS as a member of the Board of Directors.



Linda Kosinski
GCS Director

*MA Leadership, BS Elementary Education, AA Early Childhood Education
With GCS since 1985
Non-voting GCS Trustee and Member of Board of Directors, Past GCS Parent*

In my years at GCS, I have taught Pre-K, Kindergarten, and served as Assistant and now school Director. I truly believe in the school's philosophy and embrace meeting the need for good early childhood programming that should be available to families and young children. I appreciate the talent and caliber of GCS teaching staff, feel privileged that my children were able to attend, and proud to be part of the GCS community.

Groton Community School Board of Directors 2016-2017



Kristyn MacInnis **Board of Directors Fundraising Co-Chair**

*Serving as a Director since September 2014
Current GCS Parent*

I live in Groton with my husband, son (GCS alumni) and daughter, who is currently at GCS. We are forever grateful to all of the teachers and staff for helping our children to continue to flourish and grow academically, socially and emotionally throughout their childhood. To show our gratitude, I decided to join the Board of Directors to ensure that GCS continues to thrive and to have a positive influence on every child who attends the school. I believe that the GCS experience is an invaluable, unique first school experience with an emphasis on community and developing the whole child. A must for building a foundation for life! I have a Degree in Psychology and a background in Human Resources. I enjoy the beach, running, cooking and spending time with my family.



Terri Martin **Full Day Coordinator, Summer Camp Director, Head Teacher Extended Day**

*BS Early Childhood Education
With GCS since 1995
Non-voting Member of Board of Directors*

Groton Community School is "my happy place." Teaching is my passion...it is what I am meant to do. I live with my husband and our two wonderful dogs, Hondo and Shiloh.



Cathy Pauly **Board of Directors Public Relations Co-Chair**

*Serving as a Director since January 2014
Current GCS Parent*



Dan Quinn **Member at Large**

*Serving as a Director since December 2016
Current GCS Parent*

My son recently started in the Aqua Room in 2016, and is really enjoying his time with his teachers and friends. We envision staying at GCS for a while, with a new baby - and future GCS student- joining our family. I think volunteering in the community and giving back to the school is important. The teachers and staff give a lot to ensure the students grow and learn. I have worked at Boston Scientific for 11 years working in medical device design and development. Working hard allows me to play hard, which includes summers down on Cape Cod, the ocean, and day trips exploring new summer spots!

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Shagufta Rahman

Board of Directors Parent Representative Co-Chair

Serving as a Director since April 2016

Current GCS Parent

I live in Groton with my husband and daughter. My daughter began in the My Grown-up and Me Program, then moved onto the Aqua Room, and Pre-K Class. We love being at GCS as it is family to us. I am grateful for all the nurturing and care they provide for all our children. I joined GCS board because of the wonderful members who devote their time to improving and helping the school succeed. I wanted to be part of such a dedicated group of people and I enjoy working with all of them. As a yoga teacher I strive to bring mindfulness to everything we do.



Heather Spinney-Laidlaw

Board of Directors Building and Grounds Co-Chair

Serving as a Director since May 2015

Current GCS Parent

Our experience as a GCS family has been simply amazing, giving our daughter everything she needed (and more!) to prepare for Kindergarten and for a lifetime of learning and "bucket filling"! Our son is enjoying My Grown-up and Me, and will join classes in the fall. I chose to join the Board of Directors because I believe strongly in setting an example of volunteerism with my children, and because I wanted to give back some of my time and skills to a place that has given so much to our family. I am on extended maternity leave from my career as a multi-site property manager and real estate marketing professional, loving every bit of this experience as a stay at home mom and GCS Board member.



Lisa Stafford

GCS Assistant Director, My Grown-up and Me Instructor

MA Philosophy, BS Computer Science, Math & Philosophy, Bachelor's Equivalence ECE

With GCS since 1995

Non-voting GCS Trustee and Member of Board of Directors, Past GCS Parent

I felt "at home" from my very first experience as a GCS parent, and I started teaching at GCS the following year. My daughter is a now teacher on her own, and I am still working where she attended Preschool and Kindergarten! Groton Community School takes its middle name seriously, and I enjoy being a part of a dedicated, loyal, and caring community that continues to impact the lives of so many children and families! Outside of GCS, I enjoy walking, kayaking, Zumba and African drumming.



Trisha Winroth

Board of Directors Fundraising Co-Chair

Serving as a Director since April 2016

Current GCS Parent

I truly love GCS as a parent and a member of the Board of Directors! When my son started in the toddler program, I was astounded by the loving "family" environment of GCS and knew I wanted to be a part of it! I love to be busy and multitask and enjoy all my "jobs" including mommy, pharmacist, and Independent Director with Thirty-One Gifts.