Groton Community School
Staff Members
2026-2027

Administration:



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
lkosinski@grotoncommunityschool.org

I have been with Groton Community School for over 40 years and was in the classroom as the Kindergarten/Pre-Kindergarten Teacher prior to moving in the administrative role. I truly believe in the school's philosophy and embrace meeting the need for good early childhood programming being be available for families and young children. I appreciate the talent and caliber of GCS teaching staff, feel very privileged that my own children had the opportunity to attend GCS when they were young, and am so proud to be part of the GCS community. During my off time, I enjoy gardening, exercise and catching a Bruins game whenever possible.



Lisa Stafford
GCS Assistant Director

MA Philosophy, BS Computer Science, Math & Philosophy, Bachelors Equivalence in ECE
With GCS since 1995
Non-voting GCS Trustee and Member of Board of Directors, Past GCS Parent
lstafford@grotoncommunityschool.org

I felt "at home" from my very first experience as a GCS parent in 1994, and I started teaching at GCS the following year. I am still working at the school where my daughter attended Preschool and Kindergarten. My granddaughter attend, and now my granddaughter attends! 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, African drumming, and playing with grandchildren.



Deb Penney
Full Day Coordinator, Kindergarten and K/Pre-K
Extended Day Head Teacher

BA Human Development, AS Computer Programming
With GCS since 2000
kindergarten@grotoncommunityschool.org

GCS is like a second family and I am so lucky to work with such talented and caring teachers! After owning a family daycare for years, I made the move to first job in the teaching world at GCS, and I have never wanted to leave because of the quality of care and philosophy of the school. I love spending time with my family and am very involved in my grandchildren's lives.

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Bonnie Stanton
Registrar

Katherine Gibbs Graduate
With GCS since 1996
Past GCS Parent
reg2@grotoncommunityschool.org

I have enjoyed being the GCS Registrar for 25 years & counting! My introduction to GCS was in 1991 as a parent. On my daughter's last day of preschool, I left tearfully saying that someday I'd be back...My son and daughter have moved on long ago, but here I am years later! I love spending time with family & friends and especially enjoy my "lake time".



Naomi Campbell Siok
Bookkeeper

With GCS since 2024
ncampbellsiok@grotoncommunityschool.org

I'm happy to be a part of the GCS team! I have been a member of the Groton community since 2015 and my children attend the Groton Public Schools. What I enjoy most about working at Groton Community School is being part of a community of people who are committed to providing an exceptional educational experience for young children. I have spent a majority of my career working for non-profits and small businesses in operations and communications roles. In my spare time I enjoy creating art and spending time with my family.

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Teaching Staff:



Ali Ackroyd
Full Day Pre-Kindergarten Teacher

BA Human/Social Sciences
With GCS since 2024
bigroom@grotoncommunityschool.org

I have been a Pre- Kindergarten teacher for over twenty years and am thrilled to have found a place like Groton Community School to call home! I am beyond excited to be working with such an amazing group of teachers who truly love what they do, and who show it in each and every interaction, with children and co-workers, alike! When I'm not in the classroom, I enjoy reading, hiking with my two daughters and husband, and spending time with friends.



Kim Burgess
MWF & TTh PM Preschool Head Teacher

ME Early Childhood Education, BA Sociology
With GCS since 2025
pmblue@grotoncommunityschool.org

The second I walked through the door I knew I wanted to teach at GCS and knew past families who all raved about how amazing GCS was. I love the sense of community, kindness and joy that is felt and seen in every classroom. I look forward to seeing my colleagues and students everyday. Outside GCS, I enjoy time with family and friends, traveling, being outdoors in nature and every season in New England, taking walks, hiking, skiing, kayaking, swimming and gardening. I love animals and have a mini farm at home with goats, chickens and dogs.



Kate Connolly
MWF & TTh PM Preschool Assistant Teacher, Floating Sub

AS Interior Design/Interior Merchandising
With GCS since 2024
Past GCS Parent
pmblue@grotoncommunityschool.org

GCS was such a wonderful and warm experience for my family when my daughters attended the school that I was thrilled to be part of this community again. Helping children, being creative and working with a friendly and supportive group of people makes working at GCS truly rewarding. I enjoy nature walks with my dog Bruin, reading, yoga, painting and time with my friends and family.

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Jennie Fitzkee
Full Day Younger Preschool Head Teacher

AA Kindergarten Education
With GCS since 1984
Past GCS Parent
aqua@grotoncommunityschool.org

I have been teaching children at GCS for many wonderful years, with passion, excitement, and love. Making a difference in the lives of young children through play, reading aloud, art, music, and literacy is the greatest of accomplishments, and all I have ever wanted to do. I am a writer, looking at all that happens with young children, and putting those moments into stories so that others can both learn and enjoy.



Laura Hankin
Kindergarten & K/Pre-K Extended Day Teacher

Masters Childhood Education/Special Education, BA Sociology/International Studies
With GCS since 2024
Past GCS Parent
kindergarten@grotoncommunityschool.org

Our family loves Groton Community School! We moved to Groton during the Pandemic and are so grateful for our son's early childhood experience at GCS. From the moment we walked in, we felt welcome and safe. I have been a parent, board member, home tour participant, and now a teacher. I love working with, and having my children around, dedicated, smart, engaged and fun teachers. The staff is truly one-in-a-million - hardworking, creative and kind. In my personal time, I enjoy gardening, reading, running, and skiing.



Jean Kennedy
AM Pre-K & K/Pre-K Extended Day Assistant Teacher

Early Childhood Education and Experience
With GCS since 2020
Past GCS Parent
pre-k@grotoncommunityschool.org

I've never worked at a school that felt so welcoming! Everyone works as one big team, and it's such an amazing experience! I love how involved the school is with the community and with the families that attend, and we are so happy to be one of them. My husband, daughter and I are a proud military family.

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Natalia LaManna
MWF & TTh AM Preschool Assistant, Floating Sub

BA Sociology/ Anthropology/ Social Work; Associates in Early Childhood Education
With GCS 2017
amblue@grotoncommunityschool.org

My experiences here at GCS – beginning as a Practicum Student in the Pre-K Class, then as a Camp Kaleidoscope Counselor - have been amazing and all-around rewarding! Now as an Assistant Teacher and Float, I am enjoying the excitement of teaching provided by staff members and also the welcoming/comforting nature of the school, as well. Outside of GCS, I love spending time with family and friends. I also enjoy DIY projects, music, reading and history.



Mary Beth Loges
Full Day Older Preschool Teacher

Bachelors in Business Administration
With GCS since 2025
yellow@grotoncommunityschool.org

In my opinion there is nothing better than helping young learners grow and develop skills and I have the fortunate pleasure to have been doing so for more than 20 years. I am very excited to be part of the GCS family which is extremely welcoming and has such positive energy! In my free time I enjoy tennis, playing any kind of game, and traveling, but most of all enjoy hanging out with my family.



Lorie Lorusso
AM Pre-K & K/Pre-K Extended Day Head Teacher

BS Early Childhood Education
With GCS since 1984 - 1988 and since 2021
pre-k@grotoncommunityschool.org

I feel so fortunate to be back at GCS and to be a part of this wonderful community. I returned after teaching in the public school system because GCS has an amazing philosophy that emphasizes the importance of relationships. GCS develops the whole child and helps them to become kind and respectful humans. I am very family-oriented and to me there is nothing more important than a strong family bond.

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Naomi Lynch
Full Day Younger Preschool Assistant Teacher

AS Child Study
With GCS 2012 – 2020 and since 2022
aqua@grotoncommunityschool.org

GCS is a loving and welcoming school, which is evident through staff interactions with children and parents. I love working in a supportive environment that values education and family. Outside of GCS I enjoy spending time with family, friends and my Golden Retriever Finley (Finn).



Claudine May
Full Day Pre-K Assistant Teacher

BS Education, Early Childhood Education Concentration
With GCS since 2025

I have worked with children all my life and I love it! When I heard about an opening at GCS I couldn't wait to apply. The schools philosophy and the caring loving teachers make GCS a place I am proud and happy to be a part of. When I'm not at work I'm at the gym, taking a walk and spending time with friends, family and my dog Lucy.



Heidi May
Full Day Younger Preschool Teacher

MS Counseling, BS Psychology
With GCS since 2016
aqua@grotoncommunityschool.org

GCS has made me feel part of a warm family and community. I am happy to be here and love working with each staff member. I wanted to become a teacher at GCS because I enjoy working with children and have felt welcomed ever since I walked through the door. It truly is a wonderful place to be. The stories about greatness are true! I am a dog mom to Nora, a black lab, and hope to train her to be a therapy dog with kids.

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Monique Meehan
Full Day Pre-K Assistant Teacher, Floating Substitute

BS Fine Arts
With GCS since 2021
Past GCS Parent
bigroom@grotoncommunityschool.org

GCS was where my children had their first experience at school, and it was wonderful for my family. I knew teaching here would be a meaningful and fulfilling experience. I have worked with children for many years and love bringing artistic exploration into their daily lives. GCS embraces opportunities for children to articulate ideas through art, and is a perfect fit for me. I have taught art to children of all ages, and love to share the joy that it brings in expressing oneself creatively.



Rebecca Ranney
Full Day Older Preschool Assistant Teacher

BFA Illustration
With GCS since 2022
yellow@grotoncommunityschool.org

I have lived in Groton for most of my life, and I am excited to join this community in a new way! I've heard so many good things about the school, and love being a part of the GCS family already because of the kind and loving philosophy and wonderful children here. Outside of my time at GCS, I love spending time out in nature and working in my art studio.



Jessica Ross
Full Day Older Preschool Head Teacher

BS Early Childhood/ Elementary Education
With GCS since 2022
yellow@grotoncommunityschool.org

I grew up in Groton and thought about someday working at GCS. I watched the rebuild from the outside, and I am so excited to be a part of this team now! The sense of community is ever-present. Outside of GCS, I enjoy doing yoga, spending time with friends and family, and being a huge Red Sox fan!

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Virginia Vestigo
Full Day Pre-K Head Teacher

BA Elementary Education and Educational Ministries
With GCS since 2026
bigroom@grotoncommunityschool.org

I am happy to be both a teacher and parent at GCS! I wanted to be a part of the GCS community because of the amazing quality of education and staff. I am an avid reader who enjoys the outdoors and spending time with my family.



Meghan Zocchi
MWF & TTh AM Preschool Head Teacher

Neuroscience, M Ed., BS Psychology
With GCS 2018-2020 and since 2021
Past GCS Parent
amblue@grotoncommunityschoool.org

I attended GCS as a child myself for 4 years, and now I was thrilled to be send my own children and teach here. I wanted to be part of the warmth, community, and support that GCS provides. GCS feels like "home" to me! I am also a pianist and cellist, and love hiking, biking, and nature walks outdoors with my family.

Consultants:



Sarah Belcher, M.S., CCC-SLP
Speech and Language Development Consultant

With GCS since 2015
Past 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. 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.

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Amy Lovell Kelly, BA MPA
Remedial Reading Consultant

With GCS since 2022
Past GCS Parent

As an Advanced Orton-Gillingham Practitioner, I consult with both GCS administration and staff on matters regarding language-based learning disabilities. From the time when my own children attended GCS many years ago, I have always loved my family's continual involvement with and connection to this wonderful school! As an Orton-Gillingham practitioner, I work and tutor privately with students who have a language-based learning disability like dyslexia.

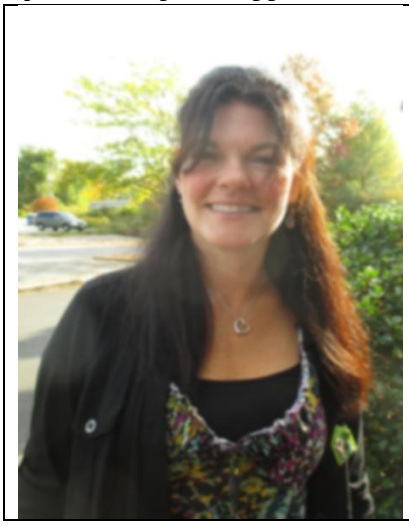


Susan H. Lizotte, MS, OTR/L
Occupational Therapy Consultant

With GCS since 1998
Past GCS Parent

I have had the distinct pleasure of partnering with GCS to develop a uniquely consultative role that serves children in the classroom and staff with lunchtime trainings on a bimonthly basis. My son joined me at GCS as a toddler, preschool, and kindergarten student. I am so proud to be part of this innovative program and work with such a dedicated, knowledgeable staff and administration. When not at GCS, I have spent my time running an OT consulting business, serving as an Instructor in the OTA program at NSCC, and lecturing. I am a proud mother of two and dog lover.

Specialty Staff:



Katy Niose
Kindergarten Class French Instructor

With GCS since 2013

I love working at GCS because of the warm, supportive and caring atmosphere created by the staff, and because of the wonderful, curious and interested students. I have had several professions, but teaching has been by far the most fulfilling. Teaching at GCS is a rewarding experience!