

## News for GCS Families from the Board of Directors



### On Board Newsletter, Summer 2017

**Summer Has Arrived** and we would like to thank you for another great school year at GCS! It is amazing to think about all that we, as families, have accomplished at GCS over the past year, from the fun family events to the outstanding outdoor grounds support during the Fall Fix-Up and Spring Spruce-Up. We also had a great year of fundraising for the school, including the very successful 2016 Groton Community Home Tour!

We wanted to thank everyone who completed the **annual family survey**. Your feedback is so valuable as we look back and plan ahead. We are in the process of reviewing the surveys and a summary will be available shortly.

The summer sessions of our very popular **Camp Kaleidoscope** have begun, but it's not too late to sign up! *Contact GCS to see which sessions still have open spots.*

If you're not joining us for Camp K this summer, stay connected through the [GCS website](#) and our [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) Pages! We offer continuous news, updates, and resources. A couple of back-to-school and fall dates, also located on our calendar, include:

- Family Orientation, **Thursday, August 31, 2017**
- First day of classes, **Tuesday, September 5, 2017**

Finally, I would like to extend my deepest gratitude to the GCS staff, board members, and families for the wonderful experience you have provided to my family and I. I will always smile when I think of the many amazing people I have met and worked with at GCS. Thank you for all of the warm memories and new friendships. My term as President of the GCS Board of Directors has come to an end, and I am so happy to introduce Kate Ferriola as the new President of the Board. Kate has been an amazing asset and I look forward to hearing about the many successes to come.

**Have a Wonderful Summer and Best Wishes,**

**Jenn Greenwood**

President, GCS Board of Directors

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



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**Want to Help? The Board of Directors and the Home Tour Committee are Seeking Volunteers!**

*Join the Board*

The GCS Board of Directors supports daily school operations and assists the staff in creating a strong community for the entire school. Members play an important role in fundraising efforts and spearheading many fun events. *Interested?* The Board of Directors is looking for a couple of new members for the 2017-2018 school year! Feel free to speak with any Board of Directors member, [email us](#), or join us at our upcoming meetings in August and/or September.

*Volunteer for 2017 Home Tour*

Calling all volunteers! The 13th Annual Groton Community Home Tour will take place on Saturday, November 18. Please consider joining the Home Tour Committee and helping with our biggest fundraising event of the year. If you are interested in planning the event this summer or assisting in the fall, please contact [Heather Spinney-Laidlaw](#) for more information.



**Buildings and Grounds Update**

A huge thank-you to all of the incredibly hard-working volunteers who contributed their time, expertise, and unending energy to make our gardens and playscape shine for our children!

We were able to complete almost all of our projects during our **Spring Spruce-Up** through the help of GCS parents and friends, and a record showing of students from local high schools. This year's big project was the repair and resurfacing of our children's picnic tables, ensuring they will last for years to come. The well-maintained grounds at GCS enrich the growth and education of young minds and it couldn't be done without the hard work and care of our GCS community!

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Our GCS families enjoy the 2017 picnic and performer Steve Blunt!

## Parent Representatives Update

We celebrated a wonderful end to the year at the annual **GCS Family Picnic!** The children danced and sang with our live performer, Steve Blunt, and we all enjoyed catching up with friends, both old and new, over pizza and popsicles. Thank you for sharing this special evening with us.

The Board would also like to acknowledge all of our excellent **2016-2017 Room Parents.** They offer a tremendous amount of help to the classrooms, the school, and our families.

Thank you for the play dates, Scholastic Book orders, teacher luncheon and appreciation efforts, beautiful front door decorations and every other special project!

Finally, we would like to thank our wonderful **GCS Volunteer Bakers** for all of the delicious goodies they provided this year. Each and every donation helped to make our many school events special.

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## Fundraising Update

Our deepest thanks to all GCS families for participating in our fundraisers throughout the past year! Every moment dedicated and every penny raised helps to balance our budget and keep our tuition rates affordable. Yet again, we had a extremely successful year, reaching nearly \$29,000 in fundraising. Thank you for your continued support and generosity.

Fundraiser	Raised
Home Tour	\$24,000
Square1 Art	\$1,222
Class Photos	\$1,400
GCS Apparel Sales	\$400
Scripts Gift Cards	\$600
Boxtops for Education	\$503
Amazon Smile	\$624
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$28,749</b>

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## Help GCS This Summer

Please keep GCS in mind over the summer, and help us continue our fundraising efforts with no cost to you!

- **Clip your Box Tops!** We've raised more than \$4,000 since 2013 in Box Top clippings alone. *Whether you clip 2 or 200 Box Tops this summer, don't forget - they all add up!*
- Give back to our school every time you shop online at **Amazon Smile**. Use the link (<http://smile.amazon.com/ch/04-2111386>) so that 0.5% of all purchases are automatically donated to GCS. *As of May, GCS has received more than \$600 from Amazon Smile, generated from purchases you would have made anyway!*

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## A Fond Farewell to Outgoing Board Members

With the close of the school year, we would like to thank the outgoing Board of Directors members for their tremendous service to Groton Community School: **Jenn Greenwood**(President), **Sarah Belcher** (Vice President), **Cathy Pauly** (Public Relations), and **Kristyn MacInnis** (Fundraising).



*Come On Board!* There are a few openings on the Board of Directors for the new school year. Please attend one of our upcoming meetings or contact [Kate Ferriola](#) for further information.

## Announcing the 2017-2018 Board of Directors

Kate Ferriola, [President](#)  
Trisha Winroth, [Vice President](#)  
Linda Kosinski, [Director](#)  
Lisa Stafford, [Assistant Director](#)  
Terri Martin, [Full Day Coordinator and Summer Camp Director](#)  
Christine Emma, [Treasurer](#)

Shannon Baxevanis, [Secretary](#)  
Emily Crouse and [Open], [Public Relations](#)  
Jeremy Chapman and Dan Quinn, [Buildings and Grounds](#)  
Heather Spinney-Laidlaw and Bill Rochefort, [Fundraising](#)  
Jennifer Burke and Shagufta Rahman, [Parent Representatives](#)  
[Open], [Members-at-Large](#)

### **Contributors to the 2016-2017 Annual Fund**

We would like to express our sincere gratitude for the generous contributions to this year's Annual Fund. Your donation makes a difference for every child at GCS. These gifts are spent on the area of greatest need the year the gift is made.

#### **Board of Trustees**

John and Diane Amaral  
Randall and Kathleen Barron  
Christine Cline  
John and Lisa Conner  
Scott and Betsy Kehoe  
Scott and Deborah MacDonald  
Rob and Laura Moore  
David Moulton  
Peter and Andrea Myette  
Bard and Cindy Salmon  
Steve and Nancy Webber

#### **Board of Directors**

Dean and Shannon Baxevanis  
James and Sarah Belcher  
Michael Burgess and Shagufta Rahman  
Michael and Jennifer Burke  
Jeremy and Erin Chapman  
Matt and Kate Ferriola  
David and Jennifer Greenwood  
Brett Laidlaw and Heather Spinney-Laidlaw  
David and Kristyn MacInnis  
Eric and Catherine Pauly  
Dan and Katie Quinn  
Scott and Trisha Winroth

#### **Past Board of Directors**

Matt Arner and Mini Singh-Arner  
George and Marie Bearer  
Melissa Cannavino  
Michael and Rachel Culley  
Steven and Kerry Cusick  
Christopher and Christiane Gorycki

James Keydel and Karen Papineau  
Peter and Claire Macy  
Cynthia Maxwell  
Chuck McKinney  
Ned and Mary Mitchell  
Geoffrey and Stacie Moeser  
Kelly and Susan Roberts  
David and Kelly Rowe  
John and Sondi Stanton  
David and Nancy Wilder  
Luke and Jessica Williams

**Current Staff**

Lindsay Connolly  
Dave and Patty Barr  
Ruth Bruneau  
James and Christine Doherty  
Steve and Jennie Fitzkee  
William and Tracy Gerner  
Larry and Shelley Grove  
William and Patty Hammond  
Dan and Sandy Irvin  
Linda Kosinski  
Peter and Terri Martin  
Jon and Lorrie Morgan  
Katy Niose  
Paul and Inga Nuccio  
Mike and Debbie Penney  
Bonnie Stanton  
Steve Kalter and Lisa Stafford  
Katy Sutton-Brown

**Past Staff**

Andy and Barbara Crampton  
Greg and Cynthia Premru

**Current Families**

George and Denielle Babey  
Michael and Amanda Barry  
Jim and Nancy Beckwith  
Alfred and Ashley Bergin  
Michael and Kerry Castorano  
Michael and Christina Coppola  
Andrew and Melissa Dewing  
Peter and Lisa Gervais  
Scott and Donna Haggerty  
David Hart and Melissa Ackerman  
James and Kathleen Joyce  
Patrick and Melissa McAdams

Andrei Peters and Fay Raynor  
William and Bridget Pudans  
Benjamin and Meredith Scarlet  
Mike and Kerry Shyjan  
Paul and Claire Zukauskas

#### **Past Families**

Brush and Anne Bradley  
Richard and Annette Dorff  
Ralph and Kathy Giles  
Joseph and Tracy Guth  
Linda Hoffman  
Mark Haman and Leah Muir-Haman  
Eric and Lori Healy  
Peter and Kelli Hnath  
Thomas and Christine Horsman  
Calvin Hung and Mella Choy  
Joshua and Amy Kritzer  
Stephen and Marie Lane  
Laurence and Cheryl Licktieg  
Ed and Melissa Manzi  
Earl and Kerry McKennon  
Dean and Natalie Marsh  
George and Peggy Moore  
Paul and Cathy Olson  
Raj and Priya Palakkal  
Michael and Martha Resch  
Ronald and Evann Peck  
David and Karen Riggert  
Steven and Cindy Rizzo  
Anthony and Josephine Rizzolo  
Stuart Schulman and Susan Randazzo  
David and Pamela Stone  
Steven and Jennifer Stone  
Scott and Tamara Swain  
Bill and Cheryl Townsend  
Edward and Jessica Wenzell  
Alfred and Kristen von Campe

#### **Alumni**

Wesley Cline  
Chris Gorycki  
Taylor Gorycki  
Joshua Kosinski  
Ryan Kosinski  
Anna MacDonald  
Christopher MacDonald  
Daniel MacDonald

### **Grandparents**

James and Linda Belcher  
Tom and Linda Burke  
Ed and Donna Cornellier  
Robert and Donna Halloran  
John and Janet O'Brien  
John and Marcia Pauly  
Elizabeth Reeves  
James and Judy Seidewand  
Albert Stone

### **Friends of GCS**

Bemis Associates Inc.  
Gloria Carlberg  
David Dimenstein - The Feingold Companies  
Stephen and Miriam Helfgott  
Harold and Margaret Lloyd  
Tim Luca  
Marion Stoddart  
Gerard and Linda Tarpey

### **Matching Gift**

FM Global Foundation  
Oracle Corporation

## **Fundraising, Annual Fund, Capital Campaign - What Does it All Mean?**

Between fundraising efforts and requests to donate to GCS's Annual Fund, many of you may be wondering - where does all this money go?

**Fundraising efforts** (Our Home Tour, Boxtops, Scrips Gift Cards, Class Photos, Square 1 Art and Amazon Smile Program are just a few of the many fundraising efforts executed during the school year) help to close the gap between operating costs and tuition. The fundraising efforts undertaken each year help to ensure that tuition increases are kept to a minimum. *Fundraising isn't the only way GCS makes sure you don't get hit with a larger than normal tuition increase - Fall Fix-Up and Spring Spruce-Up volunteer efforts save Groton Community School thousands of dollars a year!*

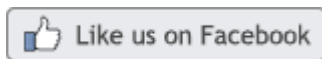
**An Annual Fund** is money for the school's current year operating expenses. Annual gifts, like those given by the generous families listed above, make up the difference between what tuition covers and the actual cost of running the school. Your gift to our Annual Fund helps GCS provide the exceptional first school experiences for which it is known.



**A Capital Campaign**, however, funds brick and mortar building projects - new facilities and major renovations - and sometimes endowment or special funds. In our case, the [Forward Motion Campaign](#) will allow GCS to complete a major renovation and expansion project, as well as create funds to ensure the long term financial security of the school. Because capital project gifts are often larger, donors will have the option of paying a pledge over one to five years. *Not familiar with GCS's Forward Motion expansion project? Be sure to check out more details [here](#) and sign up for email updates on this very exciting work to be done to our school in the near future!*

**The bottom line is that there are many opportunities to support Groton Community School.** With a fundraising purchase or gift to the GCS Annual Fund, you will support the daily operations of our school. In the near future, we will be asking GCS families, friends, and the greater community to help us build the future our school. All are important vehicles for the financial support of GCS!

## Stay Connected with GCS on Facebook



Check out [Groton Community School, Inc.](#) on Facebook to stay up-to-date on all the fun and exciting activities that are happening every day at GCS. We welcome your feedback and invite you to review our [Social Media Etiquette Policy](#) under the About section on our Facebook page.