

## News for GCS Families from the Board of Directors



### On Board Newsletter, Fall 2017

**Welcome back to all of our GCS families from the Board of Directors!** Fall is such an exciting time at GCS, from making new friends to learning new things. We hope that all of our families have transitioned well into the 2017-2018 school year.

In addition to the Weekly Email Updates that you have been receiving, the Board of Directors will periodically send this **On Board** Newsletter, which aims to give you a bigger picture of our recent accomplishments and our upcoming events.

One of those recent accomplishments was our successful Parent Information and Social Night, also known as our Annual General Meeting. We want to thank everyone that came to mingle with the Board of Directors and hear a little bit more about what our group does for GCS. If you weren't able to attend our Parent Social this past Monday, but still want to hear more about what our Board of Directors does, please email us at [boardofdirectors@grotoncommunityschool.org](mailto:boardofdirectors@grotoncommunityschool.org).

While we have many upcoming events that we're working on (see below for more information on our Fall Fix-Up efforts and Boxtops, Amazon Smile and Fall Apparel sale fundraising plans) one that I wanted to highlight is the **13th Annual Groton Community Home Tour**. This year's Home Tour will take place on **Nov. 18**. It is GCS's biggest fundraiser (bringing in nearly \$25,000!) and is such a fun and unique way to kick off the holiday season with friends and families. See more on the Home Tour below or email [hometour@grotoncommunityschool.org](mailto:hometour@grotoncommunityschool.org) if you have any specific questions!

As always, we welcome feedback, questions and participation - please feel free to talk to any Board of Directors member or email me at [boardofdirectors@grotoncommunityschool.org](mailto:boardofdirectors@grotoncommunityschool.org).

We look forward to another fun-filled and exciting year at GCS!

**Kate Ferriola**  
President, Board of Directors





## Want to help GCS grow? Join the Board!

Our 2017-2018 Board of Directors is hard at work and excited to achieve big things together this year!

Come on board! Are you interested in learning more about GCS or how to become more involved? If so, please join us at one of our monthly Board of Directors meetings. Our meetings are typically held on the second Monday of the month at 7:30pm in the Big Room at GCS. All parents/guardians are invited to attend. Come see what you can do to help GCS reach its goals for this year!

Please reach out to Trisha Winroth or email [boardofdirectors@grotoncommunityschool.org](mailto:boardofdirectors@grotoncommunityschool.org) with any questions. We welcome new ideas and would love to hear from you!

**We are so excited to welcome our newest member to the Board, Jessica Snow!**

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## Grotonfest was Fun!

We hope you had the opportunity to visit us at the GCS booth at Grotonfest. It was a beautiful SUNNY, fun-filled day! GCS Board of Directors and parent volunteers spent time providing information about our programs to interested parents in the community, while children created a fall-themed craft and enjoyed time at our sand table.

It was great to see prior, current and future families!

Thanks to all who volunteered and visited!



## Buildings and Grounds Update

Buildings and Grounds is busy planning our Fall Fix-Up event, which is scheduled for Saturday, October 21st from 9 am - 2 pm! In the event of bad weather, the rain date is Sunday, October 22nd

from 12 pm - 5 pm. There will be plenty of delicious treats prepared by our own GCS Volunteer Bakers. If you don't think you have a lot of skill, don't worry! We can find something you can help with, or we can teach you a new skill. If you don't have a lot of time, don't worry! We appreciate

you coming even just for an hour. It's a fun and rewarding day shared by GCS parents and high school students from Groton and our surrounding towns, making it truly a community effort!

To sign up to help at this event, please click here: [Fall Fix Up Sign Up Genius](#)

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## Parent Representatives Update

We hope everyone is having a great start to the school year! Room Parents are critical and provide a tremendous amount of help to the classrooms, the school and our families. Please familiarize yourself with your classroom Room Parent(s) and keep your eye out for periodic email updates. Throughout the fall, Room Parents will be organizing class play dates. These play dates will provide a wonderful way for children and parents to socialize outside of the school day!

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## Fundraising Update - Help GCS this Fall

Our GCS Trustees and Board of Directors are both committed to help GCS through fundraising efforts. Our non-profit educational center relies on fundraising to meet its break-even budget.

By now, you should have received a request in the mail from our Board of Trustees to support Groton Community School's Annual Fund. The annual fund is one important vehicle for the school to generate revenue to close the gap between tuition and the actual cost to run the program. Along with other fundraising endeavors, the annual fund supports the day-to-day operational expenses of the school, from special programming opportunities to professional development activities. Your investment in GCS with a gift - of any size - to the annual fund will help GCS continue to provide the best first school experience for our children. We hope you will join the Trustees and Board of Directors members this year in making a donation to GCS through the annual fund. Your contribution will make a big difference to our school! Some of you may even work for an employer that will [match your gift](#).



Board of Directors Fundraising is also in full swing, with planning well underway for this year's **13th Annual Groton Community Home Tour!** The Home Tour is our largest fundraiser each year and requires about 60 volunteers to operate. **We need your help on November 18th!** Please email us at [hometour@grotoncommunityschool.org](mailto:hometour@grotoncommunityschool.org) if you are available to help!

Other GCS Fall Fundraisers to keep an eye out for are:

- The upcoming **GCS Fall Apparel Sale**, including the very popular GCS Camelbak water bottles. (\$14 child size, \$16 large size).

- The **Scrip Gift Cards** program before the holidays, with the convenience of purchasing gift cards with a percentage returned to the school.
- Don't forget to clip your **Box Tops** and turn them in before the November 1st submission deadline. We'd love to have \$1000 in Box Tops earnings this year! Visit the Box Tops website for more information on the new bonus app for iPhone and Android and earn even more rewards. The website also has **Sweepstakes** that can be entered to have a chance to earn Bonus Box Tops for GCS. If you are using **Amazon Prime Pantry** you can earn bonus box tops for buying participating products. The following products will earn instant box tops: Cheerios and Honey Nut Cheerios, Cinnamon Toast Crunch, Chex Mix, Gogurt, Annie's products, Old El Paso/Taco, Scott's, Lysol Wipes, Motts, Hefty, Progresso soups and Totinos Pizza. Any General Mills cereal purchase with a 1 gallon milk purchase will earn 15 box tops!

Finally, please give back to our school **every time** you shop online at **Amazon Smile**. Use the link <http://smile.amazon.com> so that 0.5% of all purchases are automatically donated to GCS.

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## Volunteer for Home Tour 2017



At your curriculum night or at the Parent Social you learned a bit more about our volunteer needs for the upcoming [Groton Community Home Tour](#) on Nov. 18. Please consider helping with our biggest fundraising event of the year. If you are interested in helping (in any capacity) with the event, please contact:

Jen Burke ([burkejen14@gmail.com](mailto:burkejen14@gmail.com)) or Shagufta Rahman ([sr7279@yahoo.com](mailto:sr7279@yahoo.com))

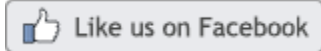
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## Stay Connected with GCS on Facebook



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.

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