## Forward Motion Insider Update - May 21, 2018

Dear Insider,

Welcome to our newest *Forward Motion* Insiders! We are happy to share our latest Insider Update with you all. As you may know, last month we formally kicked off the public phase of Groton Community School's *Forward Motion Campaign* with a celebration event held at at the Barn at Gibbet Hill. This exciting and inspiring evening was possible due to the generosity of the Webber Family and GCS Trustees, and was attended by Campaign Donors, Trustees, and former and current Board and Staff members.

As part of the kick-off event, Beth Lindstrom addressed the guests on behalf of the Campaign Steering Committee. She prefaced her remarks by explaining, "I have had a long relationship with Groton Community School. I was on the Parent Board, President of GCS corporation, and currently I am a member of the Capital Campaign Steering Committee. But by far my most important role has been as mother of two GCS students, Jacob and Cooper."

Describing youngest son Cooper's journey from preschool to rising college freshman, and the language-based learning issues that he navigated along the way, Beth called his experience at GCS "powerful and life changing".

"GCS is, by its very name, a community school...It is a statement that says our community believes in educating the whole child. Our community believes in instilling solid values in our children. Our community believes in the potential of our children. Our community believes that we should instill in our children a desire to define their own potential. And our community believes we have a responsibility to support and nurture our children in their efforts to reach that potential.

This school, this statement of what is important to us, needs to grow and evolve. We need to assure that it will continue to thrive and set the path for our kids, and their kids and grandkids, in a way that reflects our values.

To that end, I ask you to make a gift. Make a pledge. Make it for a period of time. And I ask you to make it meaningful. It might be a stretch. You

might ask yourself if you can afford it. And to that I would reply, if you believe as I do in what this school stands for, you cannot afford not to."

Groton Community School has been a "powerful and life changing" part of thousands of young children's lives since its founding in 1945. The *Forward Motion Campaign and Project* will transform GCS and prepare the school to serve thousands more children in the decades to come.

Please share our *Forward Motion Project* with your friends, families, and neighbors. To the many GCS families and friends who have made a gift or pledge to *Forward Motion*, THANK YOU for helping our children realize their potential, now and in the future!

All my best,

Jehrie Macjonard

Debbie MacDonald, co-chair Forward Motion Campaign

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