

News for GCS Families from the Board of Directors



On Board Newsletter, Summer 2018

Summer Has Arrived and we would like to thank you for another great school year at GCS! While it feels like we were taking first-day-of-school pictures in front of the GCS sign just last week, summer is in fact upon us, and the Board is excited to share some of its biggest accomplishments from the last ten months. Be sure to read our committee reports below for all the details!

Thank you to everyone who completed the **annual family survey**.

Your feedback is so valuable as we look back and plan ahead. A summary of the surveys was released yesterday in the GCS Kitelet. If you missed the report, please take a look [here](#).

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! While you can always check out important dates on the GCS Online Calendar, please make sure to mark the first 2018-2019 school year dates down now:

- Family Orientation, **Thursday, August 30, 2018**
- First day of classes, **Tuesday, September 4, 2018**

As always, we welcome your feedback, questions, and participation anytime! Please talk to any member of the Board of Directors or email me at boardofdirectors@grotoncommunityschool.org.

Have a Wonderful Summer, Kate Ferriola

President, GCS Board of Directors
boardofdirectors@grotoncommunityschool.org



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 2018-2019 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 2018 Home Tour](#)

Calling all volunteers! The **14th Annual Groton Community School Home Tour** will take place on Saturday, November 17. 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 special thanks to the hard-working parents and volunteers who helped spruce up the grounds. It was a beautiful spring day and many hands helped prep the gardens and playscape areas for the upcoming year.

We were able to complete all of our priority improvements and fixes! The well maintained grounds at GCS foster creativity and imagination and it couldn't be possible without the support of our GCS family.



Parent Representatives Update

We marked the end to the school year at the annual **GCS Family Picnic on June 8th!** Waiting a week for the weather to cooperate was well worth it as it was the perfect evening to be outside! The children danced and sang with our live performer, Steve Blunt, and we all enjoyed catching up with friends, both old and new. Thank you for sharing this special evening with us.



GCS Family Picnic 6/8/18 with Children's Musician Steve Blunt

The Board would also like to acknowledge all of our fabulous **2017-2018 Room Parents!** They offer a tremendous amount of help to the classrooms, the school, and our families. We truly appreciate all of their help in communicating so many important pieces of information to classroom families. Thank you for the play dates, support with our fundraisers, 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 refreshments they provided this year. Every donation helped to make our many school events special and delicious!

Fundraising Update

We are so grateful to all of the GCS families for your willingness to volunteer your time and participate in our fundraisers which help balance our budget and keep our tuition rates affordable. Every penny counts! We had a very successful year again this year, raising just short of \$30,000! Thank you for your continued support and generosity!!

Here is the breakdown of how we earned this money:

FUNDRAISER	RAISED
Home Tour	\$ 24,350.70
Square One Art	\$ 1,214.99
Class Pictures	\$ 1,713.50
Apparel Revenue	\$ 1,328.00
Amazon Smile	\$ 206.17
Scrip Gift Cards	\$ 617.43
Box Tops	\$ 349.40
Anthony's Coal Fired Pizza Night	\$ 211.72
Preliminary Total	\$ 29,991.91

Keep GCS in mind over the summer....!

Our fundraising efforts don't stop over the summer, even when school is out! There are three ways you can stay involved in fundraising!

1. Volunteer on the Home Tour Planning Committee - contact Heather Spinney-Laidlaw at hometour@grotoncommunityschool.org to find out how you can help out over the summer! From phone calls to donation pickups, we can use your help!
2. Keep clipping those Box Tops! We put a collection sheet in your child's hall bag the last week of school to get you started!
3. When placing an order on Amazon.com, remember to switch to smile.amazon.com and select Groton Community School as your charity of choice. A portion of your purchase goes right to GCS at no additional cost to you!



amazon smile
You shop. Amazon gives.

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: **Shagufta Rahman** (Parent Representative), **Jeremy Chapman** (Buildings and Grounds), and **Christine Emma** (Treasurer)



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 2018-2019 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](#)
Jessica Snow, [Treasurer](#)
Shannon Baxevanis, [Secretary](#)
Brie Weider and Erica McConnell, [Public Relations](#)
Emily Crouse and Dan Quinn, [Buildings and Grounds](#)
Heather Spinney-Laidlaw and Bill Rochefort, [Fundraising](#)
Jennifer Burke and Cindy Lane-Hand, [Parent Representatives](#)
Laura Cummings and {open} [Members-at-Large](#)



Contributors to the 2017-2018 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.

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Jeremy* and Erin Chapman
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Cindi* and Ed Hand
Heather* Spinney-Laidlaw and Brett Laidlaw
Dan* and Katie Quinn

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Brianna* and Evan Weider
Trisha* and Scott Winroth
The Walch Family - Laura* Cummings and Joe Walch

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David and Kelly* Rowe

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Katy* and David Niose
Inga* and Paul Nuccio
Debbie* and Mike Penney
Bonnie Stanton*
Lisa* Stafford and Steve Kalter
Katy Sutton-Brown*

Past Staff

Barbara* and Andy Crampton
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Sarah* and Thierry Laverdure
Claire C. Macy*

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George and Denielle Babey
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Tom and Linda Burke
Robert and Donna Halloran
James and Lillian McNulty
Janet and John O'Brien
John and Marcia Pauly
Jim and Judy Seidewand
Albert Stone

Friends of GCS

Bemis Associates, Inc
The Feingold Companies
Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Helfgott
Rev. and Mrs. Harold Lloyd
Tim and Rowe Luca
Linda Luca

Matching Gift

Acacia Communications
BAE Systems
BMS Matching Gift Program
Boston Scientific

*Indicates past or present service to Groton Community School

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?

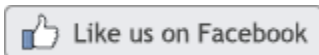
Fundraising efforts (Our Home Tour, Boxtops, Scrips Gift Cards, Class Photos, Square 1 Art and Amazon Smile Program are just a few of the many fundraising efforts executed during the school year) help to close the gap between operating costs and tuition. The fundraising efforts undertaken each year help 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.

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