



Building and Growing Our Future Together

Forward Motion Insider Update - October 10, 2018

Dear Insider,

Happy Autumn! Groton Community School is back in session, and the children and teachers are already immersed in read-aloud stories, engaging activities and outdoor play. Meanwhile, GCS Director Linda Kosinski, the Board of Trustees, and all of our **Forward Motion** volunteers are working hard to make the dream of a modernized and expanded school a reality! Much has happened since our last update, and we are writing to give you details.

With 60% of the necessary funds raised by the start of the summer, we made concrete plans to dig in and break ground in the fall with a slightly revised architectural plan. Our Community Room was put on hold temporarily, with structural provisions to complete this important aspect of our **Forward Motion Project** at a later date as financial resources would allow. Without the Community Room, phasing the project to build while in operation on site became challenging. We realized that it would be more efficient and possibly cost effective to temporarily relocate our school for a portion of the 2018-19 year, while focusing on the renovation of the main building. We looked forward with great excitement and anticipation to the completion of the main building in time for the start of the 2019-20 school year.

We spent the summer working on necessary logistics to allow us to break ground on this first phase of our **Forward Motion**, and found a viable and convenient location. We were happy to return to our roots, occupying a portion of the Prescott School building as we had before our current site on Boston Road was built for us. As the building was already structured as a school, with subsequent updates already completed, only minor additional modifications were anticipated to experience a warm and welcoming temporary environment for GCS children, families and staff.

While in the process of performing all of the inspections and licensing work necessary to rent space from the Friends of Prescott at the beginning of November, we were informed that the change in zoning from educational to

business use for the Prescott School meant that it was no longer a viable option as a temporary home for Groton Community School. Although disappointing, the Trustees and staff took this opportunity to get the school year underway and are now examining alternative scenarios for performing the work to renovate and expand our school.

In the interim, our fundraising efforts are continuing wholeheartedly to generate sufficient financial resources to bring the **Forward Motion Project** to fruition. To that end, a generous group of donors has agreed to **match every gift and pledge** to the **Forward Motion Campaign** up to \$30,000 - received by October 15th! If you have not made a [donation](#) to this important project yet, this is the best time to do so! And if you made a gift early in the campaign and would like to [give again](#), your new donation will be matched as well!

We will keep you posted on our progress with future updates. In the meantime, please continue to share our **Forward Motion Campaign** with your friends, family, and neighbors. We will need the whole community's support to be successful!

All my best,



Debbie MacDonald, co-chair Forward Motion Campaign

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