

# Groton Community School Board of Directors 2018-2019



## **Shannon Baxevanis** **Board of Directors Secretary**

*Serving as a Director since November 2016  
Current GCS Parent*

*I am so grateful to GCS for the love, nurture and assistance given to my children to build fundamental social, emotional and academic skills. The mission of GCS is vital to our community and I wanted to become a Board of Directors member to assist with the on-going growth of the school and to ensure that it remains vibrant and sound. I am sharing my knowledge as a public affairs and communications professional to this end.*



## **Meghan Black** **Member-at-Large**

*Serving as a Director since January 2019  
Current GCS Parent*

*As a parent of a child attending GCS, my expectations have been exceeded because of the caring, talented teachers and staff who welcome everyone like family, and for the relationships my daughter has formed. I love being able to give back by volunteering my time to the school that brings my daughter such joy. I have lived in Groton my entire life and love the outdoors, especially the beach, animals, and spending time with my family.*



## **Jen Burke** **Board of Directors Parent Representative Co-Chair**

*Serving as a Director since April 2016  
Current GCS Parent*

*I live in Pepperell with my husband and two sons. My oldest was at Groton Community School for three years, and my youngest attends. I volunteer on the Board of Directors because I want to support the dedication to and enthusiasm for early childhood education that the Groton Community School staff exhibits on a daily basis. As a school counselor in the Acton-Boxborough School District, I firmly believe in providing children and families the very best educational experiences.*



## **Emily Crouse** **Board of Directors Building & Grounds Co-Chair**

*Serving as a Director since May 2017  
Current GCS Parent*

*I really enjoyed getting to know my daughter's teachers and learning about the school as a room parent, and look forward to learning more in my new role on the Board. I very much want to get involved and help make a difference at the school that my daughter has enjoyed so enormously in her first school experience; and hope to continue to contribute as her little brother enters in the future. My professional experience is in Commercial Construction Project Management.*

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## **Laura Cummings** **Board of Directors Member-at-Large**

*Serving as a Director since March 2018  
Current GCS Parent*

*I am so thrilled with my experience at GCS with Camp Kaleidoscope and preschool for my son. I am constantly impressed with the dedication of the teachers, the thoughtfulness put into every activity, and the genuine compassion and kindness they demonstrate and teach. I want to be more involved in this community that embodies everything I believe as a parent and contribute as much as I can. I spend my days chasing creatures of one kind or another – I am a small animal veterinarian and a mom of two young children. I love skiing, hiking National Parks, traveling and sleep (someday!).*



## **Kate Ferriola** **Board of Directors President**

*Serving as a Director since April 2016  
Current GCS Parent*

*I am thoroughly enjoying being a part of this community and learning about all the effort it takes to make this school so wonderful. With my oldest as a GCS alum, and my middle child now attending, I wanted to become as involved as I could in giving the children that choose to attend GCS the best learning and social experience possible. I am a native of Dunstable, a graduate of the GDRSD, and have a Master's Degree in English and Publishing. I am Managing Editor for a legal publishing company.*



## **Rebecca Freeman** **Board of Directors Member-at-Large**

*Serving as a Director since October 2018  
Current GCS Parent*

*GCS felt like a perfect fit from the moment I stepped through the door, just months after moving to Groton. My oldest daughter started first and my youngest has joined her as well. I couldn't have imagined a better early education experience, so I wanted to join the Board to make my own small contribution to this place that is such an important part of my girls' lives. I am a former Air Force Civil Engineer and current stay-at-home mom. I enjoy swimming, biking, and running (when I'm not nursing an injury) and have recently been playing trumpet with the Nashoba Valley Concert Band.*



## **Cindi Lane-Hand** **Parent Representative Co-Chair**

*Serving as a Director since December 2017  
Current GCS Parent*

*When we moved to Groton, we immediately enrolled our daughter, followed by our son, and our youngest will attend someday, too. This is an exciting time to be part of the GCS community! I am passionate about meeting the social, emotional, and academic needs of children, and want to support the staff in continuing to offer the highest quality early childhood experiences to foster growth and development. I am a Licensed Clinical Social Worker and Neurotherapist who specializes in working with children, adolescents, and families. Outside of my professional life, I love spending time with family exploring our new community, running, and leading a fabulous group of Daisy Girl Scouts.*

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**Linda Kosinski  
GCS Director**

*MA Leadership, BS Elementary Education, AA Early Childhood Education  
With GCS since 1985  
Non-voting GCS Trustee and Member of Board of Directors, Past GCS Parent*

*In my years at GCS, I have taught Pre-K, Kindergarten, and served as Assistant and now school Director. I truly believe in the school's philosophy and embrace meeting the need for good early childhood programming that should be available to families and young children. I appreciate the talent and caliber of GCS teaching staff, feel privileged that my children were able to attend, and proud to be part of the GCS community.*



**Terri Martin  
Full Day Coordinator, Summer Camp Director,  
Head Teacher Extended Day**

*BS Early Childhood Education  
With GCS since 1995  
Non-voting Member of Board of Directors*

*Groton Community School is "my happy place." Teaching is my passion...it is what I am meant to do. I live with my husband and our two wonderful dogs, Hondo and Shiloh.*



**Erica McConnell  
Board of Directors Public Relations Co-Chair**

*Serving as Director since May 2018  
Current GCS Parent*

*My family and I live in Groton and are so thrilled to have found GCS to send our children to. It has become a second family that welcomed us with open arms. I continue to be in awe of the teachers & staff on a daily basis. They make each and every child feel loved and encourage their eagerness to learn. I am excited to be a part of the Board of Directors to help support the school and hope that every other family will continue to fall in love with GCS as we did. I hold a Masters degree in Psychology and work as a full-time Realtor with Coco, Early & Associates.*



**Dan Quinn  
Board of Directors Building and Grounds Co-Chair**

*Serving as a Director since December 2016  
Current GCS Parent*

*My son recently started in the Aqua Room in 2016, and is really enjoying his time with his teachers and friends. We envision staying at GCS for a while, with a new baby - and future GCS student- joining our family. I think volunteering in the community and giving back to the school is important. The teachers and staff give a lot to ensure the students grow and learn. I have worked at Boston Scientific for 11 years working in medical device design and development. Working hard allows me to play hard, which includes summers down on Cape Cod, the ocean, and day trips exploring new summer spots!*

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## **Bill Rochefort** **Board of Directors Fundraising Co-Chair**

*Serving as a Director since April 2017  
Current GCS Parent*

*The Aqua Room was a wonderful start for our daughter! I wanted to help the school as a Board Member because we have had such a great first experience as a Full Day, and now a Pre-K family. I enjoy my work at Phoenix Screenprinting because it lets me do all the fun stuff I want to do outside of work.*



## **Jessica Snow** **Board of Directors Treasurer**

*Serving as a Director since October 2017  
Current GCS Parent*

*As a family living in Groton, the long-standing reputation of the school led us to enroll our son in Kindergarten last year. Being a part of this fantastic community exceeded our expectations in every regard, and was reflected in our son's daily excitement about being at school. The passion that families and staff have for GCS is also palpable. I joined the Board to give back and contribute to GCS in a meaningful way that leverages both my professional experience and prior experience as a Board member for another nonprofit organization. In addition to being a proud mom, I work full time managing global quality and compliance of a marketed immuno-oncology drug.*



## **Heather Spinney-Laidlaw** **Board of Directors Fundraising Co-Chair**

*Serving as a Director since May 2015  
Current GCS Parent*

*Our experience as a GCS family has been simply amazing, giving our daughter everything she needed (and more!) to prepare for Kindergarten and for a lifetime of learning and "bucket filling"! Our son began in My Grown-up and Me, before moving on to other GCS classes. I chose to join the Board of Directors because I believe strongly in setting an example of volunteerism with my children, and because I wanted to give back some of my time and skills to a place that has given so much to our family. I am on extended maternity leave from my career as a multi-site property manager and real estate marketing professional, loving every bit of this experience as a stay at home mom and GCS Board member.*



## **Lisa Stafford** **GCS Assistant Director, My Grown-up and Me Instructor**

*MA Philosophy, BS Computer Science, Math & Philosophy, Bachelor's Equivalence ECE  
With GCS since 1995*

*Non-voting GCS Trustee and Member of Board of Directors, Past GCS Parent*

*I felt "at home" from my very first experience as a GCS parent, and I started teaching at GCS the following year. My daughter is a now teacher on her own, and I am still working where she attended Preschool and Kindergarten! Groton Community School takes its middle name seriously, and I enjoy being a part of a dedicated, loyal, and caring community that continues to impact the lives of so many children and families! Outside of GCS, I enjoy walking, kayaking, Zumba and African drumming.*

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**Brie Weider**

**Board of Directors Public Relations Co-Chair**

*Serving as a Director since November 2017*

*Current GCS Parent*

*I am originally from Groton, and was happy to move back with my husband and son, and to enroll him at GCS! I joined the Board to get more involved in the community and meet new people. My background is in retail display, sales and customer service. I have a Bachelor's Degree in Fine Art, and have taught private lessons. Although I don't use the fine art training often, I am pretty crafty. I recently started a new career as a buyer's agent on the Kehoe Team at Keller Williams. I enjoy applying my experience as a Realtor to the annual Home Tour.*



**Trisha Winroth**

**Board of Directors Vice President**

*Serving as a Director since April 2016*

*Current GCS Parent*

*I truly love GCS as a parent and a member of the Board of Directors! When my son started in the toddler program, I was astounded by the loving "family" environment of GCS and knew I wanted to be a part of it! I love to be busy and multitask and enjoy all my "jobs" including mommy, pharmacist, and Independent Director with Thirty-One Gifts.*