

News for GCS Families from the Board of Directors



On Board Newsletter, Summer 2020

While it feels strange to be finishing the 2019-2020 school year from afar (or on Zoom!), we still wanted to pass along congratulations to all our families on the completion of another fantastic year. Though our physical time together was cut short, our Board of Directors adapted quickly and was able to accomplish what ended up being a banner year for our group -- please take time to review these achievements below.

This summer, you can stay connected through the GCS website and all our social media platforms, including [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [Twitter](#), and [LinkedIn](#). While you can always check out important dates on the GCS Online Calendar, please make sure to mark these **tentative** first 2020-2021 school year dates down now:

- Family Orientation, **Thursday, September 3, 2020**
- First day of classes, **Tuesday, September 8, 2020**

This *On Board* newsletter is bittersweet for me, as it marks the end of my term on the Board of Directors. When I reflect on the work our unit did during my tenure, I'm humbled that I was lucky enough to be a part of such a dedicated, hard-working, and inspirational group of people. I can't thank the school, the staff, the families, and my fellow board members enough for their guidance, support, and -- most of all -- friendship over the past four years. I am thrilled to introduce Cindi Lane-Hand as the newest Board President. She brings a wealth of experience to this group and I can't wait to applaud the Board's next milestones under her lead.

Have a Wonderful Summer,

Kate Ferriola

President, GCS Board of Directors



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 new members for the 2020-2021 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 2020 Home Tour

The **16th Annual Groton Community School Home Tour** will take place on Saturday, Nov. 21st. While the event may look different this year, we very much look forward to the challenge of continuing with this well loved and highly anticipated tradition. We need your inspiration and creativity to make this a success.

Help us navigate these changes by joining the Home Tour Committee. If you are interested in planning the event this summer or assisting in the fall, please contact the [Home Tour Committee](#) for more information!

The BOD Needs a Buildings & Grounds Co-Chair and Members-at-Large for 2020-2021! Come learn about these positions now from our experienced co-chairs already in these spots. Contact [Laura](#) for more details.

Buildings and Grounds Update



The current GCS campus has not required much the last few months, as school has been virtual. However, we've been working on improvements to the playground so it will be in great shape throughout the summer and ready for new and returning students for the start of school this fall.

We were required by the Governor to pause construction at the 110 site, but have recently recommenced work! The delay does mean that we will not begin the 2020-21 school year there, but it will be an exciting move to the new building mid-year. More details regarding the move will be shared when the construction completion date is definitive. In the meantime, take a peek if you stop by CVS or the post office, or follow along online at our [Moving Forward Photo Journal!](#)

[More on the Forward Motion Project](#)

Parent Representatives Update

The Board would like to express our deepest gratitude to our hardworking and dedicated 2019-2020 Room Parents! With their support we have completed another successful year at GCS! Thank you for all the play dates, support of our fundraisers, and teacher appreciation efforts. We know the second half of the school year has been challenging during these unprecedented times but our enthusiastic room parents kept right on going in showing support of the classrooms and teachers, showing just how special our GCS community is!

We would also like to acknowledge our gracious GCS Volunteer Bakers for all the delightful treats and refreshments they provided for various events. It is their contributions that help make our school the welcoming environment it is. We greatly appreciate everyone's hard work throughout the year!



Fundraising Update - A Record Year!

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 a record-breaking \$37,557!*** Thank you for your continued support and generosity!!

Here is the breakdown of how we earned this money:

| FUNDRAISER | RAISED |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Home Tour | \$30,875 |
| Class Pictures | \$1,950 |
| Square 1 Art | \$1,307 |
| Apparel Sales | \$1,007 |
| Family Photos | \$875 |
| Scrip Gift Cards | \$950 |
| Amazon Smile | \$353 |
| Box Tops | \$240 |
| 2019 - 2020 Fundraising Total | \$37,557 |

As we did last year, we've made a cheat sheet to give our families a better view of how each fundraiser is important and helps GCS in its own way. Our fundraising team has worked hard to balance our fundraisers to make sure we offer ways you can contribute to GCS at **no additional cost to you.**

[Check out our 2019-20 Fundraising Information Sheet Here.](#)

Keep GCS in Mind This Summer!

1. Volunteer on the Home Tour Planning Committee - contact Cindi Lane Hand at hometour@grotoncommunityschool.org to find out how you can help out over the summer! The Home Tour Committee has been hard at work making Home Tour plans in response to the COVID-19 pandemic and we'll need your help!
2. Keep scanning those grocery receipts for Box Tops!
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!

AmazonSmile customers can now support Groton Community School Inc. in the Amazon shopping app on iOS and Android mobile phones! Simply follow these instructions to turn on AmazonSmile and start generating donations.



- 1. Open the Amazon Smile Shopping app on your device.**
- 2. Go into the main menu of the Amazon Shopping app and tap into 'Settings'.**
- 3. Tap 'AmazonSmile' and follow the on-screen instructions to complete the process.**

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: **Kate Ferriola** (President), **Bill Rochefort** (Fundraising), and **Ashley Dotchin** (Member-at-Large).



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 [Laura Cummings](#) for further information.

Announcing the 2020-2021 Board of Directors

Cindi Lane-Hand, President
Laura Cummings, Vice President
Linda Kosinski, Director
Lisa Stafford, Assistant Director
Terri Martin, Full Day Coordinator and Summer Camp Director
Colleen Neff, Treasurer
Rebecca Freeman, Secretary
Kelly Lopez and Brie Weider, Public Relations
Emily Crouse and {open}, Buildings and Grounds
Kaitlyn Brokaw and Megan Petka, Fundraising
Beth Christoforo and Christina Sutherland, Parent Representatives
{open}, Members-at-Large

Contributors to the 2019-2020 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.

There is still time to donate! The 2019-2020 Annual Fund runs through Aug. 31. [Donate Here Now](#)

Board of Trustees

John* and Diane Amaral
Eric* and Katie Bach
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Scott and Betsy* Kehoe
Steve* and Marie Lane
Scott and Deborah* MacDonald
Rob* and Laura Moore
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Bryan and Natina* Perrotti
Steve* and Nancy Webber

Board of Directors

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John and Beth* Christoforo
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Megan* and Kyle Petka
Bill* and Katy Rochefort
Michael and Christina* Sutherland
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Steve and Jennie* Fitzkee
Linda Kosinski*
Jon and Lorrie* Morgan
Paul and Inga* Nuccio
Lisa Stafford*
David Quintin and Bonnie Stanton*

Past Staff

Greg and Cynthia* Premru
Claire C. Macy*

Current Families

Michael and Amanda Barry
Andrew and Melissa Dewing
Carrie Eubank
Jarred and Amanda Gagnon
Jon and Julie Kujala
Thierry and Sarah* Laverdure
Bill and Shelby Morris
Anirudh Sabari

Past Families

Anonymous
Mark Haman and Lee Muir-Haman
Lori and Jim Herberich
Bill and Elaine Herzog
The Hicks Family
The Kritzer Family
The Palakkal Family

Ronald and Evann Peck
Ed and Melissa Manzi
Cliff Maxwell
Jessica Miller and Alan Quinn
George and Peggy Moore
Bill and Kathy Mitchell
David and Pamela Stone
Steven and Jennifer Stone
Cheryl and Bill Townsend
Susan Randazzo and Stuart Schulman
Steven and Cindy Rizzo
Mike and Martha Resch
Alfred and Kristen von Campe
Doug and Hannah Woodbury
Bin Lu and Yanping Yang

Alumni

Joshua Kosinski
Ryan Kosinski
Anna MacDonald
Daniel MacDonald

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Robert & Donna Halloran
Carol Ann Mandra
Jim and Lillian McNulty
Peter and Maura Morrison
John and Janet O'Brien
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Mary B. Wills

Friends of GCS

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The Feingold Companies
Groton Mobil Mart
Miriam and Stephen Helfgott
Rev. and Mrs. Harold Lloyd
Timothy Luca
Linda Luca & Jerry Tarpey
Brent and Roberta Maugel

Matching Gifts

AbbVie, Inc.
Apple Inc.
Arthur J. Gallagher Foundation
BAE Systems
FM Global Foundation
Raytheon Company

*Indicates past or present service to Groton Community School

Stay Connected with GCS!



Check out [Groton Community School, Inc.](#) on all of our social media platforms, including [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [LinkedIn](#), and [Instagram](#), 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.

Groton Community School | 110 Boston Road | Groton, MA | 01450 | 978-448-6179
www.grotoncommunityschool.org