

Groton Community School Board of Directors 2019-2020



Kaitlyn Brokaw **Fundraising Co-Chair**

Serving as a Director since November 2019

As a Yellow Room parent, I am impressed by the quality of education the students are receiving. I joined the Board of Directors to become more involved in the school and to help GCS continue to have a positive impact on the community through its ability to educate and instill community values in young children. I am a family nurse practitioner and provide healthcare for patients of all ages. Outside of work and volunteering, I enjoy creating art projects with my children, visiting family in Rhode Island and Maine, calligraphy, and cooking new recipes.



Beth Christoforo **Board of Directors Parent Representative Co-Chair**

Serving as a Director since October 2019
Current GCS Parent

I am excited that my daughter is in the Yellow Room, and happy to be joining the Board of Directors. I wanted to volunteer so I can actively participate in helping to facilitate the development of the children's and school's success. I am a mixed media artist who finds inspiration in my love of nature and travel.



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.



Laura Cummings **Board of Directors Vice President**

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!).

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Rebecca Freeman **Board of Directors Secretary**

*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 **Board of Directors President**

*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.



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.



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

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

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Terri Martin
**Full Day Coordinator, Summer Camp Director,
Head Teacher Pre-K and 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.



Colleen Neff
Board of Directors Treasurer

*Serving as a Director since May 2020
Current GCS Parent*

We are a new GCS family and are thrilled to become a part of such a well-loved and respected school. I am from northeastern Pennsylvania, and lived in Maryland before moving to Massachusetts. I hold a BS in Accounting and am currently Director of Human Resources at a biotech company. In addition to this GCS role, I also serve as Treasurer of Swallow Union APT and a member of the Groton Affordable Housing Trust. I enjoy hiking, biking, camping, and roller skating with my family.



Megan Petka
Board of Directors Fundraising Co-Chair

*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.



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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Christina Sutherland

Board of Directors Parent Representative Co-Chair

Serving as a Director since November 2019

When my family and I first moved to Groton, we searched for a preschool for our oldest daughter. Our first experience with GCS was the My Grown-up and Me Program. GCS has such a warm and friendly environment that comes from the dedicated teachers and staff. Right away we knew GCS was a perfect for us. I joined the Board as I want to get involved and help support a place that brings so much joy to my daughter, and hope to continue as her younger sister attends in the future. I currently work in Post Market Surveillance for a medical device company. I enjoy skiing, traveling (when I can) and spending time with my family.



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.