

Groton Community School Board of Directors 2023-2024



Jessica Barie **Board of Directors Building and Grounds Co-Chair**

Serving as a Director x to x and since September 2022

Current GCS Parent

buildingandgrounds@grotoncommunityschool.org

I am so happy to be back for round 3 and starting a new adventure with GCS. I love GCS! The foundations given to my children through their time here has been essential in their academic and social lives. I want to give back and support the school so that it may give the same to more and more students. I am an avid baker and cook, and I like to challenge myself with new recipes and ingredients often, much to the pleasure of my family.



Brianna Borek **Board of Director Member-at-Large**

Serving as a Director since September 2023

Current GCS Parent

boardofdirectors@grotoncommunityschool.org

I knew GCS was a special place from the moment we took our first tour and I could not be happier to have my son begin his education experience surrounded by such incredible teachers and a wonderful, nurturing environment. I wanted to join the Board to help support our school and the educators, staff, and students that make up this fantastic community, as well as meet new people! Prior to becoming a stay-at-home mom for my two children, I was a high school biology and anatomy teacher. I love spending time with family and friends, especially at a great restaurant or the beach.



Otonye Braide-Moncoeur **Board of Directors Vice President**

Serving as a Director since November 2022

Current GCS Parent

boardofdirectors@grotoncommunityschool.org

I love the sense of community created at GCS and of course, the experience my son is having here. It has become very clear that the staff, teachers, Board of Directors, Trustees, volunteers and parents invest in making GCS an enriching environment where children can thrive, be inspired and make memories. Any opportunity to support the mission of this community is worthwhile. I am passionate about my faith, my role as a professor, and about my family (hubs and three littles). I also love to sing and to retreat to the mountains when time allows.

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Kaitlyn Brokaw **Board of Directors President**

Serving as a Director since November 2019

Past GCS Parent

boardofdirectors@grotoncommunityschool.org

Two of our children have attended GCS, with a third on deck. I continue to be 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 formerly worked as a family nurse practitioner and provided healthcare for patients of all ages. I've hit pause on my career and am currently a stay-at-home mom and volunteer in the community. In my free time, I enjoy creating art projects with my children, visiting family in Rhode Island and Maine, calligraphy, and gardening.



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

Serving as a Director since October 2019

Current GCS Parent

parentrepresentatives@grotoncommunityschool.org

Both of my children have experienced GCS, and I am happy to be on 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.



Lindsay Guaraldi **Board of Directors Treasurer**

Serving as a Director since

Past GCS Parent

boardofdirectors@grotoncommunityschool.org

My daughter spent 2 fabulous years at GCS, where I learned how special and important the introduction to early education really is. I wanted to be more involved in my daughter's school experience and the more I learned about GCS the more I loved the mission and approach to early education. It truly is a community. I watched my daughter completely blossom in her time here. While she may be off to a new school, I still want to be a part of the GCS community and support the mission. When I am not at GCS, I love spending time with my family, traveling, or in the garden.

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Laura Hankin **Board of Directors Building and Grounds Co-Chair**

*Serving as a Director since
Past GCS Parent*

buildingandgrounds@grotoncommunityschool.org

Our family loves Groton Community School! We moved to Groton during the Pandemic and are so grateful for our son's early childhood experience at GCS. From the moment we walked in, we felt welcome and safe. The staff is truly one-in-a-million - hardworking, creative and kind. I joined the Board of Directors because volunteering is important and keeps the school running behind the scenes. Plus, I've made friends and had fun along the way! In my personal time, I enjoy gardening, reading, running, and skiing.



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

lkosinski@grotoncommunityschool.org

I have been with Groton Community School for 39 years and was in the classroom as the Kindergarten/Pre-Kindergarten Teacher prior to moving in the administrative role. I truly believe in the school's philosophy and embrace meeting the need for good early childhood programming being available for families and young children. I appreciate the talent and caliber of GCS teaching staff, feel very privileged that my own children had the opportunity to attend GCS when they were young, and am so proud to be part of the GCS community. During my off time, I enjoy gardening, exercise and catching a Bruins game whenever possible.



Abbey Lambert **Public Relations Co-Chair**

With GCS since April 2023

Current GCS Parent

publicrelations@grotoncommunityschool.org

We are so lucky to have found GCS! As a new family to Groton, we found such a welcoming community in GCS. Our son has thrived and we found out very quickly that we were part of something very special. Joining the Board has given me a chance to give back to this amazing place and help in any way I can towards its continued success. I have also found the friendships and support I've received in the community to be invaluable. In my free time I enjoy dabbling in art, learning about various topics like history and social justice, watching cheesy TV shows, and browsing antique and thrift stores.

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Justine Mannix **Board of Directors Secretary**

Serving as a Director since October 2022

Past GCS Parent

boardofdirectors@grotoncommunityschool.org

GCS is a special school I was lucky enough to attend (in the Purple Room) and was thrilled to see my daughter so happy as a student. The teachers and staff are the most dedicated, kind, and talented educators I have met in early childhood education. I became a board member to support the school and help welcome new families into our community. Outside of GCS, I work as a Commercial Insurance Underwriting Manager and live in Groton with my wonderful husband and kids. I love country music, dancing, and exploring local spots.



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

BS Early Childhood Education

With GCS since 1995

Non-voting Member of Board of Directors

tmartin@grotoncommunityschool.org

Groton Community School is "my happy place." Teaching is my passion...it is what I am meant to do. I live with my husband in Ashburnham.



Kaitie Phinney **Board of Directors Fundraising Co-Chair**

Serving as A Director since 2023

Current GCS parent

fundraising@grotoncommunityschool.org

I am so happy to be a part of the GCS community! It took a long time to find a school that was a good fit for my family, and my children are thriving here. I cannot say enough wonderful things about the Staff and Board of Directors. It is evident that everyone at GCS cares deeply about helping every child find the best versions of themselves. I joined the Board to be able to give back and to become a stronger part of the community and meet new people. Outside of GCS I work as an Operations Program Manager and Data Analyst. In my free time I love to cook and bake with my kids and visit family in Rhode Island and Martha's Vineyard.

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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

lstafford@grotoncommunityschool.org

I felt "at home" from my very first experience as a GCS parent in 1994, and I started teaching at GCS the following year. I am still working at the school where my daughter attended 2 years of Preschool and Kindergarten, and now my grandchildren attend! 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, African drumming, and playing with grandchildren.



Melissa Sulprizio

Board of Directors Fundraising Co-Chair

Serving as a Director since

Past GCS Parent

fundraising@grotoncommunityschool.org

I have so much appreciation for GCS. They made learning fun and engaging for all. It's been amazing to watch my oldest son develop and grow with the help of the GCS staff, and I'm looking forward to my youngest son experiencing the same over the coming years. I joined the Board of Directors because I truly want to give back to the school in any way that I can. I strongly support the mission of GCS and want to contribute to its ongoing success and development. I have a Master's Degree in Atmospheric Science, and outside of GCS I am a Senior Scientific Software Engineer within Harvard's Atmospheric Chemistry Modeling Group.



Mai Tirella

Board of Director Member-at-Large

Serving as a Director since August 2023

Past GCS Parent

boardofdirectors@grotoncommunityschool.org

My daughter had a wonderful experience at GCS. It feels good to give back to an institution that my daughter cherished so much. I'm a mother of 2 beautiful daughters who recently started her own photography business and I'm loving it.

**Groton Community School
Board of Directors
2023-2024**



Brie Weider

Board of Directors Public Relations Co-Chair

Serving as a Director since November 2017

Current GCS Parent

publicrelations@grotoncommunityschool.org

I am originally from Groton, and was happy to move back with my husband and son, and to enroll him at GCS! My daughter now attends! 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 am enjoying a new career as a buyer's agent on the Kehoe Team at Keller Williams.