



On Board Newsletter, Spring 2024

Happy March!

Please follow GCS on social media for updates and events, and let us know how we can support you. We are here to represent and help families, too!

In this newsletter, we are going to reflect on some of our winter activities and upcoming opportunities this spring. Over the winter, we had a festive wreath-making workshop and a fun first book club meeting with a delicious cheese board and dessert. We hope you enjoyed taking chances on the classroom baskets and participating in the "Bid it Forward - Together We're Stronger" Auction. It was fun for the Board to notify winners; thank you for donating prizes and participating!



It was fun to see so many friends at the school-wide playdate at The Mill Works in Westford on Curriculum Day! Please join us for our next parent book club meeting on April 4th discussing Hello Beautiful and look for our walking club meet ups. The Spring Spruce Up will be held on April 27th. We hope to see you then! Don't forget to follow us GCS on social media for updates and events!

Warmly,

Kaitlyn Brokaw
President, GCS Board of Directors
boardofdirectors@grotoncommunityschool.org

Buildings and Grounds Update:

During the 2023-2024 school year we've "Dug Deeper" into our outdoor play at GCS. In the Fall students learned about how to make "Compost Stew." Our compost bins are constantly cooking our "stew" and we've been adding fresh compost to our garden beds. Our rain barrels were put to good use over the rainy summer, and we were able to supplant some town water with our naturally-collected water. The new Mud Kitchen is an absolute blast! We are incredibly grateful to the Community Foundation of North Central Massachusetts for supporting our environmental efforts.

Thank you to all of the parents who volunteered as part of the Fall Fix Up. Save the date for the Spring Spruce Up Saturday April 27, 2024. With your help and muscle, we are able to tackle a huge list of projects in a very short period of time. As the saying goes "teamwork makes the dreamwork."

SIGN UP TO LEND A HAND AT SPRING SPRUCE UP!

As the Buildings & Grounds Co-chairs, we take great pride in making sure the playground is fun, safe and that the children have had the best experience this year. It is a true labor of love. If you are interested in pitching in with any task or projects, please reach out (anytime) to buildingsandgrounds@grotoncommunityschool.org



If you have any questions or suggestions, feel free to reach out to [Jessica Barie & Laura Hankin](#), Buildings & Grounds Co-Chairs

Parent Representative Update

As the second half of the school year continues it's wonderful to see how our GCS community has come together. The classrooms are thriving and we greatly appreciate everyone's positive energy and contributions. A special thank you to our wonderful room parents for their continuous efforts in working alongside the teachers for all additional needs of the class. Room parents help organize classroom parties and playdates, collect and purchase for teacher gifts and "Fun Fridays" for staff, as well as



coordinating the amazing classroom Chance Baskets. Thank you for your community support and all you do!

We would also like to send a big thank you to all of our teacher appreciation volunteers. Our monthly “stock the fridge” event for our wonderful teachers and staff is so rejuvenating and appreciated. Lastly, thank you to our community bakers who always help to contribute to special events such as our Open House. Watching our community continue to participate and be so generous is what makes the GCS family the special community that it is. We couldn’t do it without you.

Questions? Reach out to Beth Christoforo, Parent Representative at: parentrepresentatives@grotoncommunityschool.org

Fall Fundraising Recap

We are looking ahead to the Spring and fun events we have planned! We would like to thank all of the families and friends of GCS who participated in the Fall and Winter Fundraisers, especially the Online Auction, amazing Classroom Chance Baskets, and Apparel Sale. They were so successful! Following is a summary of the funds raised:

FUNDRAISER	RAISED
Online Silent Auction	\$8,920.09
Chance Baskets	\$1,576.36
Fall Apparel Sale	\$1,327.00
Holiday Raise Right Gift Cards	\$759.96
Fall and Holiday Mini Photo Sessions	\$656.25
Winter Workshop Series	\$462.41
Mabel's Labels	\$327.47
Hannaford Helps	\$267.00
Box Tops	\$34.40
Preliminary Total	\$14,331.34

Upcoming Events this Spring:

There are many opportunities to continue to support GCS through our Fundraising efforts this Spring. Be sure to check the weekly email updates and newsletters for important information and deadlines on your favorite fundraisers!

- Square 1 Art: It's time to Order! Your child's artwork is available to order on a variety of keepsake items, see the catalog that came home this week for details. Order deadline March 29th!

- WECO Fundraiser: Order chef-prepared meals and GCS gets a percentage back! Going on now through March 31.

- Spring Apparel Sale: Be sure to check out the latest styles of GCS gear and apparel to suit up the whole family for GCS Spirit Week and the Family Picnic in June!

- RaiseRight Gift Card Fundraiser: This April, you will have another opportunity to purchase gift cards just in time for end-of-year teacher, graduation, and Mother's and Father's Day gifts. There is no extra cost to buy the gift card through us, but GCS receives a rebate on every card purchased.

- Class Pictures: Details will be announced later this spring.

The funds raised go directly back into the nonprofit budget to help close the gap between tuition and actual costs. Thanks so much for your support of GCS Fundraising!

Questions? Email Fundraising Chairs, Kaitie Phinney and Melissa Sulprizio at Fundraising@grotoncommunityschool.org

Have you seen the NEW GCS Happenings Bulletin Board?! Stay up-to-date on all things GCC. In the lobby to the left of the playground door.



Connect with other families on the [GCS Parent Corner](#) facebook page.

2023-2024 Board of Directors

Kaitlyn Brokaw, President

Otonye Braide-Moncoeur, Vice President

Linda Kosinski, Director

Lisa Stafford, Assistant Director

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Laura Hankin and Jess Barie, Buildings and Grounds

Kaitie Phinney and Melissa Sulprizio, Fundraising

Beth Christoforo and {open}, Parent Representative

Brie Borek and Mia Tirella, Members-at-Large

Stay Connected with GCS



Check out [Groton Community School, Inc.](#) on social media 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.

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