

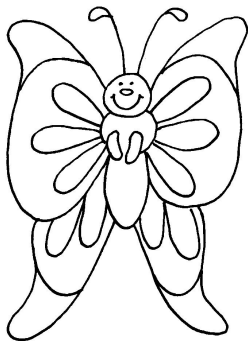
# The Boutwell Butterfly

The Official Newsletter of the Boutwell Early Childhood Center

Groton-Dunstable  
Regional School District

October 2009

Russell Hoyt  
Early Childhood Director



Bouts  
The Butterfly

## Don't Get Spooked

By Mr. Russ (Russ Hoyt, Early Childhood Director)

October is an exciting month at the Boutwell Early Childhood Center. Our themes for the month include Fall, Halloween, Bats and Spiders. The children will be experiencing this enriching curriculum as described in the Guidelines for Preschool Learning Experiences, Living Things and Their Environment #16 - Where the children will *observe and describe seasonal changes in plants, animals and their personal lives*. But don't get spooked by our Fall themes. Instead join us on Thursday October 1, 2009 from 5:30 to 7:00 PM for our Fall Family Social and Pizza Party. You will be able to walk through your child's classroom and then head to the playground for a Pizza Party and socializing with all your new Boutwell friends and their families. On Monday, October 5, 2009, we are taking the whole school on a field trip. Yes, everyone, no matter what day you typically attend, can join together for a trip to Marshall Farm. We hope your experience here at Boutwell is enhanced by both events.

### Important Dates

Thursday, October 1<sup>st</sup> - Family  
Pizza Night 5:30-7:00pm

Monday, October 5<sup>th</sup> - Marshall  
Farm Field Trip 9:30am-  
2:00pm

Monday, October 12<sup>th</sup> - No  
School in observance Of  
Columbus Day

Tuesday, October 13<sup>th</sup> -  
Curriculum Day, full day No  
school for students

Thur./Fri., Oct. 15<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup> -  
School Photos More info to  
follow

Wed./Thu., Oct. 21<sup>st</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup> -  
Preschool Screenings Info  
attached

Saturday, October 31<sup>st</sup> - Happy  
Halloween. Have fun & be  
safe!

## Playground Improvement Team (PIT Crew) Update

Hello Boutwell Parents,

I wanted to share with everyone what the Playground committee has been up to this past year and is continuing to do; so I thought I'd send home a brief rundown of what to expect this year. This past school year the committee has fundraised \$4900 through the Trike-a-Thon, Yard Sale, and a private donation; and at the beginning of this school year we were given a grant for about \$30K. We are very excited about the plans that are in the works; we are going to be receiving a beautiful new play structure to replace the existing one in the school yard as well as adding some other new equipment. At this time we are unsure of when everything will be finalized and delivered to us; but we will be looking for approximately 20 volunteers in the coming months to help in putting all this new play equipment together. When we have a definite date on the Community build we will send a note home in your child's backpack asking for your help. So stay tuned.

Gwen Lapin & The PIT Crew

Next newsletter deadline is Oct. 15<sup>th</sup>. Please email articles to [lortiz@gdrsd.org](mailto:lortiz@gdrsd.org).

**Groton-Dunstable Regional School District Statement of Non-Discrimination:** It is the policy of the Groton Dunstable Regional School District not to discriminate on the basis of race, religion, color, gender, disability, sexual orientation, national origin, or homelessness in its educational programs, activities, or employment policies as required by Title IX of the 1972 Education Amendments, Chapter 622 of the Acts of 1971, and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act. Also, students will not be excluded for reasons of marriage or pregnancy. Requests for information about these laws and/or grievance procedures should be directed to Jeanne Mitchell Director of Human Resources, Groton-Dunstable Regional School District, (978) 448-5505.

## Preschool Screenings

October 2009

The Groton Dunstable Regional School District will have Preschool Screenings on Wednesday, October 21<sup>st</sup> and Thursday, October 22<sup>nd</sup> at the Boutwell Early Childhood Center, 78 Hollis St., Groton.

This screening is only for parents who have **concerns about their child's development**. Children between three year and five years of age will be screened.

Parents with specific concerns about their child should call Boutwell at 978-448-2297 to schedule an appointment.

The appointment hours are between 9:00am-2: 30pm.

- Speech & Language or how the child makes his or her needs and wants known to the world will be done on both days.
- Developmental Screenings or how the child processes information verbally, visually and using memory skills will be on Wednesday, October the 21st only.
- Occupational Therapy and overall motor skill screenings or how children use their hands and move their hands and move their bodies will be on Wednesday, October 21st only.

## Boutwell Calendar

Don't miss out on any important Boutwell events. Visit our on-line calendar:

<http://gdrsd.org/Schools/Boutwell/Importantdates.html>. If you are unable to access the Internet, please let us know and we will send a printed version home in your child's backpack.

## Help Needed - Library Volunteer Coordinator

If you are interested in being a Boutwell Library Volunteer Coordinator, please contact Brenda at 978-448-2297. Thank you!

## Important Dates

Thursday, October 1<sup>st</sup> - Family Pizza Night 5:30-7:00pm

Monday, October 5<sup>th</sup> - Marshall Farm Field Trip 9:30am-2:00pm

Monday, October 12<sup>th</sup> - No School in observance of Columbus Day

Tuesday, October 13<sup>th</sup> - Curriculum Day, full day. No school for students.

Thur./Fri., Oct. 15<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup> - School Photos (more info to follow)

Wed./Thu., Oct. 21<sup>st</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup> - Preschool Screenings (see info above)



### **Are You a Parent or Caregiver of a Child with an Allergy?**

FAST is a group of parents partnered with the school district whose mission is to support other families coping with severe and life-threatening allergies, promote allergy awareness in our school community, and work with the school district to ensure a safe environment for children with allergies.

We would like to invite parents and caregivers of children with a food, latex, insect or environment allergy or anyone interested in this health topic to join us at our next meeting at the Peter Twomey Youth Center on Monday, October 19 from 7:00-8:30 p.m. Meetings are scheduled for 10/19, 11/16, 1/11 2/8, 3/15, 4/12, and 5/17.

We are planning lots of fun and informative sessions this year. Please join us! Contact Lisa Chau at [gdfast@yahoo.com](mailto:gdfast@yahoo.com) if you would like additional information.



# Groton Dunstable Education Foundation, Inc.

Post Office Box 322 Groton, Massachusetts 01450

[www.gdefinc.org](http://www.gdefinc.org)

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## GDEF presents “Trivia Night for Education” Oct. 1 and Nov. 5 Fall Grants due Nov. 6th

The popular ‘Trivia Craze’ comes to Groton-Dunstable this month as GDEF kicks off an entertaining new fundraising event for adults, “**Trivia Night for Education!**” The fun starts on **October 1<sup>st</sup> and continues the first Thursday of every month** (Nov. 5<sup>th</sup> and Dec. 3<sup>rd</sup>) at the Stagecoach Inn, Main Street, Groton, beginning at 7 p.m. Tickets are available at the door for \$15, and the night includes snacks, four exciting rounds of team trivia, and great prizes. Don’t miss these fun-filled nights out with friends and neighbors, while helping to raise more funds for GDEF grants to district schools.

**Applications for our fall grants cycle are due November 6<sup>th</sup>**, both for regular mini-grants of up to \$500, as well as for GDEF’s special Bruce J. Anderson Foundation “Integration of the Arts” grants, available in any dollar amount up to \$4000. Teachers and other staff, as well as parents and community organizations, are encouraged to apply, and applications can be found on our website, [www.gdefinc.org](http://www.gdefinc.org). Please remember applications must be postmarked by the November 6<sup>th</sup> deadline.

Thanks to last year’s generous donors, GDEF was pleased to fund two powerful and inspiring programs for students and community members during the month of September, the high school athletic department’s “Call to Excellence” featuring speaker and activist Travis Roy on September 14<sup>th</sup>, and the “Rachel’s Challenge” program fostering kindness and compassion, presented by GDAY, in partnership with GDRSD, on September 25<sup>th</sup>.

Be sure to visit **GDEF’s booth at this year’s “Grotonfest” on October 3<sup>rd</sup>** where we’ll again be selling our popular “Sandy Candy” straws and offering recyclable shopping bags for a small donation.

The Ed Foundation is **also looking for enthusiastic volunteers** to help in many interesting positions. To become involved, please email us at [info@gdefinc.org](mailto:info@gdefinc.org) or visit [www.gdefinc.org](http://www.gdefinc.org) to print a volunteer form.

Visit us on the web at [www.gdefinc.org](http://www.gdefinc.org)

## **Reminder – School Directory Forms Due**

**If you haven’t already done so, please be sure to return your child’s School Directory Form to the office by October 6th in order to be included in this year’s new book, coming out later this fall. If you’ve misplaced the directory form that was sent home, extra copies are available in the office.**



# Groton Dunstable Special Education Parent Advisory Council

The GD SpedPAC's mission is to provide a network in which parents of children with special needs have access to relevant information, training and emotional support; and to encourage an atmosphere of effective open communication, understanding and mutual respect among all students, parents, educators and the community-at-large. In addition, the GD SpedPAC provides input to the District staff and administrators, working collaboratively with the District to plan and develop SPED initiatives.

## UPCOMING EVENTS IN OCTOBER/NOVEMBER:

*All SpedPAC meetings and lectures are free and open to the public.*

### GD SpedPAC Business Meeting & "An Evening with Dr. Genovese"

**DATE:** Thursday, October 8, 2009

**PLACE:** High School Library

**TIME:** 7:00 pm – 7:30 pm  
7:30 pm – 9:00 pm

**Business Meeting**

**Dr. Alan Genovese, Superintendent of the GDRSD**

Parents, teachers, staff and community members interested in education issues that involve children with special needs are invited to a discussion with GDRSD Superintendent Dr. Alan Genovese. The SpedPAC has been lucky to have had Dr. Genovese participate for the last four years in these round-table discussions which have proven to be productive and beneficial through an honest exchange of ideas, thoughts and concerns among attendees and the Superintendent. Dr. Genovese will share his thoughts on the Groton-Dunstable school system – its strengths, its areas of needed improvement, and 'what's in store' for the future. All are welcome to attend.

### "Family Matters: Raising Happy and Healthy Children in Challenging Times"

#### Dr. Robert Evans, Executive Director of the *Human Relations Service* in Wellesley, MA

**DATE:** Tuesday, November 17, 2009

**PLACE:** Performing Arts Center, Groton-Dunstable Middle School, South Building

**TIME:** 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm

There is no harder job than raising a child. Nothing else touches so much of a person so deeply—or so unpredictably—and there is no training for it. As the pace of life accelerates, as media influences intensify, and as the future grows less predictable, parents and teachers find it harder to be confident—harder to know how to raise and teach competent, caring children, how to resist negative influences in the surrounding culture, how to help foster strength and resilience. Rob Evans will outline these dilemmas and offer concrete suggestions for successful coping at home and school.

#### GD SpedPAC Officer Contacts:

Nancy Bugbee, President

Maryanne Squeglia, VP & Treasurer

Cyndy Premru, Secretary

[ntbugbee@gdspedpac.org](mailto:ntbugbee@gdspedpac.org)

[mvsquel@gdspedpac.org](mailto:mvsquel@gdspedpac.org)

[premru@gdspedpac.org](mailto:premru@gdspedpac.org)

978-448-9916

978-448-0670

978-448-9788

**Parent Liaison,** Liz Podsiadlo

[lizpod72@yahoo.com](mailto:lizpod72@yahoo.com)

#### Parent Resource Center at Prescott

978-448-5505, ext. 229

All parents & community members are welcome to come in to the Center to access SpedPAC's literature, education resource library, to ask questions, and to get guidance from a SpedPAC representative to help navigate the special education process.

**Located in the Prescott School Building** - Use side entrance and follow signs to the lower level.



Helping Parents  
Help Their Children

#### Drop In Hours

Tuesday 10:00 - 11:30am

Wednesday 1:00 – 2:30pm\*

Thursday 9:30 – 11:30pm

*Other days and times – call for an appointment*

*\*Exception will be on half days in the District*