

February 10, 2009



Dear Parents,

We have another opportunity for parents to get involved in helping support creative approaches to learning at Florence Roche.

The Groton Local committee has approached us with the idea of building a school garden at Florence Roche. This wonderful community service idea that will benefit our students in many ways. Having a school garden opens the opportunity to enhancing our curriculum in many areas. This is also another path for our students to explore the way schools and communities work together. This program also ties into the Groton Reads program which is sponsored by the Groton Public Library in conjunction with other local food and farming groups.

School Garden Initiative – Florence Roche Elementary School

Groton Local would like to co-sponsor a school garden at Florence Roche in conjunction with administration, parent volunteers, faculty and students. Groton Local will lead the drive to get a garden going and will be a key partner in organizing, building and maintaining the garden. Groton Local is a grass roots organization based in Groton, MA dedicated to supporting local food, local economy, and energy reduction in order to ensure long term sustainability for our planet for future generations (www.grotonlocal.org).

Many schools all over the country have added school gardens to enhance curriculum, put children closer in touch with nature, and to teach nutrition. The garden can add life and depth to studies by inspiring students to participate in their own education. By actively doing, investigating, and inquiring, students are able to build understanding in a meaningful context. Beyond offering an investigative approach to learning key science concepts, the garden provides a natural context for explorations across curriculum including language arts, math, social studies, history and the arts.

We will be forming a school garden steering committee comprised of teachers, parents, administrators, and community members and we need your help! The purpose of this communication is to solicit committee participation from the teachers, staff and parents. The school garden won't happen without the dedication and leadership from the amazing Florence Roche community.

If you are interested in participating as a member or even as a volunteer in any capacity, please contact Lynda Pozerski at the front office (978-448-6665).

Help us plant the seeds of knowledge!

Ruthann P. Goguen

