



## Groton-Dunstable Regional High School



Shelley Marcus Cohen, Principal  
Christopher Jones, Assistant Principal  
John Gould, Dean of Students  
Dan Twomey, Athletic Director

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We're on the Web! [www.gdrsd.org](http://www.gdrsd.org)

Happy Holidays!

As the holiday season begins in earnest the Groton-Dunstable Regional High School spirit continues to thrive. As in the past our students have stepped up in service of their community. Current service projects include a coat, blanket, and food drive.

Our kick-off to the holiday season was the Thanksgiving Pep Rally in preparation for the Second Annual Colonel's Cup football game against Tyngsboro High School. G-D was the winner of the Cup during our first season and is ready to meet our competition on their home field Thanksgiving Day. Make plans to see this great rivalry!

Throughout the fall Groton-Dunstable students enjoyed cheering the team on, and after home games, attend dances. These dances have become a great success attracting approximately 300 students for each dance. From the athletic department we extend our congratulations to the Boys' Soccer team and the Girl's Cross Country team. Both the G-D Boys' Soccer Team and the Girls' Cross Country team were the Mid Wach Division B champions. The Girls' Cross Country team also qualified for the State Championship Competition.

Academically GDRHS continues to move forward. Seniors have been involved in the college application process. With deadlines approaching quickly, students are hard at work completing the application process, while teachers and administrators are busy writing letters of recommendation. Our Advisory Program has moved to a theme-based format. The theme for the freshmen class is organization and study skills. The sophomore class is working on ethics while the junior class will be developing their skills in visual literacy during the first half of the year and college preparation during the second semester. The model of the senior class is different than those of grades 9, 10 and 11. Seniors meet as a class during advisory time and meet with guidance counselors. This format allows the Guidance Department to lead students through the entire college selection, application, and decision making process.

From all of us at GDRHS, best wishes for a happy and healthy holiday season.

*Shelley Marcus Cohen, Principal*

## Guidance News –AFL-CIO Scholarship

[www.massafclcio.org/scholarship-program](http://www.massafclcio.org/scholarship-program)

Welcome to the 52nd Annual Massachusetts AFL-CIO Scholarship Program. We are excited for another year of awarding scholarships to deserving high school seniors. Our program is one of the best in the country and we are proud of that achievement. Please take a moment to read the FAQ section and hopefully it will answer any questions you may have about our great program. This year's Labor History Exam will be given on **Wednesday, February 3, 2010**. Please contact your guidance counselor at your high school and let them know you wish to participate in our program for this year. Also, please fill out an application (**at end of newsletter**) and return it to the Massachusetts AFL-CIO **no later than Friday, December 16, 2009**. Once you have filled out an application and submitted it to the Massachusetts AFL-CIO and notified your guidance counselor, you are "registered" for the Labor History exam. Visit their website for more information.



## Important Dates:

### December

- 8 UMASS "On the Spot" decision day - seniors
- 11 & 12 HS Play - MacBeth
- 14 Progress Report
- 17 Curriculum half-day
- 17 HS Concert
- 24-31 Holiday vacation

### January

- 1 New Year's Day
- 4 School resumes
- 18 MLK Day – No School
- 28 Curriculum Half –Day
- 29 End of 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter

### A Few of PAVE'S December Endeavors!



With the onset of December, comes the PAVE program's annual wreath sale!

These beautiful fresh wreath greens will be decorated to your liking with a selection of color! If you would like to order a wreath you can send your color selections to [pbye@gdrsd.org](mailto:pbye@gdrsd.org)

The Wreaths cost \$25 each and is payable by CASH only please, if you remember last year the wreaths are gorgeous!! Please help support our program.

In addition to the Wreaths, we are also going to be running a "Giving Tree" in the front of the school, we will be taking donations of mittens, gloves, winter hats, and scarves. We had tremendous support last year and want to see if we can top it this Holiday Season!

Thanks as always for supporting our program!



## New England Math League (NEML)

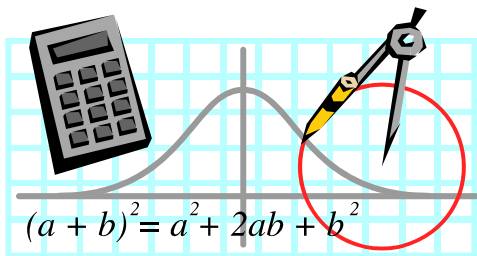
The second New England Math League (NEML) exam was administered on Tuesday, November 17<sup>th</sup>. Top scorers for each class were:

|        |             |          |
|--------|-------------|----------|
| Gr. 12 | Zachary W   | 6 points |
| Gr. 11 | Connor G    | 6 points |
| Gr. 10 | Rochelle S  | 5 points |
| Gr. 9  | Jefferson B | 3 points |
|        | Delaney C   | 3 points |
|        | Devon F     | 3 points |
|        | Alexis P    | 3 points |

**Cumulative** top scorers so far this school year include:

|        |            |      |
|--------|------------|------|
| Gr. 12 | Zachary W  | (10) |
| Gr. 11 | Connor G   | (11) |
| Gr. 10 | Rochelle S | (10) |
| Gr. 9  | Devon F    | (7)  |

The third exam will take place on Tuesday, December 15th, 2009. Any student who would like to participate and who is not currently enrolled in a math class, can take the exam at 2:00 pm on that date after school in Mrs. Pooler's Room #112.





*Groton-Dunstable Regional High School*

*Athletic Department- Winter 09-10 Information*

**Important Dates**

- GDRHS Fall 2009 Sports Awards Monday December 7<sup>th</sup>, 2009 6:30 @ PAC
- Winter 2009-2010 Parent Coach Preseason Meeting Wednesday, December 9<sup>th</sup> 6:30 pm @ HS

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**GDRSD School Council:**

The Groton-Dunstable Regional High School Council meets on the first Wednesday of the month in the Fish Bowl from 4:00 – 5:30pm. Our next meeting will be on December 2, 2009.

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**GDSTEM An Evening of Science - The Technology of Solar Cells**

GDSTEM (Groton-Dunstable Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) is pleased to be sponsoring the following evening of science:

The Technology of Solar Cells by Dr Lynnette Whitman, Evergreen Solar on 10 December 2009 at Groton-Dunstable Middle School North at 346 Main St., Groton MA in the Team Meeting Room

- Refreshments at 6:30pm
- Presentation 7:00-9:00pm

Solar power and other renewable energy sources are increasingly in the news these days. Dr. Whitman will describe the physics behind solar cells and the technical challenges of mass producing them. She will also describe the String Ribbon fabrication process developed by Evergreen Solar. This process results in the lowest silicon waste and energy consumption in the industry. The new state of the art facility in Devens is highly automated and has the capacity to product a solar panel every two minutes.

The talk is aimed at high school and advanced middle school students, and is free and open to the public. There will be ample time for open discussion, and Lynnette will discuss career paths in her field.

Lynnette Whitman is a Senior Process Engineer at Evergreen Solar, where she is responsible for final product quality and inline process and product improvements. She earned a B.S. in Chemical Engineering from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst, and a PhD in Chemical Engineering from the University of Notre Dame in South Bend IN. Her doctorate dissertation explored the feasibility of combining two environmentally benign chemicals, supercritical carbon dioxide and ionic liquids, as a novel reaction and separation scheme. This work led to over a dozen publications as well as national and international conference presentations.

Visit us online at HYPERLINK "<http://www.gdstem.org/>"[www.GDSTEM.org](http://www.GDSTEM.org)



Groton Dunstable Education Foundation, Inc.

Post Office Box 322

Groton, Massachusetts 01450

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

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**DECEMBER NEWS FROM GDEF**

- ...Fall Grants awards
- ...“Trivia Night for Education” Dec. 3
- ...Annual Giving Campaign kicks-off

The Groton Dunstable Education Foundation was pleased to receive 19 enrichment grant requests, totaling \$13,430 from all five district schools for its fall cycle which closed Nov. 6. The Board of Directors looks forward to announcing new grant awards during the week of December 7<sup>th</sup>. Be sure to check local papers, January school newsletters and GDEF’s website ([www.gdefinc.org](http://www.gdefinc.org)) for news of the grants that will benefit your child’s school.

To help fund future grants, please join GDEF for the next monthly **Trivia Night for Education** on **Thursday, December 3**, beginning at 7 p.m. at the Stagecoach Inn, Groton. These Trivia Nights are the only fundraising events GDEF has planned for this school year, and will supplement the cash donations to our upcoming Annual Giving Campaign. Please come out on December 3rd to show your support and enjoy a fun night of trivia to benefit our schools. Tickets are \$15 at the door, and doors open at 6:30 p.m. The evening will be hosted by a professional DJ and will feature four exciting rounds of written team trivia, special lightning rounds, as well as great prizes and light snacks.

GDEF will also be kicking off its **5th Annual Giving Campaign** in December with a mailing to past donors and event attendees, as well as backpack flyers home to school families. Thanks to the generous donations from school families and our communities, we've been able to fund between \$30,000 and \$40,000 in grants to all five district schools each year. GDEF needs your support to continue to fund great programs which enhance the education your children receive. We hope you'll give what you can to help us fund more of the vital grant requests we receive from teachers and staff each fall and spring. Please visit [www.gdefinc.org](http://www.gdefinc.org) to learn more or to make an online donation.

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## GDAY News

Volume 3

Issue 3

[www.g-day.org](http://www.g-day.org)



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### **G-Day at your finger tips --Visit G-DAY's new and improved website today!**

GDAY would like to take this opportunity to express its gratitude and thanks to Alice Anne Barbo who has served as president of GDAY for the last three years. Under Alice Anne's leadership, GDAY was able to strengthen community partnerships and expand the email list to nearly 250 families. Alice Anne will be moving to Paris this winter to accompany her husband, Bill, as he takes on new work challenges. GDAY will continue to be led by a steering committee consisting of school, parent and student representatives. Alice Lenhart has agreed to serve as temporary spokesperson until a new president is elected.

#### **Building Family –on a budget**

- Decision Making and Financial discipline are important life skills
- Shop One-on-One with your children. Encourage your children to participate in choosing gifts for loved ones during the holidays or for birthdays.
- Have your child create a Wish List. As you get closer to the holidays, have them narrow their choices to fit within the family budget.
- In these tough economic times, it is important we are honest with our children about financial difficulty. Don't worry them with details, but take the opportunity to explain that money doesn't just magically come out of the ATM. Invite them to be creative in coming up with ways to save money and to join you in making decisions that are within your means.



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

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 DECEMBER/JANUARY:** *All SpedPAC meetings and lectures are free and open to the public.*

#### **GD SpedPAC Business Meeting**

**DATE:** **Tuesday, December 15, 2009**

**PLACE:** Groton-Dunstable Middle School North, Library  
**TIME:** 7:00 pm – 8:30 pm

**“Anatomy of an IEP™”**

**Lori B. Tucker, Esq., Special Education Attorney**

**DATE:** Tuesday, January 14, 2010

**PLACE:** Groton-Dunstable Regional High School, Library (2<sup>nd</sup> Floor)

**TIME:** 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm

Whether you are a parent or guardian of a child who is currently on an Individualized Education Plan (IEP) or if you are in the process of obtaining an IEP for your child, then this workshop is a must for you! In this informative presentation, Ms. Tucker will educate us on all aspects of an IEP, helping us to become more effective advocates for our children. She will address all of the major components of an IEP including: members of the IEP Team and who needs to be at a Team meeting; the importance of a child’s eligibility determination; recording IEP meetings; the importance and value of writing a strong “Parent and/or Student Concerns” statement; the differences between PLEP A and PLEP B; accommodations vs. modifications; the importance of accurate present levels of performance; how to ensure that goals/objectives are clearly written and measurable; extended school year or extended day services; how to properly object to an IEP and the ramifications of an objection; and much more. There will be ample time for discussion and to ask Ms. Tucker questions. Remember, **Knowledge is Power!** Your child’s future is NOW. What are you waiting for?!

**GD SpedPAC Officer Contacts:**

Nancy Bugbee, President

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

978-448-9916

Maryanne Squeglia, VP & Treasurer

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

978-448-0670

Cyndy Premru, Secretary

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

978-448-9788

**Parent Liaison, Maryanne Squeglia**

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



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.

## Drop In Hours

Tuesday 10:00 – 11:30am\*  
Wednesday 12:30 – 1:30pm\*

*Other days and times – call for an appointment*

**TO:** The Groton and Dunstable Communities  
**FROM:** Dr. Alan D. Genovese, Superintendent  
**SUBJECT:** **Strategic Planning Public Forum** – December 10, 2009 @7:00pm, H. S. Black Box Theatre

All staff, parents and community members are cordially invited to attend a public forum to hear about the information collected from the Strategic Planning Focus Group meetings. The remaining steps in the Strategic Planning process will also be reviewed. Joining us will be Lyle Kirtman from Future Management Systems to facilitate this forum. This public forum will provide an opportunity for all stakeholders to offer feedback on what was heard at these focus group meetings and to provide additional insight.

**Dates: Thursday, December 10, 2009**

**Time: 7:00pm**

**Location: Black Box Theatre -Groton-Dunstable Regional High School 703 Chicopee Row, Groton**

*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 Kim Cochrane, Coordinator of Curriculum and Staff Development, Groton-Dunstable Regional School District, (978) 448-5505.*

PLEASE SUPPORT GDEF'S ONLY FUNDRAISING EVENT THIS YEAR! \*

# Groton Dunstable Education Foundation

*...Helping Our Students "Reach for the Stars"*

**presents**

**Thursday, December 3rd!**

**The Stage Coach Inn  
Main Street, Groton, Ma**

**7:00 - 9:00 pm  
(doors open at 6:30)  
\$15.00 at the Door!**

**cash or check**

**Snacks!**

**Teams!**

**Prizes!**



**trivia  
night**

**for education**



**Groton Dunstable Education Foundation**

Post Office Box 322 ♦ Groton, Massachusetts 01450 ♦ [www.gdefinc.org](http://www.gdefinc.org)

*The Groton-Dunstable Regional School District approves only the distribution of this material and does not assume any liability for programs contained herein.*

**MASSACHUSETTS AFL-CIO**  
**52<sup>nd</sup> ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION**

The scholarship exam will be given at the student's high school on  
Wednesday, February 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2010  
Please note that a student cannot receive more than two (2) awards for this program.

**Part I Student Information**

Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Male  Female   
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_  
Senior at: \_\_\_\_\_

**Part II Union Member Information**  
Only students that come from a union affiliation need to complete this section. If there is more than one affiliation, please list under "OTHER".

1. Member's Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Active  Retired   
Relationship to student applying (please  one)  
Self  Parent/Step-parent  Grandparent   
2. Union: \_\_\_\_\_ Local Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Union Tel.: \_\_\_\_\_

**OTHER**

3. Member's Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Active  Retired   
Relationship to student applying (please  one)  
Self  Parent/Step-parent  Grandparent   
4. Union: \_\_\_\_\_ Local Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Union Tel.: \_\_\_\_\_

**Part III Parent Information**

Mother's Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Father's Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**Applications can be mailed to MASS AFL-CIO, 389 Main Street, Suite 101, Malden, MA 02148  
Attention: Meghann Connolly, or Faxed to (781)-324-8225 by December 16, 2009.**

**Deadline to register: December 16, 2009**