

**GROTON-DUNSTABLE REGIONAL MIDDLE SCHOOL
PRINCIPAL'S NEWSLETTER
DECEMBER, 2008**



Dear Parents:

December is upon us and I am very proud of the work I'm seeing in our school. With the holidays upon us, it is easy to slide into a "coast low-down" mode but you will not see this at our middle school! I've had the pleasure of observing a great number of classrooms this first quarter and it has been a great experience to see some wonderful teaching and learning going on!

It is difficult to believe that our middle school students and staff can get more excited and enthusiastic; however, the holiday season seems to bring out even more excitement and enthusiasm in all of us. Middle school students still have that one foot in their childhood that brings out the joy in all of us. They exhibit an excitement that reminds us all of happy and positive times shared. Parents - enjoy your children. These years go by so quickly!

In the spirit of taking a moment to pause amidst the busy and exciting work that distinguishes our Middle School, I would like to simply reflect on the fact that we, as a school, have much to be proud of. This year there has been a lot of exciting things happening at the middle school. New programs have begun, clubs organized, and new curricula launched. Some of our new programs, just to name a few, are Peer Mediation, Destination Imagination, access to the Johns Hopkins Program and the AMC 8 competition test. Many of our students are engaged in a variety of activities that enhance their overall educational experience at the middle school, while encouraging them to strive to achieve and excel.

As we approach the fall/winter holidays, our students recognize that we need to take care of each other. Middle school students are the best when it comes to organizing charitable efforts! One such way is by taking part in our Project Mitten Fundraisers. I hope you will support this worthwhile endeavor as it will benefit many needy families.

This time of year gives me an opportunity to mention some of the other activities/events that take place at our school such as the School Council, monthly dances, Parent Shadow Day, National Education Week, Yearbook, Drumheads Club, Walking Club, Creative Kids Club, and Homework Club. Many of these things would not take place without the support and effort of my staff and faculty, members of the School Council, and MSPTO.

As 2008 closes, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you and express my appreciation to my faculty and staff for their dedication in educating our young adolescents. In addition, please know that your support, input and feedback are highly valued and appreciated.

I wish you and your family a happy holiday and a prosperous new year and look forward to our continued work together in 2009! I am enclosing a short story entitled, "Teddy." I believe it is fitting for the holiday season. I hope you enjoy it!

Sincerely,

Steven M. Silverman

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 Dr. Susan Rübél, Director of Curriculum and Staff Development, Groton-Dunstable Regional School District, (978) 448-5505.

CALENDAR

- December 2 Early Release Day – 11:30am
Parent/Student Conferences (by appointment) – 12:00-3:00pm and 6:30-8:00pm
- December 4 Early Release Day – 11:30am
Parent/Student Conferences (by appointment) – 12:00-3:00pm and 6:30-8:00pm
- December 5 Grade 5 Field Trip to Massachusetts State House – (Polaski/Stone/Cragg/Barton/Sawyer/Kilroy)
- December 8-9 Scoliosis Screening (All Grades)
- December 9 SpedPAC Lecture: Children’s Mental Health and Medication – 7:00-9:00pm – GDRHS Library
- December 9 School Council Meeting – 4:00pm – MS North C/R
- December 9 MSPTO Meeting – 5:30pm – MS North C/R
- December 12 Grade 5 Field Trip to Massachusetts State House – (Klock/Kieda/Cronin)
- December 12 Grade 7/8 Dance – 7:00-9:00pm – MS South Gym
- December 17 GDSTEM Meeting – 7:00-9:00pm – MS North Room 201
- December 17 SPEDPac Parent Coffee – 9:00-10:00am – MS North C/R
- December 19 2nd Quarter Mid-term Progress Reports
- December 24-31 Holiday Break – Vacation

LOOKING AHEAD

- January 1-2 Holiday Break – Vacation
- January 5 School Resumes
- January 5-8 Grade 5 Growth and Development Program
- January 13 School Council Meeting – 4:00pm – MS North C/R
- January 13 MSPTO Meeting – 5:30pm – MS North C/R
- January 13 Middle School Chorus Concert – 7:00pm – MS South PAC
- January 14 GDSTEM Meeting – 7:00-9:00pm - MS North Room 201
- January 15 Middle School Band Concert – 7:00pm – MS South PAC
- January 16 Curriculum ½ Day – Half-Day Dismissal – 11:30am
- January 19 No School – Martin Luther King Day
- January 23 Grade 6 Social – 2:30-4:30pm – MS South PAC
- January 23 Grade 7/8 Dance – 7:00-9:00pm – MS South Gym
- January 30 End of 2nd Quarter



NATIONAL GEOGRAPHY BEE

During the months of December and January we will be hosting our annual Geography Bee for all of our middle school students. The National Geography Bee is a nationwide contest for schools. The Geography Bee is designed to encourage the teaching and study of geography. There are three levels of competition: school, state, and national. The first-prize is a \$25,000 college scholarship. In addition, there are other prizes totaling \$100,000. To advance from the school to the state level, the winning student in each school must take a written, multiple-choice qualifying test. As many as a hundred of the highest-scoring students in a state or territory advance to the state level. The final winner from the state Bee advances to the national level. Students will be taking the Geography Bee during their scheduled Social Studies classes. The names of those students who advance to the state level will be published in the January newsletter. Good luck to all of our students!!

NATIONAL EDUCATION WEEK

Thank you to all of the parents who were able to take time out of their busy schedules to join their child(ren) for lunch during this week. Your presence reinforces the importance of school and home partnerships.

MATH FOCUS GROUP COMMITTEE

A committee comprised of parents and teachers will work with the Principal, Curriculum Director and Math Coordinator in evaluating the effectiveness of the Connected Math Program in preparing students for higher-level mathematics. In addition, the committee will revisit the criteria for recommending students for Pre-Algebra in Grade 7 and Algebra 1 in Grade 8.

We are looking for four (4) representative parents to serve on this committee. If you are interested in serving on this committee, please submit a letter of interest to Mr. Silverman no later than December 5th. Please give a brief explanation on how your participation will enhance the work of this committee. Meetings will take place at 3 PM at the middle school. Dates will be determined.

The committee's first task will be to create a survey that will be distributed to parents. This will give parents the opportunity to provide us with valuable feedback regarding this program.

ATTENDANCE

Parents are asked to please refer to the 2008-2009 Student/Parent handbook attendance policy if their child is going to be absent from school.

It is important for a student to be present in school on a daily basis to ensure continuous learning. Students should be home when they are ill; otherwise, all efforts should be made to have them in school. To the greatest extent possible, all appointments should be made before or after school, and recreational trips should be scheduled during school vacations. Regular attendance is necessary in order for students to achieve academic success. Time lost from class is very difficult to make up, particularly in terms of student interaction and exchange of ideas. Therefore, it is important to attend school regularly and to be absent or dismissed only for legitimate matters.

Absences with appropriate documentation, (i.e. a physician's note, legal documentation or a family emergency such as a funeral) will automatically be considered "excused" absences.

In accordance with Chapter 76 Section 2 of the General Laws of Massachusetts, if a child is absent for seven (7) days or 14 half days within any period of six months, the school is required to take appropriate action. This may include: a meeting with administration, a meeting with the School Resource Officer, and in some cases filing appropriate documentation with the Juvenile Court.

After seven (7) unexcused absences, a letter will be sent home indicating that medical/legal documentation will be required for any further absences from school. If you have any questions regarding the attendance policy, please contact one of the building administrators.

TEAM MANAGERS NEEDED!

I am pleased to announce that fifty students have signed up to participate in Destination ImagiNation. However, to date, we only have four parents who have volunteered to be Team Managers. We are looking for three - four more parent volunteers to assist us with this great program! We are allowed to have a maximum of 7 students per team. With seven Team Managers we would be able to accommodate all of those students who have shown interest in this program!

Parents who volunteer to be Team Managers would need to attend a one-day training session on Saturday, December 8th at the Pennichuck Middle School in Nashua, NH from 9:00 – 3:30 PM. The school will pay the registration fee of \$35.00. Once you have received this formal training, you would be assigned to work with a team of students that would meet one or two days a week from 2:30 – 4:00 PM or from 6:30 – 8:00 PM.

Destination ImagiNation is the world's largest non-profit, volunteer-driven organization devoted to helping kids gain practical life skills through interesting, entertaining and mind-boggling challenges.

Teams of up to seven students choose their challenge and work for months developing their solution. Volunteer team managers facilitate the group, but cannot give technical or other assistance. Kids are empowered to design, produce and present all of their own work. Teams present their solutions at regional and state tournaments, which demonstrates to teams that there are many ways to solve the same problem. High scoring teams may advance to the ultimate creativity showdown, Global Finals, held each May at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville.

If you are interested in becoming a Team Manager, please contact Mrs. Kim Duhamel at 978-448-8193 before December 3rd.

GRADE 8 WASHINGTON D.C. TRIP

Registration forms for the May 26 to May 29 trip to Washington D. C. have gone home to the families of each student in the eighth grade. While the registration deadline of Dec 1 may have passed, you can still register for this trip. Please call Capital Tours directly to let them know that you would still like to have your child registered. Capital Tours will make payment arrangements for your family. Your child must be registered for the trip by December 31, 2008 in order for you to be considered for a volunteer chaperone position on this trip. Starting around December 19, follow-up letters will go home in the Friday Folders of students who are registered for the trip. These follow-up letters will include request forms for parent chaperone volunteers as well as important medical forms, consent forms for prescription drug administration on the trip, and a behavior expectations contract. Once you have received these forms, please complete them and turn them in to the North Office at the Middle School as soon as possible. If you have any questions related to the medical needs of your child during the trip, please contact our school nurse, Kay Stidsen at 448-6155. Please send any other trip related questions directly to the Trip Coordinator, Mr. Snodgrass.

UPCOMING DANCES FOR GRADES 7 AND 8

The dance for grades 7 & 8 on Friday, November 14 was a success. D. J. Larry Falk played a great mix of dance music, party favorites and student requests to a crowd of over 250. Coming soon, DJ Greg has been lined up for our December 12 dance. As usual, the dance will run from 7 to 9 pm in the South Gym. The cost for these dances is \$5.00 at the door. No permission slips are required although attendance is taken for safety purposes. Only students in grade 7 & 8 from our school are allowed to attend. Please save these dates for future dances for grades 7 and 8: January 23, February 27 and March 27.

STUDENT COUNCIL

At our meeting on November 12, the Student Council held its annual presidential election. Congratulations to Jessica Cernack, grade 8 student and new Student Council President. Permission slips for Student Council members to work on the school store have gone home. We also ask once again for parent volunteers to work at the school store for one day each week during lunches in each building. Tuesday and Thursday lunches are the days that we would like to open the school store. Once we have identified the needed parent volunteers for each day, the school store should begin regular operation. If you are a parent that might be interested in volunteering for the school store, please contact the Student Council Advisor, Mr. Snodgrass.

SCHOOL STORE TO OPEN IN DECEMBER

Starting on Tuesday, December 9, the Student Council will re-open our school store during lunch periods every Tuesday and Thursday. Items for sale will include school supplies, pens, pencils, notebooks, folders, binders, index cards, and other small items needed for everyday activities. We are still looking for parent volunteers to volunteer their time to supervise these school store shifts on either Tuesday or Thursday during the lunch periods in each building. We hope to find one parent volunteer for each day in each building. Our ability to open the School Store and to keep it open will depend on finding these much needed parent volunteers. If you are available to volunteer your time, please contact Mr. Silverman or contact our Student Council Advisor, Mr. Snodgrass.

PAC (PARENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE)

Advocating For Your Child Through The Special Education Process

As required by state law, school districts are required to support and assist Special Education Parent Advisory Councils. PACS are a great way to meet with other parents and to keep informed with current issues in Special Education.

1. Know your rights.
2. Keep good records.
3. Prioritize the needs of your child.
4. Know/understand the role of the TEAM members.
5. Always bring someone with you to your meeting.
6. Familiarize yourself with the Team/business meeting protocol.
7. Follow up in writing.

Parents are encouraged to attend PAC meetings. Upcoming SpedPAC Business Meetings are scheduled for:

Tuesday, January 13, 2009

7:00 - 9:00 PM - Library, Groton-Dunstable Regional High School

Wednesday, March 11, 2009

1:15 – 2:45 PM - Library (North) Project Room, Groton-Dunstable Middle School

Wednesday, May 13, 2009

1:15 – 2:45 PM - Library (North) Project Room, Groton-Dunstable Middle School

Tuesday, June 9, 2009

7:00 – 9:00 PM – Library, Groton-Dunstable Regional High School

MATH AND LOGIC LEAGUE

Students in the Math and Logic League participated this month in the Continental Math League. Congratulations to those students for their willingness to be a part of a fabulous mathematics competition. Thank you to Mrs. Kieda and Mrs. Barton for leading this great group!

ELECTRONIC GIZMOS FROM CONCEPT TO CONSUMER

Olin Lathrop, Embed Inc
11 December 2008, Middle School North Team Meeting Room, Groton MA
Refreshments at 6:30pm, Presentation 7:00-9:00pm

Electronic gadgets that you can buy at Walmart don't just spontaneously pop into existence or come from little elves in a hollow tree. This talk describes the interesting and sometimes mundane and grimy process of how products go from ideas to store shelves or virtual web shelves. A small device designed specifically for this talk will be followed thru the process with samples given out. (Hint: these will be great for annoying your parents and siblings). The discussion will not only show what an electrical engineer does, but also how global and accessible the process is of producing electronic items has become, even in small quantities by individual entrepreneurs.

The talk is aimed at high school and advanced middle school students, and is free and open to the public. Olin will mention career opportunities and career paths in electrical engineering, and there will be time for open discussion.

Olin Lathrop received a BS in electrical engineering from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in 1978, a Master of Engineering in EE from Rensselaer in 1980, and has been designing electronics, firmware, and software ever since. He has worked for Hewlett Packard, Raster Technologies, Apollo Computer, Radianse Inc, and now owns his own consulting company, Embed Inc, in Littleton. Olin has been granted eight patents ranging from computer graphics to sports training equipment to indoor location systems to power conversion circuits, and wrote the introductory book "The Way Computer Graphics Works", published by John Wiley and Sons.

The GDSTEM_CORE mailing list is powered by L-Soft's renowned LISTSERV(R) list management software. For more information, go to: <http://www.lsoft.com/LISTSERV-powered.html>

GRADE-LEVEL SUPPORT TEAM REPORTS

5TH GRADE

Once again fifth grade students are forging ahead in their navigation of the fifth grade experience and are catching on to new strategies for success. As we begin the second term, it is a good time to remind students to replenish their school materials. We suggest keeping extra pencils, erasers, and white board markers in a large zip top bag in their lockers so they don't need to carry too many extras in their pencil bags.

This month all classes visited the Nashua Fish Hatchery in support of our Adopt a Salmon science program. Other current science topics include interdependent relationships in nature, properties of matter, and phases of the moon. In Social Studies, fifth graders are learning more about European explorers, and in Math we have finished studying place value and will practice addition and subtraction of whole numbers and decimals. The second quarter reading requirements for Language Arts are to read a biography of their choice, one historical fiction book set in Colonial America prior to the Revolution, and one other book of their choosing.

As cold season approaches, any donations to limit spreading germs would be greatly appreciated (tissues, hand sanitizer, wet wipes). Thank you!

6TH GRADE

In sixth grade math, students will begin their investigation of two-dimensional geometry with the book Shapes and Designs. Identifying polygons, estimating and measuring angles, tiling, and angle sums of polygons are the main topics covered. Geometry will be a nice change of pace after the introduction to fractions. If your child struggled with Bits and Pieces, be sure to have them continue to work with fractions at home. Remember, if you have any questions about how to help your child, visit the math link on the Middle School website.

In sixth grade Science, classes will continue with their study on Matter and Energy. Examining and experimenting with potential and kinetic energy will wrap up the unit. Then we will take a trip through our solar system. There will be an in depth study into all of the planets (including earth). Students should develop an understanding of the composition of each of the planets and their atmospheres as well as each of the planets moons.

All Language Arts classes have recently completed writing narrative pieces. Students focused on adding details and specific vocabulary within their writing. As second quarter begins, Language Arts students are continuing their in-depth analysis of literary elements with short stories and novels. While some classes are still working on the parts of the plot, others have begun learning about character traits and how character traits are revealed throughout a story.

As students continue studying the history of ancient civilizations, the study of the Stone Age has come to a close and the study of Ancient Mesopotamia has begun. Students will begin the unit by learning about the geography of Mesopotamia and continue with an in-depth study of the Mesopotamian people. Throughout the unit, the essential question of "What is a civilization?" is continually visited as students learn what made Mesopotamia one of the first civilizations in history.

7TH GRADE

Seventh graders have settled into their schedules, with recess 3x a week being a big hit. We are all wondering how often we will be able to go out when the cold weather hits, and as teachers we agree our students need this time to run, yell, and in general let out some energy.

We are asking students to look at themselves as learners as we get ready for student-led conferences next month. Students are asked, encouraged, and aided in setting down information in a forthright and honest manner. We believe strongly in the involvement of our students in the parent/teacher conference.

In the next few weeks 7th graders will be participating in a Read-a-Thon. Students commit to reading for a certain period of time with pledges from family and friends. This has traditionally been our largest fundraiser for Project Mitten; and students love the opportunity to relax and read!! Seventh graders also are permitted to buy raffle tickets for items donated by their team of teachers and team parents. Project Mitten helps children in the local area during the winter season. Our students are enthusiastic participants.

8TH GRADE

In Science, we have finished a unit on Earth Science and are beginning to study life science. We will begin with fossils and history of life on Earth. We will then study classification of living things. You can check homework on <http://gdms8.wikispaces.com>

Students in Math 8 have completed two units -- Number Sense and Thinking with Mathematical Models – and are now “Looking for Pythagorus.” By the date of this publication, students will have constructed Pythagoras’ Theorem for themselves. Pythagorean Theorem connects geometry and algebra; constructing and using it requires finding the area of shapes, finding/estimating and using square roots and irrational numbers, and calculating (vs. measuring) the length of line segments. We will be finishing this unit by Thanksgiving. The best learning tools for Math 8 are completing homework (to test and reinforce understanding of concepts discussed in class) and keeping an organized math binder (to refer back to when doing homework or studying for a quiz or test). Your support at home in these two areas is greatly appreciated. You can always check homework assignments on the web by visiting the Grade 8 Website at <http://gdms8.wikispaces.com>.

Students in Algebra are exploring how to graph linear equations, including finding the slope, rate of change, x- and y-intercepts, and relationships between lines on the graph including determining whether lines are parallel or perpendicular. Students are finding lines of best fit with scatter plot data, manually and with their graphing calculators.

In Language Arts students are continuing their study of science fiction, multi-genre writing, and self awareness. They will soon be researching mental challenges, reading the novella Flowers for Algernon and deepening their understanding of static and dynamic characters, as well as mood and tone. Various projects are assigned on their free-choice books which reinforce compound and complex sentence combining in their writing. Please be aware that most vocabulary and spelling is studied in context with the literature -- or thematic units -- and is ongoing all year. As the pace, length of writing and reading, and multi-step projects increase, it is very important students learn to organize themselves and meet due dates in order to be prepared for high school. Higher level thinking skills are accessed when they contemplate concepts such as theme or symbolism and they are encouraged to seek extra help as needed.

LOOK WHAT'S HAPPENING AT THE GROTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

Looking for something to do on a ½ Day?

The Groton Public Library is the place to be! From 11:30 – 3:00 PM on every Middle School ½ Day the library hosts the Llama Lounge. Bring your lunch and join your friends to play Wii games, board games, do a craft, go online on our laptops, enjoy some treats, listen to music, and get your homework done. This drop-in program is free and open to grades 5-8.

Anime & Manga Club Tuesday Nov. 25, 7:00-8:00 PM & Thursday Dec. 11, 7:00-8:00 PM for Grades 6 & up. Fans of Anime & Manga are getting together to talk about their favorites, draw, play games and watch anime. Refreshments will be served. Please register online @ gpl.org or phone 978-448-1167.

Hot Books! Hot Chocolate! Enjoy lively talk and some yummy treats at this monthly book discussion group for grades 6-8. Next meeting: Thurs. Dec. 4, 7:30-8:30 PM. We will be discussing “Elsewhere” by Gabrielle Zevin.

Questions? Call the library at 978-448-1167 or go online to gpl.org



MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Dr. Curtis Moody, Allergist/Immunologist Specialist will speak at the next meeting of the Groton Dunstable Food Allergy Support Team.

Dr. Moody's topic will be “Food Allergies and Anaphylaxis: How to Prevent and Handle Severe Allergic Reactions.”

The meeting will be held at the Middle School North Library starting at 7:00 p.m.

If you care for a child with an allergy or have an interest in this health topic please join us. All are welcome to attend.

The Groton Dunstable Food Allergy Support Team (FAST) is a group of parents dedicated to providing information and support to families coping with allergies, promoting allergy awareness in our school community, and working with the school district to ensure a safe environment for children with allergies.

For additional information please contact Co-Chairs, Alison Bailey or Lisa Chau at gdfast@yahoo.com



GD SpedPAC to Open *Parent Resource Center*

As part of the GD SpedPAC's goal to further develop outreach programs to the parents in our community, we will be moving into space at the Prescott School building in early December to set up an education resource library and meeting area. GD SpedPAC will use this centrally located space to hold our resource materials and to meet with parents on a scheduled and/or drop-in basis to help them navigate the special education process, learn about their child's disability or simply inquire about a child's academic or social struggles. The Center will be open to *all* parents and caregivers in the community who need access to educational resources, support, and guidance in the area of educating the "whole child." The GD SpedPAC is committed to helping *all* students achieve academic and social success in an emotionally supportive environment. Watch for upcoming announcements of an open house and events.

We thank Dr. Genovese and Cam Huston, PPS Director, for their advocacy and support of our pursuing our own space and thank the Groton-Dunstable School Committee for their supporting vote to provide school building space for the GD SpedPAC's outreach plan to District parents.

UPCOMING EVENTS IN DECEMBER:

LECTURE: CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH AND MEDICATION

This lecture is free and open to all!

Presenter: Dr. Jeffrey Bostic

DATE: Tuesday, December 9, 2008 TIME: 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm

PLACE: Groton Dunstable Regional High School Library

Dr. Bostic is Assistant Clinical Professor of Psychiatry at Harvard Medical School, Director of School Psychiatry at Massachusetts General Hospital, and Medical Director of the Massachusetts Child Psychiatry Access Project site at MGH. Dr. Bostic completed his MD, and his Doctorate in Education, at Texas Tech in Lubbock, Texas. He completed his Psychiatry Residency at Timberlawn Mental Health Systems in Dallas, Texas, and his Child Psychiatry Fellowship at MGH/McLean. Dr. Bostic has provided psychiatric consultation to school districts throughout the Northeast. In addition to his medical degree, Dr. Bostic has a doctorate in education with a specialization in curriculum. Dr. Bostic's research and clinical interests focus on mental health in school settings and partnering with primary care providers to deliver psychiatric care.

NEXT BUSINESS MEETING: *Evening Meeting*, Tuesday, January 13, 2009; 7:00 – 9:00 PM; Groton-Dunstable Regional High School Library. *All meetings are open to the public.*

For more information visit our website, www.gdspedpac.org.

Submitted by Melissa Sweeny, GD SpedPAC, President, msweeny@gdspedpac.org



The GDAY Good Newsletter

Volume 2

Issue 3

December 2008

Did you know....?

Michelle Hutchins, Becky Werner and Julie Sutherland-Platt are our newest GDAY Steering Committee Members! GDAY is pleased to welcome these terrific people to our board!

The GDAY Parent to Parent Network Fall book discussion was all about internet safety and on-line social networking? If you would like to have a meaningful discussion with your kids about internet safety, consider using our Family Internet Usage Contract as a conversation starter. Visit our website www.g-day.org and look for Family Internet Contract for your downloadable copy!

The Community Service Initiative (CSI) is up and running! Are you looking for a community service project to help....do you need student volunteers for your programs and projects? The holidays offer so many opportunities to reach out and help our neighbors in Groton and Dunstable. Check out CSI by visiting the GDAY homepage or contacting Nicole or Danny at Service@g-day.org

Our Next GDAY Steering Committee Meeting is January 7, 2009 from 7-8:30pm in the GDRMS North Library.

Building Family and Saving \$\$!

- ✓ **Get to know your children's friends. Invite them over for a movie and dinner. Pull the table up toward the TV and pretend you're at CHUNKY's.**
- ✓ **Schedule one-on-one time with each of your children every month. Go sledding, ice-skating, or bowling!**
- ✓ **Foster adult role models in your children's lives. Play games with other families and mix teams of adults and children from different families.**
- ✓ **Have everyone in your family create a Winter Wish list. Include activities or places you want to visit. See how many items you can check off by the end of winter!**

The Groton-Dunstable Alliance for Youth is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. All of our programs are free and open to the public and rely upon the generosity of our Friends of GDAY and community members like you. As we approach the end of 2008, please consider making a charitable donation to GDAY and become one of our awesome Friends of GDAY. Each \$5 contribution for a Friend/Family membership or \$10 for a Business Friend affords you monthly GDAY updates, early bird offers for special events and access to all our wonderful community programs. Sign up today for your Friends of GDAY membership and give a "Friends of GDAY" membership to principals, teachers, neighbors and friends as a holiday gift...building up our Community that Cares! We will send a GDAY holiday card acknowledging your thoughtful gift.

Name of Gift Member Recipient:

Address:

Name of Donor:

Address:

Make checks payable to GDAY and mail your membership request to GDAY PO Box 328 Groton, MA 01450.