

# NEWS Bites

Hello Groton–Dunstable Families. Next week will be our sixth week of school! Wow! As educators, we mark the First Six Weeks of School as a milestone. We think about this as the time when many routines and structures have been introduced and our learning communities are off and running. While we may need to be more explicit and particular about how we are doing that this year, we are still very much placing our emphasis there. TAKE A LOOK:



These Pinwheels are VERY GOOD NEWS! This community garden was planted outside of Florence Roche yesterday. The pinwheels have first graders names and adjectives that describe first graders and how they are part of all different kinds of communities. At home learners came to be part of this activity too. It was powerful to see them blowing in the wind and even more powerful to see the smiles on first grade faces. They have all headed home to find a special space in their family communities and pictures of the flowers at home will come back to mark this special day in a slide show. Thank you for my GLOW this week first grade!

[Update from Dr. Chesson on Reopening.](#)  
October 21

[News Bites Archives:](#) Archives of all issues.

[Your Health and Safety:](#) Link to how we are keeping all learners and staff safe.

[PARENTS FLOW CHART FOR NOTIFICATION OF ILLNESS](#)

### **Travel Protocol for Staff and Students in Groton Dunstable**

The travel protocol for staff and students in Groton Dunstable will be as follows:

- ★ Any staff or student that is traveling outside of the Massachusetts approved states will need to either quarantine for 14 days upon return or produce a negative covid test
- ★ Proof of negative covid test would need to be given to the school nurse

### **Building Relationships with Adults**

Building relationships with our children/students is one of the best things that we can do to increase that engagement and motivation we talked about last week. During the first six weeks of school, it is something that we talk about quite a bit and it does not stop there. Children learn from people who they know champion their efforts and their work. They work hard for adults that help them to feel significant, seen and that they belong. They also like to have fun too. In addition to my VLOG, I wanted to include one of my favorite TED Talks by Rita Pearson.

[Rita Pierson: Every kid needs a champion | TED Talk](#)



This week you will find Story Time with Mrs. D I have done this one other time for the teachers this year and it was very popular. I want to share this one with you because it captures the importance of relationships between children and adults. I hope you enjoy

[MABEL ONE and ONLY](#)

[Mrs. D VLOGS ARCHIVE](#)

[SURVEY for vlog ideas](#) I am leaving this up for one more week in case you need more time!

Have a Wonderful Weekend! Kristin and Laura

