

## Straight from the Gecko ~ March 11, 2021

Did you see this in yesterday's Reformer?  
Our school is on the verge of getting pumped up about this year's Tulip Trot event! Be sure to register for free. It's "Virtual!"!

**Tulip Trot tradition continues in altered form**

Tradition, community, and creativity are driving forces behind this year's 5th annual Tulip Trot event at Green Street School in May.

Since May of 2019, the Green Street School has held this annual 5K event that incorporates family, fitness, fun and community. It has been the school's primary fundraising event for over a decade, with a rotating group of parents and staff leading the group. Last year, the event was postponed due to the pandemic, but the school and its organizers are excited to bring it back in a virtual format.

This year's Tulip Trot is a virtual 5K cabaret mash-up. The event will feature a variety of activities, including a virtual 5K walk or run, a virtual cabaret performance, and a virtual musical. The event will be held on the school's YouTube channel.

Registration for the event is now open. The registration fee is \$5.00. The registration fee includes a virtual 5K walk or run, a virtual cabaret performance, and a virtual musical. The registration fee also includes a virtual 5K walk or run, a virtual cabaret performance, and a virtual musical.

Sign up to Walk or Run with your family and keep our tradition strong! This year's Tulip Trot is a 4-week commitment, with a Virtual Celebration at the end!

You can read the text of this article, below.

**Mar. 11, 2021**

## Green Street School News

164 Green Street  
Brattleboro, VT 05301  
802-254-3737

[greenstreetschoolvt.com](http://greenstreetschoolvt.com)

*We support each student's intellectual, physical, social and emotional development through meaningful, challenging experiences. We foster healthy relationships which create a safe and caring environment that will sustain lifelong learners, creative thinkers and responsible citizens.*

**Dates to Remember**

**Friday, March 12th:**  
Tulip Trot Registration Begins  
Tulip Trot T-Shirt order store opens  
It's all online and easy! [Click here!](#)

**Wednesday, March 17th:**  
[Zoom School Sing at 9:30 a.m.](#)  
(That's ↑ the link)

**Monday, March 15th**  
Veggie Vango at BUHS 10-11am

**Friday, March 19th**  
Tulip Trot Registration Closes  
(The t-shirt store stays open through March 31st)

**Friday, March 26th**  
Early Release Day at 11:30

**Monday, March 29th**  
Early Release Day at 11:30

**HEADS UP**

## DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME STARTS SOON!

**SUNDAY MARCH 14TH**

Have you checked out the [Green Street School Website](#) lately? [Greenstreetschoolvt.com](http://Greenstreetschoolvt.com)

And are we friends on Facebook?

If your Green Street School student is doing something awesome, send us a pic, because we'd love to post it, if you like!



**Parenting 4 Social Justice: Tips, Tools and Inspiration for Conversation & Action with Kids** is coming out in March 2021. Green Street School parent Abi Healey is a co-author of this book (along with many other talented and amazing people). It's a practical guide to raising and educating children with social justice in mind, and especially meant to be used in groups that can study it and learn together as a community of practice. You can learn more, and pre-order the book here: [Parenting 4 Social Justice](#). If you would like to do more to support the publicity of this endeavor, you can:

1. Pre-order the book on the website. Order a copy for a friend too!
2. Send an email to your contacts about the book or you could make a social media post.
3. Go to the FB page and like and comment on posts.

# PARENTING 4 SOCIAL JUSTICE

Angela Berkfield with co-authors Chrissy Colón Bradt, Leila Raven, Jaimie Lynn Kessell, Rowan Parker and Abigail Healey



## Kids Club at Retreat Farm Spring Session Begins April 5

Now that school is back to a more regular schedule, are you looking for afterschool care?

The Boys & Girls Club Brattleboro licensed afterschool program operates at Retreat Farm with access to the trails, gardens, and forest.

**This is a fully outdoor program**

Grades K-5 – no older than 11  
Monday-Friday from 2:30pm-5:30pm  
\$125 per week. Accepts Vermont Childcare Subsidy  
Transportation available from Brattleboro elementary schools

**Only 30 Spots Available For Spring Register Today**

The Boys & Girls Club is expanding offerings for outdoor afterschool programs operating at the Retreat Farm.

Starting April 5, the program expands to 30 slots and moves mostly outdoors.

\$125/week, operating Monday-Friday 2:30-5:30. Fully licensed, accept Vermont child care subsidy, and offer transportation from the elementary schools via our vans.

<https://bgcbrattleboro.org/after-school-care/>  
Renee Woliver, Unit Director  
Boys & Girls Club of Brattleboro  
802.254.5990 <https://bgcbrattleboro.org/>

### LEADERSHIP COUNCIL / PTO

This group meets monthly on the

**1st Monday of the month  
at 6:00pm,**

and YOU are invited to join any or all meetings!



**JOIN US Next Time!**

**MONDAY, APRIL 5TH AT 6PM VIA ZOOM**

Can't make it? The minutes of the meeting are available to view on our website. Here's the link!

[GSS Leadership Council/PTO](#)

### School Board Meetings

**Would you like to receive notices about school board meetings? Superintendent Andy Skarzynski invites you to sign up for that.**

Please complete this WSESD School Board Meeting Notification Survey [here](#) in order to receive emails alerting you of a WSESD Board or Committee meeting. Our families and community members are always invited to attend School Board Meetings.

Meeting agendas and minutes can always be found at <https://www.wsesu.org/school-boards.html>

## Tulip Trot tradition continues in altered form

**BRATTLEBORO** — Tradition, commitment and creativity are driving forces behind this year's 9th annual Tulip Trot event at Green Street School in May.

Since May of 2013, the Green Street School has held this annual 5K event that incorporates family, fitness, fun and community. It has been the school's primary fundraiser each year, organized by a revolving group of parents and staff, and has grown into a widely known and anticipated annual event. Last year, due to the pandemic, the event turned virtual, and organizers say its heartwarming success lives on: a video montage of Green Street School families and staff, set to music, can be viewed at [www.tuliptrot5k.com](http://www.tuliptrot5k.com). Enter the 2020-21 school year. Students are enrolled in either fully remote or hybrid learning platforms. Teachers are engaged in intense training with online educational modules, and working in overdrive, to meet the needs of all students. Students are missing friends, traditions, and rights of passage in many of their usual settings. Parents are managing at-home learning, work, and family health. It's been a challenge for everyone, in at least one way or another. Maintaining a sense of community and tradition at school hasn't necessarily been a top priority. Could the school pull off another virtual 5K event? Would it be possible, given the demands on families, this year?

Under COVID conditions, the Green Street parent-teacher organization worried that maintaining a sense of community would be a tremendous challenge. The PTO met (on Zoom) early in the year, and pondered how to best support the students, and to build community, when being together physically as a community is not possible. There can be no traditional Tulip Trot 5K, no craft fairs, no bingo nights, no community breakfasts, no winter sports, no after-school programs, and no school musical.

One concept the team landed on was another round of a Virtual Tulip Trot 5K event. But, how to make it fresh and new, in a way that would capture the engagement of families and students, while not overtaxing the emotional resources of overworked and stressed out members of the school community?

How about blending multiple traditions into one virtual experience?

So the PTO is endorsing a concept that will incorporate small parts of several school traditions. This year, one simplified version of an amalgamation of events will be called: "Tulip Trot, The Musical, a Virtual 5K Cabaret Mash-up."

Families will be able to sign up electronically for their commitment to

outdoor runs or walks, keeping track of their healthy efforts on a Tulip Trot chart. And Green Street students in grades 4-6 will rehearse a unique and humorous play on Zoom, which will be recorded and merged with a photo/video montage of outdoor activity images submitted by families. The final product will be hosted live on Zoom by the student cast, with a link to a final video. The live Zoom event will take place on Saturday, May 1, when the Tulip Trot 5K normally would have occurred.

Local businesses will be given an opportunity to purchase "advertisements" in 10-second video snippets, which will be edited into the final video product, therefore maintaining a fundraising goal as well as a wider community support system for the annual Tulip Trot effort.

Thus, the 9th Annual Tulip Trot is expected to thrive again this year, as a community event that supports the students of Green Street School.



**Runners take off at the start of the 2016 Tulip Trot 5k road race in Brattleboro. PROVIDED PHOTO**