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September 1, 2010

Dear Grattan Family - To our new families, welcome; to our returning families, welcome back.

We enter this new school year with a feeling of great joy. As many of you know, we had several teachers and staff who were handed pink slips at the end of the last school year. However, with additional funding from the state and an unprecedented fundraising effort by our community, we have moved forward in 2010/11 with our family intact. We did it!

We trust that by the time you read this letter, classes are in full swing, kindergarteners are thriving in their new environment, and throughout the school our kids are filled with excitement for a world that is opened up to them by their dedicated teachers.

As you know, funding for public education is at its lowest point in many years. The educational opportunities offered at Grattan School go well beyond, and cost significantly more, than the barebones program offered by the state. To maintain the quality and depth of our programs, we are in need of everyone's commitment.

Our priorities -

As a community, we have put our full support behind important school-wide programs such as our computer lab, gardening and environmental education, physical education, storytelling, music, art, and dance instruction. We value the Learning Support Specialist, a position that is critical to closing the achievement gap. For the past several years, we rallied as a community and stretched our budgets to fund reduced class sizes in the 4th and 5th grades, which enables our teachers to form stronger relationships with our students and their families. We are dedicated to reducing the achievement gap and ensuring that every child succeeds and thrives. Fulfilling our commitment to these priorities touches the lives of every student at Grattan and is important to all of us. They help define who we are as a school and as a community. Your support is crucial to Grattan.

What we need -

Together, we must raise at least \$175,000 to maintain our programs from now through the 2011/2012 school year. Our hope is to raise the majority of these needed funds through this campaign. We cannot do it without the support and commitment of every member of our Grattan Family. Please take a moment to reflect on the quality of education and the breadth of activities your child receives from our school, and then consider what you can do to help.

You can make a pledge for the year -

Please consider making a \$300-\$500 donation. We know that not everyone can afford this amount. Last year, we received donations that ranged from \$5 to \$7,200. Any amount helps our shared cause. If you would prefer to pledge a monthly amount, \$45 per month through May would contribute \$315, and \$70 per month would contribute \$490. In addition, if your company or business has a "matching gift" program, in many cases, it could double your gift to Grattan. For direct donations such as this letter campaign, 100% of your gift is tax deductible.

Our goal -

In 2008/09 we had 23% participation, in 2009/10 it was 50%, and this year we seek 100% participation toward **our main fundraising appeal for this year**. It is our hope that every Grattan family can make a donation or pledge. There is no "right size"—no matter how large or small, every contribution is deeply appreciated and helps us meet our goal of funding these important programs at Grattan. Find the right gift for your family. We are so grateful to you all. Thank you.

On behalf of the children, the teachers, the staff, and the parents, thank you for your consideration.

Together we are the Grattan Family—together we can make a difference.

Sincerely, Kim Ferguson, PTA President

Jean Robertson, Principal



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Donation Form

Donation by Check:

Please make your check payable to *Grattan PTA*. Please drop off the front office, or mail your donation/pledge to the address above. *Please* do not mail cash.

Credit Card/Online Donation/Paypal:

To make your one time or reoccurring donation please visit www.grattanschool.org, click on the **Donate Now** button or the **Giving** tab.

Please consider making a pledge for the year:

There are options for automatic monthly donations if you prefer to pledge through our **Continuing Support Program**. Click on "Continuing Support" after selecting the "Donate Now" button.

Your donation is tax deductible to the extent allowed by law. Grattan PTA will send you an acknowledgement letter that can be used as a receipt for tax purposes.

Please return this portion of the form with your donation

Grattan School PTA Annual Campaign 2010/2011

Donor Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Child(ren) and Classroom(s) _____

I wish to make a tax deductible donation of \$ _____ Check Credit Card

I wish to pledge \$ _____ for the year. I will set-up a recurring payment by:

Check Online Charge

My employer has a matching gift program; Employer name: _____

Credit Card:

For a one time or reoccurring donation please visit www.grattanschool.org, click on the **Donate Now** button or the **Giving** tab.

Thank you for your donation – Together we are making a difference.