



May 6, 2021

Dear Neighbors,

I hope that all is well in your households and that you share our excitement about vaccines rolling out and restrictions beginning to loosen around us. As a follow-up to our neighborhood Zoom call in February, I thought it would be appropriate to update you on our thinking about campus access in the future, as well as a few other relevant items. I am excited to announce that, after our graduation, we will reopen our campus for neighborhood use. Beginning on June 7, you are welcome to return to our fields, but we ask for your partnership in attending to the parameters outlined in this letter to ensure a smooth and positive transition.

With the reopening of our campus to our neighborhood friends, we ask that you limit your use of our campus to our athletic fields and track only. During the summer, please note that our campus will not be accessible while our outdoor summer camps are in session. The Sports Camps will run from June 28 through August 6 from 8:45 am to 4:00 pm during the week with substantial activity on our fields. As was mentioned in our Zoom call, for safety purposes, we are unable to open the Academic side of our campus as a public walking path at any time, including through the Chapel Lawn. During the school year, our students also practice on our fields and track from approximately 1:30 pm to 5:30 pm in the fall and spring, so there should be no neighborhood use on our campus during these times. This is especially true in regard to our track as we will have teams utilizing this space in significant numbers. Weekend use of our fields is welcomed as long as there are no Belmont Hill games and competitions taking place. Finally, while the school year is in session, it will be critical that we do not have neighbors using any of our parking lots on campus until 6:00 pm. Any parking before that time displaces student and faculty parking and leads to neighborhood overflow. In connection to this challenge, there will no longer be an entrance to the Mass Audubon Habitat via our track, as this has led to our parking facility becoming something of a satellite lot for Habitat. Access to the Habitat for walkers via Tyler Road will remain available, and we know this is of great value to the neighborhood.

We continue to welcome dogs on our campus as well but ask that you come prepared to clean up after them as needed. We also request that you please keep dogs on leashes while you visit and keep them off our synthetic turf fields. As was explained during the Zoom, we are working hard to balance our desire to be a good neighbor with some basic boundaries for campus safety. We have also consulted with the Belmont Public Schools to compare our approach with what is generally expected in town.

I would also like to share with you that Belmont Hill is continuing our work connected to long term planning for our properties. Over the next few months, we will be undertaking studies including analysis of wetlands, subsurface testing, and traffic counts. Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any questions regarding this work or want to share your comments at [greg\\_schneider@belmonthill.org](mailto:greg_schneider@belmonthill.org). We look forward to coming together in person in the late fall as we did before the pandemic so that we can have additional dialogue. Elton Matos ([matos@belmonthill.org](mailto:matos@belmonthill.org)) remains an excellent contact person if you have any logistical questions related to our campus. Also, moving forward, we will post information on our Neighbors Website available at [www.belmonthill.org/neighbors](http://www.belmonthill.org/neighbors). In the interim, I hope that the improved weather of spring brings new energy in your households; we look forward to seeing you back on campus in the very near future.

Sincerely yours,

Gregory J. Schneider

*Ronald M. Druker '62 Head of School*