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Dear Dartmouth School Community,

I hope you are all enjoying a wonderful summer vacation. As we prepare for the 2025-2026 academic year, I am pleased to welcome each of you back to our learning community. The beginning of a new school year brings renewed energy, hope, and the promise of new opportunities for our students, staff, and families.

I look forward to seeing everyone at our annual meeting on Monday, August 25th, in the high school auditorium. We will have pastries and coffee available in the cafeteria from 7:30 a.m. to 8:00 a.m., followed by an 8:00 a.m. DEA meeting. Convocation will commence at 8:30 a.m., where we will welcome back all staff and recognize our new members. We will also share updates on our progress and hear from Bess Coughlin, the Chair of the Dartmouth School Committee. Following this, we will ask that you return to your buildings to prepare for the welcome back of students, which remains our most important responsibility.

Moving Forward Together

I would like to express my gratitude for the successful completion of our contract settlements together at the close of the last school year. These agreements reflect our shared commitment to supporting the professionals who make a difference in our students' lives every day. I am grateful for the collaboration and patience shown by all parties throughout these discussions, and I appreciate how we worked together to achieve our shared goal of supporting our students and district.

With these agreements in place, we can begin this school year with our full attention focused on what matters most—providing outstanding educational experiences for our students.

Building on Our Strategic Foundation

As we enter our second year implementing our strategic plan, I am energized by the progress we have made and the momentum we are building. Our strategic plan continues to guide our district's efforts across four essential areas that define our commitment to excellence.

Teaching and Learning: We remain steadfast in our commitment to ensuring every student receives an exceptional education. This year, we are expanding our professional development initiatives, implementing new instructional technologies, and creating additional opportunities for collaborative learning among our educators. Our goal is to maintain the innovative and supportive learning environments that challenge every student to reach their full potential.

Safe and Supportive Schools: The safety and well-being of our students remain our top priority. We have enhanced our safety protocols, expanded our mental health and wellness resources, and strengthened our programs that promote inclusion and belonging. Every student deserves to feel secure, valued, and supported in their educational journey.

Family and Community Engagement: The strength of our school community lies in the partnerships we build with families and our broader community. This year, we are launching new initiatives to increase family involvement, improve communication channels, and create more opportunities for meaningful collaboration. Your engagement and support are essential to our students' success.

Budget and Capital Improvement: Through careful financial stewardship and strategic planning, we continue to invest in the resources and facilities that support outstanding education. Our ongoing capital improvement projects and budget optimization efforts ensure that our schools remain modern, well-equipped, and ready to meet the evolving needs of our learning community.

Looking Ahead with Gratitude and Determination

As we begin this new chapter together, I want to express my heartfelt appreciation for each member of our school community. To our educators and staff: thank you for your unwavering dedication and the passion you bring to your work every day. To our families: thank you for your partnership, trust, and continued support. To our students: thank you for inspiring us with your curiosity, resilience, and potential.

I encourage everyone to stay engaged, contribute their unique strengths, and support one another as we work together to make the 2025-2026 school year an exceptional one. With our renewed agreements in place and our strategic vision guiding us forward, we anticipate our best year yet.

Warm regards,

Jane Fata-Maguire