



Dear Families,

I hope that everyone had a wonderful summer and enjoyed some family time together. As August hits, all signs lead back to school. We eagerly await everyone's arrival back to campus and look forward to a great school year.

We have had many changes over the summer! There have been several classroom moves. Most notably, Unit I is now downstairs, and Unit III has moved upstairs. This has allowed us to also move Sr. Krauss' Spanish class to the main floor. Our music classroom is now located in the old science room in Faran Hall, and Mrs. Davis' room is now located on the main floor by the stairs.

Due to demand, we have added an additional two-year-old program, which will allow us to offer a three day and five day program for our two year olds. We have hired Molly Franz as the teacher in the five-day program. Courtney Lemay, who will be the classroom assistant, will join her.

We have two additional new members to our staff this year. Our school nurse, Terry Betts, retired at the end of last year and we are welcoming Carolyn Vincze, who brings a wealth of health care experience as our new nurse. Dominick Harney will be joining us as our new chef. Dominick has more than 20 years of professional cooking experience, working in several restaurants and schools throughout his career.

Both Julie Guminey and Jo Schnirring are moving into new positions. Julie will be joining the Unit II team and Jo will be our new Librarian. Finally, alongside her PE role, we welcome Marty Gerhardt to the Unit III team where she will join them for math instruction. Marty holds a math degree and will be an asset to the team.

Student teaching is an important aspect of becoming a teacher and we have partnered with UC and welcome two student teachers. Our teachers are incredibly skilled and through this partnership, can influence the teaching practice of aspiring teachers. Our teachers are also able to learn from these young teachers as they are in the midst of learning about new research and trends in education. It truly is a partnership. Monica Borzillo will be working with Amy Kulhavik and Moriah Tome will be working with Sherri Linville and Joan Claybourn.

As if that was not enough for us to keep track of, we also have had renovation work done on the campus over the summer. Haile Hall has been completely repainted and new flooring has been laid in the hallways and classrooms. It gives the building a whole new look! In Jones Hall we are getting ready to tackle the retiling of the bathrooms.

At the start of this year we will have some safety changes in place. While some might seem inconvenient, they are important for ensuring the safety of the school. When visiting the campus (outside of drop off and pick up) you must first come to the office and sign in. This is very important. Once you have signed in you will be given a visitor badge.

A name sign will be sent home to each family at the beginning of the year. This should be placed on the passenger's side dash of your car when you are on campus. This will allow us to easily recognize vehicles that belong to our families and unknown vehicles. If you send someone else to campus make certain that they have the car sign. Thank you in advance for your adherence to these important safety measures.

All of this work is done in preparation for the first day of school on Tuesday, August 20. As we get closer to the start of school you will want to add these dates to your calendar (please note that the first is before the start of school):

- Sunday, Aug. 18 New Student Welcome 12:30 – 1:00
[PC \(formerly PA\) Summer Social](#) 1:00 – 3:00
- Tuesday, Aug. 20 First Day of school
Parent Coffee 8:30 a.m.
- Thursday, Aug. 22 [Parent Night](#) 6:30 p.m.
- Friday, Aug. 23 [Student Picture Day](#)
- Friday, Aug. 30 Parent Community Meeting 8:30 a.m.

PK and K information will be sent out in separate mailing

You will receive a lot of paperwork at the beginning of the year, starting with this email. It is important that you carefully read the enclosed materials and return any requested paperwork. You can also find this information on my.7hills.org, by clicking My Seven Hills (on the top right) and then clicking Doherty under Stinger Central. For your ease we have linked several important pieces here:

[Head of School Welcome Back Letter](#)
[Parent Community Council Doherty Chair Letter](#)
[Parent Community Council Letter](#)
[Parent Community Volunteer Positions](#)
[New Faces, New Places](#)
[Food Service Information](#)
[Drop Off/Pick Up](#) and [Traffic Flow Map](#)
[Master Calendar](#)
[Enrichment Sign Up](#)
[After the Bell](#)
[FAQs](#)

We look forward to seeing our returning families and are excited to meet our new families!

Enjoy the rest of your summer.

My Best,
Tracy Murch
Lower School Head, Doherty

