

## **Dartmouth Public Schools**

## Office of the Superintendent

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June Saba-Maguire, Ed. D. Superintendent of Schools October 30, 2023

James A. Kiely, M.B.A. Assistant Superintendent of Finance and Operations

Dear Dartmouth Public Schools Community,

I hope you have all enjoyed a positive start to the 2023-2024 school year. As you may be aware, the Dartmouth community has received many newcomer families in the past few weeks. As a result, we want to share with you that the schools have welcomed many students joining our school community.

In the Dartmouth Public Schools, we hold inclusivity and diversity in high regard. The placement of families within the District allows us to reaffirm our commitment to these values and extend a warm welcome to our new members. We firmly believe that diversity is a source of strength; and, together, we will create a nurturing environment where everyone feels valued, respected, and supported.

Our new families and their children will likely face distinct challenges adapting to a new community and educational system. Here are some ways in which each one of us can contribute to making this transition as smooth and positive as possible:

- Warm Welcome: Extend a warm and friendly welcome to our new students and their families. A smile and a kind gesture can go a long way in helping them feel at ease in our community.
- Cultural Appreciation: Take the time to learn about and appreciate the diverse cultures represented in our schools. Understanding different backgrounds is a fundamental step toward building empathy and respect.
- Language Support: Many new students may be learning English as a second language. Please be patient, offer your assistance, and make them aware of the support resources available at our schools.
- Inclusive Friendships: Encourage our existing students to reach out and befriend their new classmates. True friendships can be a source of support and comfort for students adjusting to a new environment.
- Supportive Network: If you are in a position to do so, please offer your assistance to newcomer families in navigating our school system and accessing local resources.

Be assured we are working closely with State and local officials to best meet the needs of our new students while at the same time ensuring that we advocate for the financial and human capital resources required to continue to support all students attending Dartmouth Schools.

Thank you for your continued support and cooperation. There are caring, compassionate staff in the Dartmouth Schools. I have witnessed firsthand the welcoming environment they have created in their schools and classrooms. Together, we can ensure that Dartmouth Public Schools remains a place where every student can thrive and flourish, inclusive of their background.

June Saba-Maguire

"Quality Education for All Learners"

The Dartmouth Public Schools, in partnership with parents and the community, will deliver challenging, standards-based instruction for all students that fosters academic, physical, social and emotional development. Utilizing data analysis to drive instruction, we will implement specific strategies to support every student to think critically, solve problems and become a responsible, contributing citizen. Our high school graduates will possess the required skills and knowledge necessary to thrive in their academic and vocational ambitions.