



June 9, 2021

End of the 2020-2021 School Year

Dear Northwood Community:

What a year! We thank you for your ongoing trust, cooperation, commitment, and effort in bringing our 2020-2021 school year to a safe and successful close.

Tomorrow we celebrate our eighth grade graduates in a closing ceremony and marvel as we send them off to over 28 different high schools next year! We also hold high our newest bulldogs- our kindergartners who had the most unique first year experience. To all of our students in between- we see you too and applaud you for your resilience and ability to make the most of this pandemic year.. What troopers you all have been!

I'd also like to recognize the entire staff at Northwood for their incredible ability and effort to make this past year as safe, seamless, and as meaningful as possible. The decisions this year were some of the toughest we have ever faced but were made with our students in mind. To that end, the staff rallied together and stood tall to serve our community as the committed educational professionals they truly are.

This summer we will be hosting our Summer Bridge program to many students and we look forward to other additional resources and opportunities that we will carry into our future plans in the Fall. We have most certainly learned many new approaches this year which we can incorporate into our program going forth.

We wanted to let our families know that it is our **current plan to open fully in the Fall, with all students coming to school in-person 5 days a week**. The decision was made given that transmission rates are low and are declining in Philadelphia, restrictions are relaxing, there is an increase in the number of people getting vaccinated and young people as young as 12 are eligible for vaccinations. We are excited to come back to school in full this Fall.

We will continue to regard the health and safety of our students, teachers, and staff as our highest priority. As new information is continuously communicated by government officials and the Department of Education, **we plan to make final announcements about all of the details of our return to school in late July**. This will include details such as social distancing guidelines, whether masks will be mandated, among other details.

Please see our final school year Bulldog Blast for more information, including our school calendar and end of year directives. We will share more information over the summer as it becomes available.

As always, together we are stronger.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Amy Hollister". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "A" and a long, sweeping underline.

Mrs. Amy Hollister

CEO