



*Arnold B. Shorey
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Dear Parents/Guardians/Students,

We have reached the end of the year and I wanted to share information for a successful close, share some important dates, and plans for next year. I am very proud of the students and grateful for the community support.

School issued material can be returned to the Academy anytime now if the students have completed their courses. During next week, June 8th-12th, between 8 am and 4 pm, the materials can be returned by placing them in the container outside the gym lobby door. If you use this method please make sure the material is labeled with the student's name. You can also "buzz" the door and Mrs. Smith will let you in and you can place the material on the table in the lobby. If you are unable to return the material, please contact Mrs. Smith and she will make arrangements for the material to be picked up.

Final Assembly will take place this Friday, June 5th, at 1:30 pm. We are using Zoom so that we can show everyone the senior slideshow. Also, seniors will be "willing gifts" as per tradition to undergrads. I have invited all students and staff and encourage you all to attend so that we honor our seniors who have lost the most during this pandemic. Speaking of seniors, your Senior Tea will take place on Thursday, June 11th, at 1:45 pm on campus on the front lawn and the east lawn, ensuring no group will exceed the size of fifty. Ames through LaChance will start at the front lawn site and Lemon through Willey will start at the east lawn site. There will be an exchange so that seniors will be able to see all of their classmates. Graduation, weather permitting, will take place on Saturday, June 27th, at 7 pm, and I am still in hopes that it will take place on Oakes Field. I would like to express my sincere appreciation for Chief Reardon who has been very helpful.

The big question is, "What will next year look like?" We do not know but we are planning for three scenarios: online, blended, or in person. We are in hopes of starting on September 1st with all students. Of course, it depends on the State of Maine and CDC guidelines, but we want our students back. Students whose grades seemingly declined due to the change to remote learning will possibly be able to make up unmet standards and this consideration will be made on an individual basis.

We are in the midst of tumultuous times dealing with social unrest and a pandemic, which heightens the need for education. Please be watchful for communication about plans for the start of school in the fall. Students, I wish you all a very safe and healthy summer, but I can't wait to get you back in school!

All my best,

Arnold Shorey