



# SAINT COLUMBKILLE

PARTNERSHIP SCHOOL

Dear Parents and Guardians,

The school year is quickly approaching, and we are busy getting the building ready for your return. We are replacing the roof over Loyola Academy, updating our antiquated heating system and adding air conditioning to the majority of the building. Carlos, our custodian, is a rock star. He is nearly finished cleaning, waxing, shampooing, patching and painting.

We are changing our administrative structures to better meet the needs of our teachers and students. My Head of School responsibilities have shifted. I will be allocating more of my time to developing our partnerships, particularly with Boston College. It is important that we take full advantage of all that the University has to offer. Mrs. Katie Lamothe will focus her attention on grades Pre-K through four while Mr. Keyon Hurd will primarily be responsible for Loyola Academy. He will also assist teachers and students in grade five as they transition into the middle school.

A major goal for our school for the upcoming year is to better understand and address the social and emotional needs of our students. To this end, we have adopted *Responsive Classroom*, a program “intended to create a safe, joyful, and engaging school community.” We will work hard to develop self-discipline in our students and with families in order to enhance our community relations. We are so blessed to have committed and passionate families. In the weeks to come, you will be hearing from our parent leadership team who will be coordinating many new and exciting initiatives.

A few of our dedicated teachers and staff have moved on to other opportunities. We thank them for their service to the school and wish them well. In particular, we thank our receptionist Carol Cashman, who has retired; she will be greatly missed. Mrs. Jennifer Lynch is our new Administrative Assistant. Mr. Jonathan Hawes will be teaching physical education. Mr. Hans Philippeaux will be teaching music for grades five through eight and serve as our musical director along with Mrs. Leila Assad who will be teaching music for grades pre-kindergarten through four.

I look forward to your return and to welcoming our new families. Please join us at the Ice Cream Social that will take place on **Tuesday, August 28 at 6PM**. I know that you, too, will join me in reaching out to the newest members of our community. We still have a few openings in some of the grades. If you know of a family who is looking for a school, please tell them to contact us as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

William Gartside  
Head of School