



Dear Randolph Community:

As busy as last summer was preparing to open our school with dramatic shifts to schedules and classrooms, this summer's work has been equal to, if not surpassed, last summer. We began the summer by welcoming students to our redesigned summer programs with a renewed focus on academic experiences. More than a hundred different students participated in our summer camps. Additionally, the admission office has remained busy throughout the summer fielding inquiries and applications. Enrollment is strong and growing with waiting lists in multiple grades.

Students have also been engaged in athletic training on both campuses with hundreds of students participating in practices, weight training, and open gym activities. In these programs, along with our summer camps, we have been following the current CDC guidance (no masks when outdoors; masks for unvaccinated individuals while indoors with the exception for active athletic activity) and we are pleased to note there have been no exposures to COVID-19 in these activities and no required quarantines.

On both the Drake and Garth campuses our facilities crew has worked to complete updates with new paint colors, lighting, and renovated spaces. We are particularly excited about the addition of **The Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning ("The Center")** on the Garth campus and the ability to build on our reputation as the leader of academic excellence in northern Alabama and across the southeast. Stay tuned for more information about this very soon!

A large part of our preparations has been related to bringing back activities we had to eliminate last year. Full lunch service will return on both campuses, as well as clubs, aftercare, before care on Wednesday mornings, parent volunteer opportunities, and in-person meetings. Randolph is a school known for its strong and supportive community and our commitment to our students and parents this year will focus on connections. Connections between students, students and teachers, teachers and parents, and the many other relationships that are hallmarks of the Randolph experience.

We are watching closely the current situation related to the spread of COVID-19 in our local community and state. While our plan has been to implement a "mask optional" policy for all students and faculty, the increase of cases and hospitalizations is concerning. We have reconvened our Pandemic Response Committee and Medical Advisory Team to make regular, data-informed decisions. The Alabama Department of Public Health has shared that they will

issue updated advice for schools by August 1st. We will not make any final determination regarding masking policies until after we receive this guidance but before the start of the school year so that our decision can be informed by the most current situation. To that end, we strongly encourage all individuals eligible to be vaccinated to do so. This not only helps to prevent the spread of the virus on campus, but also eliminates the requirement to quarantine due to an exposure. With vaccine authorization for children under age twelve likely to occur in the coming weeks, we are very optimistic.

The excitement for the upcoming school year is palpable and we can't wait to see our students back on campus! I personally look forward to getting to know our families in meaningful ways as we connect through school-wide activities and those signature experiences that make Randolph School what it is, a remarkable learning community.

Sincerely,

Adam Dubé
Head of School

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1005 Drake Avenue SE, Huntsville, Alabama 35802 Phone:
256-799-6100 • Fax: 256-881-1784
www.randolphschool.net