

Dear Members of the School One Community,

A School One Senior recently shared that, after she graduates from college, she's hoping to return to School One for a career. Independently, three different faculty members said that School One is the school that they wish that they had been able to attend when they were in high school. A Board member with no children at the school commented that he consistently marvels at the level of attachment and love that School One's students express for their school. What resonates most deeply is that School One is a community of kindness and creativity. With these powerful endorsements in mind, I am honored to be joining School One this July as its next head of school.

The interview process, including a visit to campus, provided a terrific opportunity to meet students, faculty, parents, and Board members. Consistently, the level of devotion came shining through. School One's progressive approach is evident in everything from an absence of letter grades to the multi-generational endeavors of the Literary Center. Last summer's building renovations of the interior signal preparation for an even brighter future.

Students need to feel and be safe as they anticipate their futures. In this regard as in many others, smaller schools have a considerable advantage; we know our students well and build trust with families. Students benefit from consistent, positive messages from the adults in their lives. School One nurtures individual learners and celebrates growth at a time when mainstream education is increasingly batch processing students in preparation for cookie-cutter exams. At School One, thanks to Jennifer's leadership and its devoted educators, teaching is clearly a work of heart.

Kate and I are looking forward to returning to Providence, to discovering how it has grown, and to being closer to our families. Our two adult daughters are eager to visit and to hear about the further adventures of Homer, our sedate rescue beagle. The coming months will provide many opportunities to get to know each other better, and I look forward to being able to welcome you in person with an open door. Until then, please stay safe, healthy, and optimistic about all the ways in which together we will strive to make the coming school year a good one for School One's students. If I can be of service at any point, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Enthusiastically,

Christopher