



MERRIMACK COLLEGE

Greetings from Merrimack College

Dear Parents,

As we embark on a new academic year, you can feel the excitement on campus. From new spaces, to new faces, the energy and momentum of Merrimack is felt amongst our students, faculty and staff — as well as regionally and nationally. For a sense of what is happening, please see President Hopey's letter below, and please follow the links for more information. Better still, come back to campus for Homecoming and experience the excitement for yourself.

Warm regards,

Marie Doyle

Director of Parent and Family Relations

Office of the President

doylemh@merrimack.edu

A Message from President Christopher E. Hopey

Dear Parents,

Merrimack College is 71 years old this fall, and we are in one of the most momentous years of that long and storied history.

This fall, we announced the College's move into [NCAA Division I athletics](#), months after watching our men's lacrosse team earn the Division II Championship at Gillette Stadium.

We learned that we have become a [top-50 school](#) in our U.S. News category, and are also one of the "most innovative" schools in the northern United States. This follows on *Money Magazine's* recognition of us as one of the [10 "most transformative" institutions](#) in the country.

We will soon mark the culmination of the largest capital campaign in Merrimack history, [Together for Good](#), in which thousands of alumni, faculty, staff, students, family members and friends of the College have expressed their support for who we are and what we do.

We opened and dedicated [the Dr. Alfred L. Arcidi Center](#), honoring one of our earliest alumni and a family that represents three generations of Merrimack education. That facility houses our Admission Visitor Center and the [O'Brien Center for Career Development](#) — welcoming prospective students to Merrimack and helping them find their paths as they prepare to depart campus.

And we weathered, as a community, the utility crisis that brought pain and tragedy to so many in Lawrence, Andover and North Andover.

During that crisis, a group of faculty and staff came together to check on colleagues from the three communities, offering support or just words of comfort. The College invited neighbors and first-responders from area communities to come to campus to eat and shower in the Sakowich Campus Center, one of that buildings that maintained power through the weekend. Students delivered fresh T-shirts to a wrung-out Lawrence firefighting force. The [Austin Scholars](#) began a GoFundMe campaign to raise money for victims of the fires and explosions (you can help [here](#)), and [Hands To Help](#), our Lawrence-based community service center, started collecting donated supplies for distribution.

Hands to Help also offered all-day care all for the children it works with on a regular basis after school, while the Lawrence public schools were closed; the [Stevens Service Learning Center](#) gathered

volunteers to go to Lawrence and either support Hands To Help or sort donated goods in Lawrence. One mom of Merrimack student is creating T-shirts to sell, with profits going to help victims.

Yes, we have had an amazing fall — one that showed the Merrimack community's true colors, in times of celebration and in times of need.

God bless,
President Christopher E. Hopey, Ph.D.

- Merrimack has been approved to begin a bachelor's degree in nursing and enroll its [first class of nursing students](#) for fall 2019!
- A team of Merrimack engineering students spent their summer building a [satellite for NASA!](#)
- Make sure your student signs you up to receive emergency messaging from Merrimack, at <https://www.getrave.com/login/merrimack>
- And don't forget Homecoming — which promises to be the most well-attended Warrior gathering in history! [Find the schedule and tickets here](#)