Dear North Elementary Elementary Faculty and Staff,

It is with immense excitement that I write to you as the new principal of North Elementary School, where I attended as a student and where I am honored to be back to serve you in this role. I know firsthand that Somerset and its schools are a special place that provide our students with love, community, and the keys to achieve at all levels wherever life takes them. After returning to Somerset to settle with my family, it truly seems like a moment of coming full circle.

From my time at North as a child, I have always loved school, learning with and from those around me, and teaching those around me. Besides my love for my family, this is my greatest passion and purpose that I am grateful to live in my professional life each day. I started my teaching career as a science teacher in Woonsocket, Fall River, and at the Benjamin Franklin Classical Charter Public School in Franklin. At BFCCPS I have also worked for the past nine years as the Director of Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment. In this role I have had the privilege of working with an amazing team of teachers to provide the best education possible for our growing and changing population of students. I am excited to share all that I have learned in this time with the North and the wider Somerset Public Schools community, as well as learn from all of the wonderful educators and staff members that I have already had the opportunity to meet through the interview process (and those I have yet to meet)!

I have two sons, Kevin (8) and Marty (5), who are anxious to start 3rd grade and kindergarten respectively at Chace Street School and two Irish Setters, Briar (9) and Olive (9), who love going for walks by the water with their dad (Ray) and me. As a family we also enjoy watching superhero movies, playing with Legos, hunting for Pokémon in our neighborhood, swimming all summer, and sharing good food.

My first priority as Principal, besides working with the amazing Becky on open-of-school logistics, is getting to know all of you and seeing how I can best support you in all that you do for our students. Although I have some transition responsibilities at my previous school this week, I'm planning on being at North as much as possible in this time leading up to the start of the new academic year. Please feel free to stop by the office to say hi if you happen to be around. I'm so looking forward to meeting everyone and working together!

With gratitude, Kelsey

