January 21, 2021

Dear Fifth Form Parents and Guardians

As you may know, sixteen years ago, the Brooks School Science Department developed an internship program to provide students with hands-on experiences in labs, research facilities, and field settings where they perform real science. Entitled, “Students on the Forefront of Science,” this program has been a long-standing signature offering for students and often an experience they look forward to between the summer of their Fifth and Sixth-form years at Brooks School.

Although SFS interns were chosen in February 2020, many of the students were unable to attend their internship experiences as a result of the pandemic. However, four students were able to attend the virtual Engineering Technology Camp (ETC) in Cupertino, California working alongside mentor engineers. We are delighted to announce that the virtual ETC will run again this summer and the specifics of this program will be shared with students at the Student SFS information night on January 27, at 7:30 PM. This meeting will include students who participated last year sharing their experiences.

Sadly, our partnerships with researchers and physicians at Massachusetts General Hospital, Tufts Medical Center, and Brigham and Women’s Hospital will not run this summer. Current health protocols within the hospital setting do not allow external program visitors until a more comprehensive vaccination program is completed and this will likely not happen prior to June 2021. We are appreciative of the commitment our partners have made to ensure the program continues in the summer of 2022.

Our final experience with Quebec-Labrador Foundation will also remain paused due to current travel restrictions to Canada. If the situation changes, and QLF is able to sponsor a Brooks student, we will make this available to students later this spring.

I realize this news is a disappointment to many and I am happy to answer any questions or concerns you may have regarding these decisions.

Sincerely,

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