



January 25, 2019

Dear Holderness ACE Family,

After many months of collaboration, the ACE Board is excited to partner with the Boys and Girls Clubs (BGC) of Central NH. The BGC has extensive experience operating after school programs throughout the state. This Central NH Chapter specifically operates a dozen programs in our region. It has been the overarching objective of the current ACE Board to create greater stability and cultivate the enrichment aspect of the program. We are honored that the BGC has selected our community to build upon the fun and safe program we love while supporting the expansion of enrichment activities to encourage more kids from all grades to get involved.

For those unfamiliar, the BGC is a valued employer in Central NH with 90 full time employees and an additional 40 staff members during summer months. This provides a positive employment opportunity for our current staff- Taylor, Abby and Alex as they are afforded consistent and reliable employment and mentorship. With stable employment we hope to improve the tenure of our valued ACE leaders. Additionally, the BGC has appointed Madailein McLaughlin as the dedicated Holderness Site Director. Madailein is an incredible addition and has jumped right in over the past several weeks to get familiar with the kids, families, leaders and the workings of the program. You can learn more about Maddie below. For the first time in a long time we have a full and experienced group of leaders to care for and help develop the strengths and interests of our kids!

The BGC is a national organization run by local chapters. The breadth of the organization provides for extensive and varied enrichment programs which may be introduced into the HCS program. In recent years due to necessity, ACE has had to focus on the Aftercare portion more so than the Enrichment. With the additional resources of a larger organization the enrichment can expand.

The BGC offers families confidence in the continuity of the program. As enrollment increases, BGC is able to staff to meet the demand. Should an ACE staff member be unavailable or pursue a different professional opportunity, the BGC will provide a substitute or backfill an open position. Should we have a snow day or a teacher in-service day the BGC will operate to meet that need.

Additional benefits the BGCs offers to Holderness families include:

Snow Days- Members from Holderness are welcome to attend the Lakes Region Club at 876 Main St. in Laconia on snow days. The club is open from 8am-6pm and there is no additional charge for these days unless contracted days are exceeded.

Vacation Days- Vacations run much like snow days. Depending on the need and the school's availability, we will either be open at Holderness Central School or our Lakes Region Club. Hours during vacation are 7am-6pm. These days are full days of programming and typically a little more relaxed than the afterschool program.

Morning Care*- Morning care is a potential program that in other communities runs from

7am to 8am. The charge is a flat fee of \$35 per child per week with no availability of financial assistance. On days that a 2-hour delay is called, the program will open at 8am.

*This program may be offered in the future should the demand support this.

Financial Assistance- the BGC does not turn anyone away for financial reasons by offering a sliding enrollment fee scale. To learn more about financial and state assistance and the forms necessary to complete, please contact Maddie who can assist you with the process.

For these reasons and many others, we feel it is a great opportunity for ACE to become part of the BGC. The BGC appreciates the wonderfully unique culture we have here at Holderness and would like to support the stability of and help to expand all that is great about ACE.

ACE will formally transition to the BGC on **February 4, 2019**. Over the coming weeks each family will be required to complete the enclosed enrollment forms. An introductory meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, January 29, 2019 from 5:00 – 6:00 pm**. Please come and meet Maddie and bring all of your questions about the transition. An enrollment session will be held on **Wednesday, January 30 from 4:00- 6:00**. Please continue to communicate with Mrs. Ann McKenney about your child's after school schedule.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

Holderness ACE Program
Board of Directors
holdernessace@gmail.com



My name is Madailein McLaughlin. I have been hired by the Boys and Girls Club of Central New Hampshire for the position of site director at the Holderness School after school program. I am extremely excited to get to know all of you and your children! A little bit about me; I am originally from Dedham, Massachusetts, and recently graduated with a bachelors in public management from Plymouth State University. During my undergraduate degree I worked as a fellow for the Global Engagement Office, writing consultant, and tutor. Last summer, I interned at the United Nations Association of Greater Boston (UNAGB) where my work consisted primarily of working with children interested in Model UN and other functions of government. I plan on fostering the safe, educational, and fun environment that Taylor, Abby, and Alex have worked extremely hard to cultivate. All of us are looking forward to the development of this program. We want this program to be an opportunity for your children to demonstrate their intellectual, developmental, and emotional growth. Again- I am thrilled to begin this position and I look forward to meeting you all!