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## Gordon Research Conferences Return to Proctor Academy

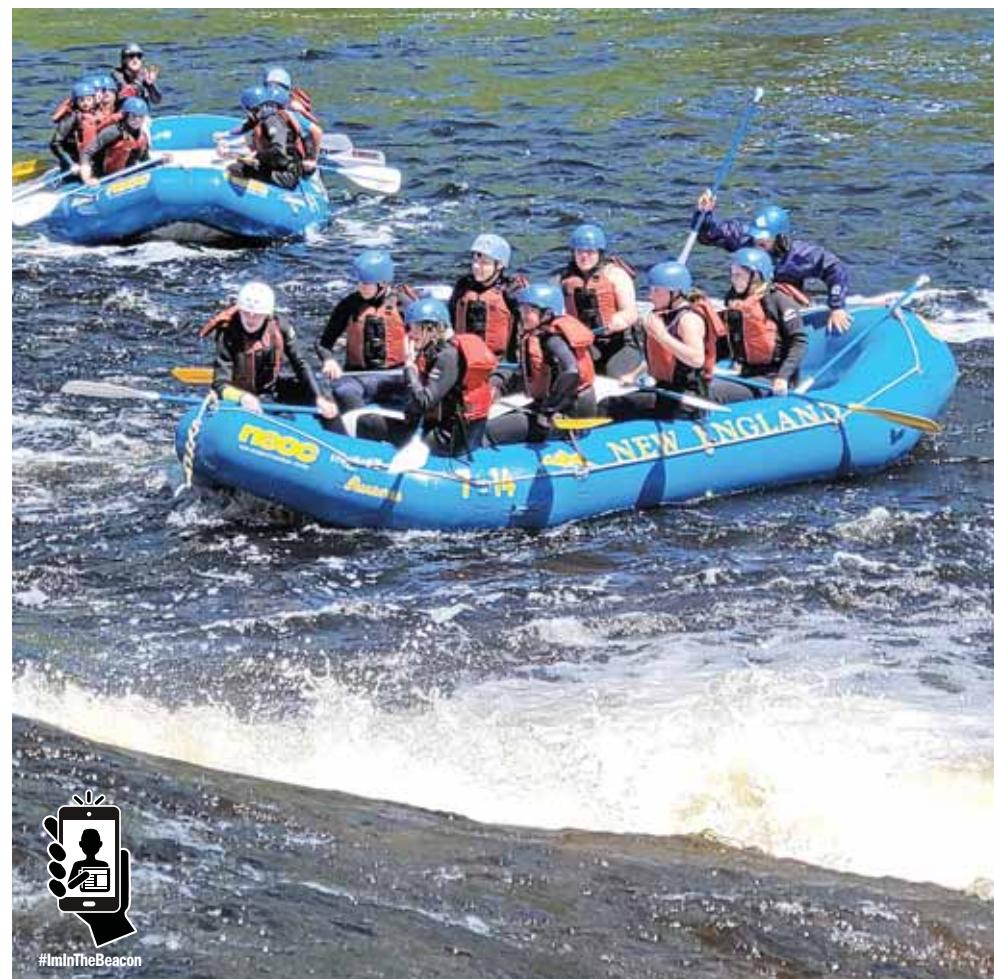
Nine weeks of conferences planned

Scott Allenby, Proctor Academy

After a two year hiatus, Proctor Academy welcomes Gordon Research Conferences back to campus for the summer. With nine weeks of conferences planned, Proctor's campus will be busy with visiting research scientists collaborating and sharing their latest research.

Conferees travel to Andover from around the globe, making Proctor's campus a hub for scientific research, including Nobel Prize-winning projects. Attendance at the conferences each week will vary from 75 to 250 individuals, depending on the week's research topic.

If you happen to see conferees around town, introduce yourself and ask a few questions about their research.



Eighth graders from AE/MS went whitewater rafting on their class trip to Maine. This is the second year the eighth graders have gone to Acadia National Park for their annual trip.

Caption: Kasey Schoch. Photo: Shayne Marshall

## AE/MS Returns to Normalcy and Finishes the Year Strong

Students, staff overcome difficult COVID conditions

Dennis Dobe, AE/MS principal

Summertime greetings to the greater Andover community from your friends at Andover Elementary/Middle School!

Although the past year was awkward for all of us at times, we enjoyed a wonderful finish for our AE/MS community! With the momentum we gathered in the later part of the school year, we should roll into a very smooth and happy school opening on Wednesday, August 31.

Much has been written about the challenging year experienced in schools

across our state and nation in the final stages of the COVID-19 pandemic and its aftermath. Significant and ongoing student absence (resulting in schooling gaps and constant interruption/disruption of the learning process), crippling staff absence (stretching our ability to adequately cover classes and duties to their limit and beyond), clear and present "learning loss" (hindered academic and socio-emotional growth in our students due to the effects of pandemic schooling), greater disparities between students with regard to learning readiness (widening disparities between

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Andoverites (from left to right) Lilly Carlson '22, Sasha MacKenzie '22, Brynne Makechnie '22, Lily Menard '22, and Maura Kelly '22 celebrate their graduation from Proctor Academy on May 28. Photo and caption: Scott Allenby

## Proctor Graduates Class of '22 with Five Andover Students

Four Andover  
students receive awards

Scott Allenby, Proctor Academy

On Saturday, May 28, Proctor Academy celebrated its 174th commencement ceremony honoring the Class of 2022. Four years passes in the blink of an eye.

The high school experience of this class has been as tumultuous as any in recent memory. This group of seniors had a "normal" freshman year, but then missed their sophomore spring due to COVID-19 and had an incredibly abnormal junior year. Their senior year was, again, heavily impacted by the

pandemic, different rules and regulations on campus, and the background noise of a disrupted world.

During the 1990s, Proctor adopted an informal motto: Attitude is Everything. Every now and then you will see some tattered t-shirts on our most veteran faculty with the block print reminding us of the importance of this mindset.

The Class of 2022, through their positivity and resilience, lived this motto to their core. Through quarantines, disappointment, and fear, they chose joy. It permeated each and every corner of campus.

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Older students Kailyn Cochran, Adalyn Boucher, Chloe Laro, Indira McIntyre, and Talia Hardie, are holding the younger students, Scarlett Drewry, Mariah Hewitt, Charlotte Valerio, Rogue Ordway, and Maeve Hattan, for the "wheelbarrow" races held during the AE/MS Field Day.

Caption and photo: Jen Bent

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