

Dear Alumni,

A few weeks ago, Principal MacFarlane wrote to you to express concern about reports of sexual misconduct at peer schools, and to affirm Exeter's commitment to the safety and well-being of our students, past and present.

Our process for investigating claims of sexual misconduct is deliberate and comprehensive, beginning in every case with an immediate report to the relevant authorities. Throughout the process we are guided by careful consultation with the complainants to respect their wishes and support them. We are also guided by the knowledge that these are serious charges, and we proceed with a deep sense of responsibility to investigate allegations fairly, thoroughly, and thoughtfully.

We want you to be aware of two cases of sexual misconduct involving students that took place in the 1970s and 1980s by former faculty member Rick Schubart. We learned of these in 2011 and 2015. In both cases we immediately reported the allegations to the appropriate authorities and investigated those claims. In both cases Mr. Schubart admitted that sexual misconduct occurred. In 2011, Mr. Schubart was required to retire and removed from campus housing. In 2015, he was stripped of his emeritus status and permanently barred from campus and all Exeter events.

Our actions and communications were guided by a concern for the privacy of the victims. We have not received other complaints regarding Mr. Schubart's behavior. We take the step of informing you now with an understanding of the importance of disclosure for our community. Both victims are now supportive of our sharing this information. We commend them for their strength and courage throughout this process -- and will assist anyone else who might come forward on this or any other matter.

This information grieves us, as we know it will you. Those of us who work with adolescents have a special responsibility to respect the authority and trust with which we have been charged. Sexual misconduct by a trusted adult is particularly harmful, and is wholly contrary to the mission and foundation of our school. These offenses, though decades old, are the antithesis of what we stand for as a school. Any violations of the safety, trust and well-being of members of our school community are unacceptable.

Sexual misconduct is not tolerated at Exeter. We encourage students and adults to report all situations of inappropriate sexual conduct and we make every effort to support students involved. It is with that in mind that we share this information with you today, and encourage you to reach out to either one of us.

Sincerely,

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