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To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Cameron Garfield, and I am an educator currently based in Portland with previous experience in Lewiston. As the weather begins to turn for the better we can almost feel summer upon us. With this in mind I would like to implore you about the exceptional need to continue to provide educational opportunities during the summer. Education, learning and development requires a full time commitment that is of vital importance. Without the service of summer school and programs that support students many more students will fall through the cracks. Our support for children all across Maine must be unfaltering!

I have worked at some of Maine's famous summer camps and taught summer school programs in the past. From this experience I must tell you that there is a large gap in the types of programs and opportunities that are available to kids throughout Maine. Without summer school those inequalities will only be exasperated in terms of learning and life outcomes. Kids need structured opportunities year long to help them thrive.

Thank you for taking the time to hear from me. I hope you take the time and consideration to think hard about the needs of children across Maine.