

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Somerville Community Schools Afterschool Program Registration Opens March 19-28, 2024

Students in grades PK-5 are eligible for Afterschool Program, based on availability.

Spots in the Community Schools Afterschool Program are assigned through a weighted lottery.

Somerville, MA – Registration for the Somerville Public Schools' Community Schools Afterschool Program will open from March 19 through March 28, 2024. Families of students in grades PK-5 who are interested in enrolling their students in the SPS Afterschool Program should <u>complete the online</u> <u>registration form</u> during this period in order to be part of the enrollment lottery for School Year 2024-2025.

Afterschool spots are assigned based on availability at sites and through a weighted lottery system. Families who register their student during the March 19-28 registration period will automatically participate in the Afterschool enrollment lottery.

The Enrollment Office sends out school placement notifications for PK and K families during the week of March 18, 2024. After receiving the student school placement notice, families should register for Afterschool at the student's assigned school. When registering, families must select the same school their child attends as their afterschool location.

Families of students in grades 1-5 can also re-enroll in the Community Schools Afterschool Program between March 19 to march 28. All registration links will be available at <u>www.somerville.k12.ma.us/CommunitySchools</u> beginning on March 19.

Community Schools, a department within the Somerville Public Schools - manages the afterschool program at all SPS PK-8 school facilities. Since 2016, the Afterschool Program has expanded by more than 53%, increasing from 500 enrolled students in 2016 to 768 enrolled students in 2023. From 2022 to 2023, available spots in the Afterschool Program incased by more than 65. Participants in the Afterschool Program participate in enrichment clubs on a wide variety of topics, from martial arts, to dance, and from crafts to gardening.

School-Based Family and Community <u>Liaisons</u> with the Somerville Family Learning Collaborative will work with the Afterschool Program <u>Site Directors</u> to provide registration support for any families requiring it to enroll and re-enroll their child. There is a non-refundable registration fee for each family that registers in afterschool, though that fee will be waived for families applying for financial assistance.



For more information about Afterschool enrolling, programming, costs, and financial aid, and to register, visit <u>www.somerville.k12.ma.us/CommunitySchools</u>. The Community Schools Office, with other Central Administrative Offices, moved to 167 Holland Street, Somerville, MA 02144 in the summer of 2023.

Starting in School Year 2024-2025, all students in grades PK-8 will be released early on Wednesdays. Afterschool programming will include early release time periods.

Somerville Public Schools also offers the innovative El Sistema afterschool instrument study program and several afterschool clubs. The registration for those programs is separate from Community Schools Afterschool registration.

For anyone interested in learning more about El Sistema, please visit the webpage <u>https://somerville.k12.ma.us/elsistema</u>.

Links to lists of other afterschool programs available to Somerville students through external and internal providers can be found on the Out of School Time page <u>https://somerville.k12.ma.us/ost</u>.

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