

CONNECTIONS

A Newsletter from the Somerville Public Schools – December 14, 2018

News & Notes

SOMERVILLE HIGH SCHOOL TEAM WINS 2018 JUNIOR ACHIEVEMENT STOCK MARKET CHALLENGE



Somerville High School's Personal Finance class team of Chris DeSousa, Kyle Finigan, Calvin Wicks, and Dylan Zraket won this year's Junior Achievement Stock Market Challenge. The Challenge took place on Thursday, December 6, 2018 at the new headquarters for State Street Corporation in Boston. Two other SHS teams also competed in this year's event. Andrew DeAsevedo, Malik Dessin, AJ Feldman, and Maggie McDonagh made up the second SHS team, while the team of Samiyra Afife, Diane Pierre, Jenny Pierre, and Melinda Piltman also represented SHS. Both teams made good showings at the Challenge, coming in at 15th and 26th places, respectively.

The Stock Market Challenge is a fast-paced competition in which students use collaboration, communication, and critical thinking skills to achieve the greatest rate of return on their investments over a 60-day market cycle. Each team begins with a hypothetical account balance of \$500,000. Somerville's winning team was in the top three spots from the beginning of the competition and ended the competition with \$812,951.69, which translates to a remarkable rate of return of +62.59%. Any SHS student interested in next year's competition should contact Mrs. Harney.

KENNEDY 2ND GRADERS, SHS ART STUDENTS TEAM UP ON "MONSTER MASH UP" PROJECT

Kennedy School second grade students and students from Somerville High School's Studio Art and Cartooning class recently teamed up on a creative art project that culminated in a "Monster Mash-Up Meet and Greet" at the Kennedy School. The second graders created colorful paintings of monsters that were adopted by the high school students. Read all about this fun collaborative project in this recent article: <https://www.thesomervilletimes.com/archives/88383>.



HEALEY SCHOOL STUDENTS LEARN ABOUT LIFE AS A WRITER FROM LOCAL AUTHOR LEE GJERTSEN MALONE

On Wednesday, December 12, the Arthur D. Healey School hosted a reading, and question and answer session with Cambridge author Lee Gjertsen Malone. Students in grades 2 through 8 assembled in the school library to hear Malone read from her young adult novel, *The Last Boy at St. Edith's*. Healey students were also the first to get a sneak peek at Malone's next book, *Camp Shady Crook*, which will be published this spring. After the reading, Malone answered students' questions about how she comes up with her story ideas, where she writes, and what life as a writer is like.

SHS CHILD DEVELOPMENT CTE STUDENTS CONNECT WITH SOMERVILLE CHILD CARE CENTER

Sophomores from the Child Development Program at Somerville High School recently visited the Somerville Child Care Center. The children enjoyed the extra attention playing with students, working together on building materials, reading books and just talking. To learn more about the SHS Career and Technical Education Department (CTE) Child Development Program at Somerville High School, visit their website: www.somerville.k12.ma.us/childdevelopment.



WINTER HILL STUDENTS RECEIVE WINTER COATS FROM OPERATION WARM

[Operation Warm](#) visited the Winter Hill Community Innovation School on Thursday, December 13, joined by a team of volunteers from Genzyme eager to bring a little warmth and a smile to Winter Hill students this winter season. Operation Warm is a national organization that coordinates with businesses to provide coats to students in need. More than a dozen volunteers from [Genzyme](#), as well as WHCIS teachers and staff, unpacked the boxes of coats in the school gymnasium. By the end of the school day, every student was fitted with and gifted a brand-new winter coat.

What's Happening

Winter Concert Season Under Way

Music is in the air this winter season! Join us in celebrating the work of our music students and teachers across the district as school winter concerts continue this week and into 2019. Check our website calendar of events for a list of additional upcoming winter concerts.

Somerville Public Library "Girls Who Code Club" Kicks Off in January

Girls in grades 6-12 are invited to join the Somerville Public Library's **Girls Who Code Club**, which gets under way in January 2019. Girls Who Code Club members will decide how they want to use computer science to impact their community. The Club also offers a sisterhood of supportive peers and role models. Club facilitators are local professional women working in the technology field. Club members will be able to learn from fun and simple online coding tutorials, build community through interactive activities, and learn about inspiring role models. Girls also work in teams to design and build a Girls Who Code Project that solves real world problems they care about through code. The club will meet at the Somerville Public Library (79 Highland Ave.) on Tuesdays from 6:30-7:30pm, January 8 through April 9, 2019. Contact Karen Stevens at kstevens@minlib.net to register!

Upcoming School & District Events:

Visit www.somerville.k12.ma.us and click on the "calendar" link at the top of the page for a list of upcoming activities in our schools and in our District this month.

- Monday, December 17, 2:15-2:30pm: ESCS 2nd Grade Awards** at the ESCS Auditorium (50 Cross St.)
- Tuesday, December 17, 8:30-9:00am: ESCS 5th Grade Awards** at the ESCS Auditorium (50 Cross St.)
- Tuesday, December 18: Argenziano 8th Grade Trip** to Boston Holocaust Memorial
- Tuesday, December 18: Healey Grades 1-4 Trip** to New England Aquarium
- Tuesday, December 18: WSNS 8th Grade Trip** to Theatre
- Tuesday, December 18, 3:00-4:00pm: Capuano School Council Meeting** at the Capuano Conference Room (150 Glen St.)
- Wednesday, December 19, 6:00-8:00pm: SHS School Improvement Council Meeting** (81 Highland Ave.)
- Wednesday, December 19, 6:30pm: Brown School Winter Concert** at the Somerville High Auditorium (81 Highland Ave.)
- Thursday, December 20: Healey Grade 8 Trip** to Court House
- Thursday, December 20, 8:11-9:15am: West Somerville Neighborhood School K STEAM Event** (177 Powder House Blvd.)
- Thursday, December 20, 6:00-8:00pm: Serve and Inspire Volunteer Orientation** at the Cummings School building (42 Prescott St.)
- Thursday, December 20, 6:30-9:00pm: Somerville High School Winter Concert** at the SHS Auditorium (81 Highland Ave.)
- Thursday, December 20, 7:00-9:00pm: Healey's Got Talent** event at the Healey School (5 Meacham St.)
- Friday, December 21, 9:15-10:45am: Argenziano PreK-4 Winter Concert** at the Argenziano School (290 Washington St.)
- Friday, December 21: Healey PreK Pajama Day** (5 Meacham St.)
- Monday-Friday, December 24-28: Winter Break – All Schools Closed** (All district offices closed on 12/24 and 12/25 only)
- Monday-Tuesday, December 31-January 1: Winter Break – All Schools Closed** (All district offices close at 1:00pm on 12/31 and will be closed all day January 1)

Upcoming School Committee Meetings:

Find the complete School Committee schedule, agendas and meeting minutes (as approved) online at www.somerville.k12.ma.us/school-committee.

- Monday, December 17, 6:00-7:00pm: Education Programs and Instruction Subcommittee Meeting** at the Board of Aldermen Chambers, City Hall (93 Highland Ave.)
- Monday, December 17, 7:00-9:00pm: Regular School Committee Meeting** at the Board of Aldermen Chambers, City Hall (93 Highland Ave.)

Upcoming Somerville Family Learning Collaborative Workshops and Events:

Find a complete list of SFLC events and workshops at www.somerville.k12.ma.us/families.

SFLC Community Resource, Jobs and Legal Services Clinic. Do you have questions about community resources? Looking for childcare? On Thursday, December 20, 5:00-7:00pm at the Cummings School building (42 Prescott St., room 12), meet representatives from the SFLC, City of Somerville Health and Human Services, and SomerViva for information, resources and referrals. The SFLC Community Clothing Closet, a resource for free clothing for families in need, and the Beautiful Stuff art-making space will be open. For more information, contact Francia Reyes at (617) 625-6600, x6994 or email freyes@k12.somerville.ma.us.

Serve and Inspire: Volunteer Orientation. New to volunteering with the Somerville Public Schools? Join us on Thursday, December 20, 6:00-8:00pm for an orientation to learn about district schools and how SPS volunteers serve, inspire and support student learning. Orientation takes place at the Cummings School building on 42 Prescott St. For more information, contact your school-based Volunteer Coordinator or Jen Capuano at jcapuano@k12.somerville.ma.us or (617) 629-5475.

IMPACT: Arts and Conversation. Join the Immigrant Multilingual Parent Action Team (IMPACT) for Arts and Conversation every Friday morning, 9:00-11:00am at the Cummings School building (42 Prescott St.). Immigrant parents/guardians are invited to create art and connect with each other. Arts and Conversation sessions are hosted by the Beautiful Stuff Project in partnership with the SFLC. For more information, contact Maura Mendoza Quiroz at (617) 625-6600, x6958 or mquiroz@k12.somerville.ma.us.

Looking Ahead:

Monday-Friday, December 24-28: Winter Break – All Schools Closed (District offices closed 12/24 and 12/25 only)

Monday-Tuesday, December 31-January 1: Winter Break – All Schools Closed (All district offices will close at 1:00pm on 12/31 and will be closed all day January 1) – Happy New Year!

Friday, January 4, 8:00-8:45am: Cramer Coffee Collab at the Healey School Library (5 Meacham St.)

Tuesday, January 8, 5:30-7:00pm: Argenziano School Council Meeting (290 Washington St.)

Wednesday, January 9, 5:00-6:30pm: West Somerville School Council Meeting (177 Powder House Blvd.)

Thursday, January 10: West Somerville Neighborhood School Picture Re-Take Day (177 Powder House Blvd.)

Community News & Events

Girls Who Code Club. Somerville Public Library's Girls Who Code club gets under way in January 2019! Girls decide how they want to use computer science to impact their community, and they also join a sisterhood of supportive peers and role models. Club facilitators are local professional women working in the technology field. Members will learn from fun and simple online coding tutorials, build community through interactive activities, and learn about inspiring role models. Girls also work in teams to design and build a Girls Who Code Project that solves real world problems they care about through code! Open to girls in grades 6-12. The club will meet at the Somerville Public Library (79 Highland Ave.) on Tuesdays from 6:30-7:30pm, January 8 through April 9, 2019. Contact Karen Stevens at kstevens@minlib.net to register!

SYHA Learn to Skate/Learn to Play Hockey Clinics. Rolling registration available throughout the Fall / Winter. Clinics run every Saturday through February. Details and registration information at www.somervilleyouthhockey.org.

Somerville Parks & Recreation. Visit <http://www.somervillerec.com/info/activities/default.aspx?type=activities> to learn all about the Somerville Parks & Recreation Department's current programming.

Illuminations Tour. Take a tour of Somerville's incredible holiday lights displays on Saturday, December 15, with the [Somerville Arts Council's annual Illuminations Tours](#). Tours leave from the SHS field house every 45 minutes starting at 4:30pm. Illuminations Tour tickets are on sale at Blue Cloud Gallery, 713 Broadway (cash or check only).

City & District Employment Opportunities

Consider joining a winning team! Current city and district opportunities include:

- [Electrician for the Lights and Lines Division](#), DPW – Electrical Lights and Lines, City of Somerville
- [Traffic and Parking Project Manager](#), Traffic and Parking Dept., City of Somerville
- [Social Media Manager/Community Engagement Specialist](#), Communications and Community Engagement, City of Somerville
- [Capital Projects Director](#), Capital Projects and Planning Dept., City of Somerville

Visit <https://www.somervillema.gov/jobs> for a complete listing of current open positions in the City of Somerville.

- [Principal Clerk – Administrative Assistant](#), Somerville High School, Somerville Public Schools
- [School Based Family and Community Liaison](#), East Somerville Community School, Somerville Public Schools
- [Substitute Teachers](#), District-wide, Somerville Public Schools
- [Lunch Attendant](#), several schools, Somerville Public Schools

Visit <https://www.schoolspring.com/jobs/?employer=16902> for a complete listing of current open positions in the Somerville Public Schools.

Have something to share with the community? Send information to connections@k12.somerville.ma.us to share an event. Please note that we look for events and programs that support youth development. Include date, time and name of event, along with any additional pertinent information. Or, submit your event to <http://www.somerville.k12.ma.us/calendar/submit>.

Our Commitment to the Whole Child

VISION: "We believe in developing the whole child — the intellectual, social, emotional, and physical potential of all students — by providing students with the skills, opportunities, and resources that will nurture innovative ideas, foster pride in diversity, inspire students to become lifelong learners and empower them to enrich their communities."