

CONNECTIONS

A Newsletter from the Somerville Public Schools – October 12, 2018

News & Notes

SHS COMMUNITY SERVICE CLUB SUPPORTS SOMERBABY PROGRAM

Somerville High School (SHS) Community Service Club students recently spent time sewing blankets for Somerville newborns, adding a personal touch to the SomerBaby gift bag that many Somerville families with newborns receive. SomerBaby is a [Somerville Family Learning Collaborative \(SFLC\)/SomerPromise](#) program to welcome all new babies and their parents to Somerville. A single visit from a multilingual home visitor offers parents great information about local resources and supports, as well as a SomerBaby bag that includes fun and useful items for newborns and beautiful blankets sewn with love by the students of the SHS Community Service Club! For more information about SomerBaby, call (617) 629-5476 or email Flor Apolaya at fapolaya@k12.somerville.ma.us.



COMMISSIONER RILEY HOSTS 'THE STATE OF LATINO EDUCATION' TOWN HALL

Students, parents, guardians, educators, community members, and local and state elected officials welcomed new state education Commissioner Jeff Riley to Somerville on Wednesday evening for a State of Latino Education Town Hall event held at the East Somerville Community School. The Town Hall was the third in a series of three such events hosted throughout Massachusetts by Commissioner Riley and co-hosts Latinos for Education, Amplify LatinX, and the Greater Boston Latino Network. The event offered attendees an opportunity to ask questions and share their hopes, concerns, and thoughts on how to better serve Latino students. Somerville high school and middle grades students took the lead at last week's Town Hall, asking thoughtful questions and demonstrating their commitment to ensuring equity of access and opportunity for all Somerville students.



WINTER HILL PTA HOSTS WALK AND ROLL TO SCHOOL EVENT

As part of Safe Routes to school National Walk to School Day, the Winter Hill Community Innovation School PTA hosted a “Walk and Roll to School Day” event on Wednesday, October 10th. Students and parents were encouraged to walk or bike (or otherwise roll) to school that morning. The festivities started at 7:00am in the Winter Hill schoolyard with music, special prizes, and an opportunity for students and parents to meet PTA officers and representatives from several partner city departments and organizations including Shape Up Somerville, The Beautiful Stuff Project, and Somerville Cares About Prevention.



STUDENTS PARTICIPATE IN MA TRIAL COURT “CULTURAL APPRECIATION WEEK”

Somerville Public Schools students were invited to be part of the Massachusetts Trial Court’s “Cultural Appreciation Week” late last month. On September 28th, 16 high school students helped celebrate “the rich tapestry and diversity of Trial Court employees” by sharing artwork, poems, and music. Court employees and visitors were invited to walk the halls of the Courthouse to admire the students’ work and hear from the students themselves about what inspired them to create their pieces. A quartet of strings students played music in the background as the guests mingled. Students also had an opportunity to meet with Court judges and other staff to learn about the court system and some of the positive work the Court does for the community.



What's Happening

Somerville Learning 2030 Night @ the Cummings

Somerville Learning 2030 is a Community Visioning Conversation about the kinds of learning experiences and opportunities we want for children and teens in our city. What's working well? What should we change or improve? What should we prioritize over the next 10-15 years? Lend your voice to this important community-wide conversation! Join us at the Somerville Learning 2030 Night @ the Cummings on Tuesday, October 16, 6:00-8:00pm (42 Prescott St.) to share your dreams, hopes, and priorities for youth and teens in Somerville. Learn more about this initiative at <http://bit.ly/somervillelearning2030>.

Fall and Winter Somerville Intramural Middle School Sports Registration

Registration for fall and winter 2018 Somerville Intramural Middle School Sports is under way. Middle grades students can register for Flag Football, Volleyball, and Learn to Play Tennis through October 22nd at <https://www.familyid.com/programs/2018-fall-intramural-sports>. Registration is also open for the 2018-2019 Intramural Soccer seasons, at <https://www.familyid.com/programs/2018-2019-intramural-soccer>. Learn more about the Somerville Intramural sports programs at www.somerville.k12.ma.us/intramural-sports.

Free Boys Basketball Clinics for Grades 4-8

Somerville Parks & Recreation is offering boys' basketball clinics through the end of October for students in grades 4-8. All clinics are FREE and will be held in the Somerville High School Field House from 7:00-8:30pm. Clinics will be conducted by the SHS basketball coaching staff and the Somerville Tradition basketball coaches. Remaining clinics are scheduled for:

- Monday, October 15, 7:00-8:30pm
- Wednesday, October 17, 7:00-8:30pm
- Monday, October 22, 7:00-8:30pm
- Wednesday, October 24, 7:00-8:30pm

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-Friday, October 15-19: Homecoming Week Celebration at Somerville High School (81 Highland Ave.)

Tuesday, October 16: Kennedy School Picture Day (5 Cherry St.)

Tuesday, October 16, 5:30-7:30pm: Brown School Heritage Hoedown Potluck (201 Willow Ave.)

Tuesday, October 16, 6:00-7:30pm: Healey School PTA Literacy Night (PreK-2) at the Healey School Library (5 Meacham St.)

Tuesday, October 16, 1:00-3:30pm: SHS Post-Secondary Fair at the Somerville High School Field House (81 Highland Ave.)

Tuesday, October 16, 6:00-8:00pm: SFLC Somerville Learning 2030 Night @ the Cummings (42 Prescott St.)

Tuesday, October 16, 6:00-7:30pm: Healey PTA Literacy Night for PreK-2 at the Healey School Library (5 Meacham St.)

Wednesday, October 17: Half Day Wednesday (PreK dismissed at 11:30am; K-8 dismissed at noon)

Wednesday, October 17: WSNS PTA Spirit Day – Crazy Hair/Crazy Hat day (177 Powder House Blvd.)

Wednesday, October 17, 10:15-11:15am: WSNS 6th Grade Nature's Classroom Student Visit

Wednesday, October 17, 4:00pm: SHS Cross Country vs. Gloucester at Blessing of the Bay Boathouse (32 Shore Drive, Somerville)

Wednesday, October 17, 4:00pm: SHS Girls Soccer vs. Marblehead at Dilboy Stadium (300 Alewife Brook Pkwy.)

Thursday, October 18: Argenziano School Picture Day (290 Washington St.)

Thursday, October 18, 5:15pm: SHS Girls Volleyball vs. Everett at the Somerville High School Field House (81 Highland Ave.)

Thursday, October 18, 6:00-8:00pm: Serve & Inspire Volunteer Orientation at the Cummings (42 Prescott St.)

- Friday, October 19: Healey School Picture Day** (5 Meacham St.)
- Friday, October 19: Brown School Picture Retake Day** (201 Willow Ave.)
- Friday, October 19: Brown School 3rd Grade Field Trip**
- Friday, October 19: WSNS Ms. Anaya's K Trip** to Wilson Farm
- Friday, October 19, 7:00pm: Somerville High School Homecoming Football Game** vs. Revere at Dilboy Stadium (300 Alewife Brook Pkwy., Somerville)

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, Oct. 15, 6:00-7:00pm: Educational Programs and Instruction Subcommittee Meeting** at the Board of Aldermen Chambers, Somerville City Hall (93 Highland Ave.)
- Monday, Oct. 15, 7:00-9:00pm: Regular School Committee Meeting** at the Board of Aldermen Chambers, Somerville City Hall (93 Highland Ave.)
- Wednesday, Oct. 17, 7:00-8:00pm: Rules Management Subcommittee Meeting** at the Special Education Conference Room (8 Bonair St., 2nd floor)
- Wednesday, Oct. 17, 7:00-9:00pm: Finance and Facilities Subcommittee Meeting** at the Central Office Conference Room (8 Bonair St., 2nd floor)
- Wednesday, Oct. 24, 7:00-9:00pm: School Committee Long Range Planning Meeting** at the Central Office Conference Room (8 Bonair St., 2nd floor)

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 Somerville Learning 2030 Night @ the Cummings.** On Tuesday, October 16th, from 6:00-8:00pm SFLC hosts "Night @ the Cummings" to talk about growing up and learning in Somerville. Somerville Learning 2030 is a community visioning process to identify shared priorities around raising kids and teens in Somerville. Be part of the conversation and think big about the type of learning experiences we want for kids and teens in Somerville. Event will take place at the Cummings School building, 42 Prescott.
- Serve and Inspire Volunteer Orientation.** Join us Thursday, Oct. 18, 6:00-8:00pm at the Cummings School building (42 Prescott St.) to learn about district schools and how SPS volunteers serve, inspire and support student learning. For more information, contact your school-based Volunteer Coordinator or Jen Capuano at (617) 629-5475 or jcapuano@k12.somerville.ma.us.
- SFLC Community Resource and Legal Services Clinic** - Thursday, Oct. 25th, 5:00-7:00pm, Cummings building, room 12 (42 Prescott St.). Meet representatives from the SFLC, City of Somerville Health and Human Services, and SomerViva for information and resources, or make an appointment for a free legal consultation with representatives from Greater Boston Legal Services and the Harvard Immigration and Refugee Clinical Program (HIRC). For a legal consultation appointment, call (617) 625-6600 x6994 or email freyes@k12.somerville.ma.us. The SFLC Community Clothing Closet, a resource of free clothing for families in need, will be open.
- Basic Needs Resource and Referral.** Clothing and food resources are available at the SFLC offices for families in need. The SFLC Clothing Closet is open weekly, Thursdays, 12:00 - 3:00 pm and also once a month during SFLC Community Clinics, 5:00 - 7:00 pm. Food resources and referrals available by request.

Looking Ahead:

- Tuesday, October 23, 5:30-7:00pm: ESCS School Council Meeting at the East Somerville Community School** (50 Cross St.)
- Wednesday, October 24, 9:00-10:00am: The Energized Guys – Powered Up event** for grades 5/6 at the Argenziano School cafeteria (290 Washington St.)
- Wednesday, October 24, 5:00-6:30pm: WSNS School Council Meeting** (177 Powder House Blvd.)
- Wednesday, October 24, 6:30-7:30pm: WSNS Middle Grades Fundraising Committee Meeting** (177 Powder House Blvd.)
- Thursday, October 25: Brown School Assemblies** with renowned storyteller, Eshu Bumpus (201 Willow Ave.)

Thursday, October 25, 5:00-7:00pm: SFLC Community Resource and Legal Services Clinic at the Cummings School building (42 Prescott St.)

Friday, October 26: WSNS 6th Grade Field Trip to Harvard Museum of Natural History

Friday, October 26: West Somerville Neighborhood School Picture Day (177 Powder House Blvd.)

Friday, October 26, 6:00-8:00pm: Argenziano Fall Ball (grades PreK-4) at the Argenziano Cafetorium (290 Washington St.)

Saturday, October 27: ACT Testing at Somerville High School (81 Highland Ave.)

Tuesday, October 30: WSNS SMILE PreK Trip to Wilson Farm

Wednesday, October 31: Half Day Wednesday (PreK dismissed at 11:30am; K-8 dismissed at noon)

Wednesday, October 31: WSNS Spirit Day – Character Day

Wednesday, October 31, 6:00-8:00pm: SHS School Improvement Council Meeting at the Somerville High School library (81 Highland Ave.)

Community News & Events

Monster Mashed Up. The last SomerStreets festival of the year, “Monster Mashed-up” takes place Sunday, October 14, 2:00-6:00pm on Somerville Ave. between Union Square and Park St. Activities will include live music on three stages, a costume parade (kicking off at the corner of Hawkins St. at 3:00pm), doggy costume contest at River Dog (321 Somerville Ave.), giant chainsaw pumpkin carving with Artisan’s Asylum, Parkour with Parkour Generations Boston, plenty of activities and fun with Somerville Recreation, Story Time with the Somerville Public Library at 3:00pm, and much more! Additionally, “Ghosts of Milk Row Cemetery” tours will be offered from 2:00-3:30pm at the historic Milk Row Cemetery, 400 Somerville Ave. (suggested donation of \$5 for the tour). Rain date is October 28. For more information, visit www.somervilleartscouncil.org.

Friends of the Somerville Public Library Book Sale! Add to your collection of books, CDs and DVDs at the upcoming Friends of the Somerville Public Library Book Sale. All sale items will be \$1. Sale takes place at the Central Library branch, 79 Highland Avenue, on the following dates:

- Wednesday, October 17, 6:00-8:30pm
- Thursday, October 18, 6:00-8:30pm
- Friday, October 19, 12:00-4:00pm
- Saturday, October 20, 10:00am-4:00pm
- Sunday, October 21, 1:00-5:00pm

Somerville Parks & Recreation – Free Boys Basketball Clinics. Visit the Somerville Parks & Recreation website at <http://www.somervillerec.com/info/activities/default.aspx?type=activities> to learn all about their current programming. Somerville Recreation is currently offering FREE Boys Basketball Clinics for students in Grades 4-8. Clinics will be held at the Somerville High School Field house on the following upcoming dates:

- Monday, October 15, 7:00-8:30pm
- Wednesday, October 17, 7:00-8:30pm
- Monday, October 22, 7:00-8:30pm
- Wednesday, October 24, 7:00-8:30pm

Free Family Flu Clinics. The Somerville Health and Human Services Department is offering free flu shots for those ages 3 and up, with or without health insurance. If you have health insurance, please bring your Health Insurance Card (includes Medicare). Both Standard Dose and the High Dose for Seniors 65+ are available. Clinics are subject to vaccine availability. Email sharris@somervillema.gov or call (617) 625-6600, x4320 to find out if there will be shots available for all clinics. Schedule of upcoming Family Flu Clinics:

- Tuesday, Oct. 16, 2018 @ City Hall Annex (50 Evergreen Ave.), 10:00am-2:00pm
- Thursday, Oct. 25, 2018 @ Holland Street Senior Center – Council on Aging (167 Holland St.), 10:00am-2:00pm
- Thursday, Oct. 25, 2018 @ City Hall Annex (50 Evergreen Ave.), 4:00-7:00pm
- Sunday, Nov. 4, 2018 @ St. Anthony’s Church (12 Properzi Way), 10:00am-2:00pm
- Tuesday, Nov. 6, 2018 @ East Somerville Community School (50 Cross St.), 4:00-7:00pm
- Thursday, Nov. 8, 2018 @ City Hall (93 Highland Ave.), 5:00-7:00pm
- Tuesday, Nov. 20, 2018 @ City Hall Annex (50 Evergreen Ave.), 10:00am-6:00pm

Family & Children's Concert Series - Tufts Wind Ensemble. The Tufts University Wind Ensemble is holding a free family concert on Saturday, October 13, 1:00-2:00pm at the Distler Performance Hall at the Granoff Music Center (20 Talbot Avenue, Medford). TUWE celebrates Disney with songs from across the decades as well as games, dances, and more! John McCann, director

After-school Acting at the Armory. After-school acting is returning to Arts at the Armory in October! This FREE afterschool program for children ages 7-10 and 11-14 will be held in the Armory's Performance Hall from 4:00-5:30pm on Tuesdays. The program begins October 2nd and ends in a final performance on December 4th. For more information and to register, visit: <http://artsatthearmory.org/learn/after-school-acting/>.

Somerville Media Center Community Media Day. Somerville Media Center will host their annual Community Media Day event on Saturday, October 20th, 11:00am to 3:00pm. To learn more about this free annual event and the family-friendly activities scheduled, visit <https://www.somervillemedia.org/communitymediaday2018/>.

Somerville Museum Exhibits and Programs. Stop by the Somerville Museum (1 Westwood Road, Somerville MA) this month to enjoy a variety of programs that explore urban environmental issues of Somerville (then, now, and future). Museum Curator, Pennie Taylor, presents Triple Decker Ecology, an interdisciplinary installation by artist David Buckley Borden and collaborators that includes both local artifacts and new works inspired by the Somerville Museum's historic collection. The exhibit will be on view from October 11 through December 9, 2018. Upcoming programs includes "More Bats!", a children's book reading with Somerville writer and 2018 SAC artist, Jacob Kramer, and Harvard bat biologist, Jasmin Camacho, on Saturday, October 20, 10:30am-12:00pm. To learn more about this exhibit and upcoming events, visit: <http://somervillemuseum.org/>.

Transportation YOU Summit. Do you know any female identifying students interested in the fields of architecture, planning, and/or engineering? The [WTS](#) Boston Outreach Committee is partnering with MassDOT and MBTA to host this year's Transportation YOU Summit on Saturday, October 27th, 9:00am-2:00pm. The event, open to girls ages 12-18, offers hands-on workshops to introduce participants to a wide variety of transportation careers. There will also be a student panel, mini-activity tables between workshops, and opening and closing remarks by industry leaders. The event is FREE and lunch will be provided. Registration limited to the first 100. 10 Park Plaza, 2nd floor, Boston. Visit <https://www.wtsinternational.org/events/2018-transportation-you-boston-summit-/> for more information and to register.

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."