

CONNECTIONS

A Newsletter from the Somerville Public Schools – September 27, 2018

News & Notes

SOMERVILLE LEARNING 2030

Somerville has launched a visioning campaign to learn about the community's dreams, hopes, and priorities when it comes to learning experiences and opportunities for youth. **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 throughout the day and throughout the city. What's working well? What should change or improve? What should we prioritize over the next 10-15 years? If you live or work in Somerville, we hope you will join us in this conversation. You can start by taking a brief survey (<http://bit.ly/sl2030survey>) to share what's important to you. We also invite you to share the survey link with colleagues, friends, and family; we want to hear from everyone in every neighborhood. There are other opportunities to support this process and to make your voice heard. Visit <http://bit.ly/somervillelearning2030> for the most recent information and to learn more!



CITY AND SCHOOL STAFF TEAM UP TO LAUNCH EXPANDED RECYCLING AND COMPOSTING PILOT AT FOUR DISTRICT SCHOOLS

Somerville City and school staff recently teamed up to launch a pilot program that will expand recycling efforts into school cafeterias and add composting to the mix, adding to the nearly two tons of paper materials that are recycled each week across Somerville Public Schools. The program soft-launched this week at the Kennedy and Healey school cafeterias, and will launch officially there and at the Brown and Argenziano schools next week. Composting company Garbage to Garden is working with school Principals and staff on introducing the new waste disposal process; they will pick up the compost and haul it to Rocky Hill Farm in Saugus. Plans are to expand the program across the district, after learning what works and doesn't work in the four pilot locations. Read all about this exciting new sustainability effort [here](#).

SHS STUDENT COUNCIL LEADS STUDENT VOTER REGISTRATION DRIVE

The Somerville High School Student Council recently led a Student Voter Registration Drive. Student Council representatives staffed information tables during lunchtime throughout the drive, and also connected with fellow students as they walked around campus, encouraging and helping schoolmates complete their voter registration forms. The drive included pre-registration for 16- and 17-year-olds, ensuring that students are ready for when they are officially able to vote. The campaign culminated with a final push on National Voter Registration day.

What's Happening

SHS Women in STEM Summit – October 1, 2018

Somerville High School hosts its first SHS Women in STEM Summit on Monday, October 1st, 3:00-5:30pm at the school Library. SHS students will engage in STEM challenges, discussion, hear from a panel of local STEM professionals, and meet one-on-one with STEM career mentors. Activities include an ice-breaker engineering challenge for students and local STEM professionals, discussion of opportunities and challenges for Women in STEM, breakout discussions by discipline, as well as a keynote speaker and student speaker/emcee.

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. Clinics started Monday, September 24th and will run into late October. Remaining clinics are scheduled for the following Mondays and Wednesdays:

- Monday, October 1, 7:00-8:30pm
- Wednesday, October 3, 7:00-8:30pm
- *Monday, October 8 – Holiday – NO CLINIC*
- Wednesday, October 10, 7:00-8:30pm
- 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, October 1: Winter Sports Online Registration Opens for SHS winter sports teams

Monday, October 1, 3:00-5:30pm: SHS Women in STEM Summit at Somerville High School Library (81 Highland Ave.)

Tuesday, October 2, 5:30pm: Brown School PTA Business Meeting (201 Willow Ave.)

Tuesday, October 2, 6:00pm: Brown School Heritage Potluck (201 Willow Ave.)

Wednesday, October 3, 7:30-8:15am: Winter Hill Walk and Roll to School Day

Thursday, October 4, 7:30-8:00am: Corn Shucking Day at schools across the district

Thursday, October 4: Argenziano Grade 3 Field Trip to Plimoth Plantation

Friday, October 5, 7:45-8:45am: Parent Coffee Hour and Workshop Series Launch at the West Somerville Neighborhood School, Room 222 (177 Powder House Blvd.)

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

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. 1, 7:00-9:00pm: Regular School Committee Meeting at the Board of Aldermen Chambers, Somerville City Hall (93 Highland Ave.)

Wednesday, Oct. 10, 6:30-8:30pm: Finance and Facilities Subcommittee Meeting at the Central Office Conference Room (8 Bonair St., 2nd Floor)

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. 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.

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.

SFLC Parent/Guardian English Classes. Parents/guardians of Somerville students can practice and strengthen their English language skills while learning about and becoming more involved with their child's education. SFLC works in collaboration with The Welcome Project to provide classes held in the morning, afternoon and evening. Parents/Guardians can register for classes by calling 617-625-6600 ext. 6702.

SFLC Playgroups. Parents and caregivers with infants, toddlers and preschool children in Somerville meet and play in age and language-based groups that gather weekly at the Cummings School. Registration is ongoing throughout each session. Drop-in groups are also available. For more information, contact Michelle Laskey, Playgroup Coordinator, at sfn@k12.somerville.ma.us or (617) 625-6600, x6990.

Looking Ahead:

Monday, October 8: School Holiday – all schools and district offices CLOSED

Tuesday, October 9, 8:45-9:15am: WSNS Student of the Month celebration (177 Powder House Blvd.)

Wednesday, October 10: Post-Secondary/PSAT Day at Somerville High School (81 Highland Ave.)

Wednesday, October 10, 5:30-7:00pm: Clothing Swap and Story Time at the West Somerville Neighborhood School (177 Powder House Blvd.)

Friday, October 12, 10:00am-1:00pm: WSNS 7th Grade Field Trip to Google

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

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

Friday, October 20, 7:00pm: Somerville High School Homecoming Football Game vs. Revere at Dilboy Stadium (300 Alewife Brook Pkwy.)

Community News & Events

Somerville Parks & Recreation. Visit <http://www.somervillerec.com/info/activities/default.aspx?type=activities> to learn all about current programming offered by Somerville Parks & Recreation. Somerville Recreation will be 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 1, 7:00-8:30pm
- Wednesday, October 3, 7:00-8:30pm
- *Monday, October 8 – Holiday – NO CLINIC*
- Wednesday, October 10, 7:00-8:30pm
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4th Annual Evolution of Hip Hop Festival. This annual event will take place Saturday, September 29 (rain date Sept. 30), from 3:00-7:00pm in Union Square Plaza. This free ArtsUnion festival is presented by the City of Somerville and Somerville Arts Council in partnership with The Somerville Line, Oompa, and Pretty Poison. The festival will feature rappers, singers, spoken word poets and dancers from the Somerville community and surrounding cities. Attendees can also enjoy live street art and other visual arts presentations, and visit information tables offered by local groups. Visit <https://www.facebook.com/events/141967103296389> for the musical lineup and up-to-date information.

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:

- Thursday, Sept. 27, 2018 @ City Hall Annex (50 Evergreen Ave.), 10:00am-6:00pm
- 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 (TUWE) invites you to join them for 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

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.”