

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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## Somerville High School earns continued Accreditation from New England Association of Schools & Colleges

English language, career studies, and digital literacy highlighted in Commission report

SOMERVILLE, Mass. - September 19, 2025 - Somerville High School has received continued Accreditation in the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC) following a visit in April 2025 by the Commission on Public Schools. The school district is pleased to make this announcement as classes reconvene for the 2025-26 academic year.

As part of the NEASC Decennial Accreditation Report, the Commission identified twelve "Priority Areas of Growth" where Somerville High School met or exceeded recommendations following the NEASC's previous collaborative visit with the school.

Among the achievements outlined in the <u>44-page report</u> were an investment in work-based learning through the school's Career and Technical Education curriculum, alignment of English Language Arts and world language studies across all high school grade levels, development of a comprehensive Tier 1(high-quality classroom instruction best practices) resource and student support guide, fostering a safe school climate, and effective use of technology and digital literacy. The report also highlighted access to academic honors and Advanced Placement courses, as well as opportunities for dual enrollment in college and high school.

"This report reflects the talent and the hard work of the entire staff at Somerville High School," said principal Alicia Kersten, in response to the overwhelmingly positive report. "Their dedication and the buy-in from our amazing student body have created a learning environment that the entire Somerville community can be proud of."

Of the Commission's "Foundational Elements" for accreditation, the high school was proficient in seven of eight components reviewed, with additional resources needed for consistent written formatting of all departmental course curricula at the campus. Kersten and her team will submit a progress report in May to detail the school's strategic response to the request.

"I could not be more proud of the accomplishments of Principal Kersten and her entire team at Somerville High School," said Ruben Carmona, Superintendent of Schools. "This further reinforces our commitment not just to academic excellence, but also fair and equitable access, the emotional wellness of our students, and community engagement. This is a great showcase of the high school's strengths and a valuable opportunity to address areas of current and future growth."

For more on the Commission on Public Schools, visit <a href="www.neasc.org">www.neasc.org</a>.

Learn about Somerville High School at www.somerville.k12.ma.us/SHS .