



Somerville Public Schools

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Dear Families and Staff:

We are looking forward to welcoming students and staff back tomorrow after what we hope has been a restful and enjoyable April break.

In-Person Learning

When classes resume tomorrow, Monday, April 26, all grades PK-8, Special Education, ELL, and designated programs will be back to in-person education five days a week for those who have not opted for remote learning. **PLEASE NOTE: There will be a 2-hour delayed start on Monday, April 26th for all in-person students to allow for in-person teachers and staff to participate in rapid COVID testing that morning.**

All students and staff will test on Monday, and then again on Thursday.

- Teachers and staff will return Monday during their normal hours and test at their school from 8:00-10:00 AM.
- Students learning in-person will return on a two-hour delay and participate in COVID testing shortly after arriving at their school.
- April 26 start times for students who are in-person are 10:45 for pre-K and 10:15 for grades K-8. The select groups of high school students who are in-person at SHS will also start 2 hours later than their regular start times on Monday, April 26.
- We will resume regular start times for all students on Tuesday, April 27.
- All in-person students and staff will complete another pool test on Thursday, April 29.
- Any individuals who need to retest due to their pool testing positive will do so on Tuesday and Friday. Somerville HHS staff will call staff and families if they need to retest. If you do not hear from anyone, your pool test was negative.

Remote Learning

For students who are continuing to learn remotely from home, the school day will begin at the regular time on Monday, April 26. K-8 families whose students are remaining remote should have received an [update](#) earlier this week with details about the learning schedule, attendance, and grading. In addition, we are happy to share that Mr. John Braga, Assistant Principal at the Argenziano School, will also be serving as the Remote Learning Administrator, working closely with Asst. Superintendent Mazza on supporting all students and staff in the district who will be teaching and learning remotely this spring. Families should have received an introductory email from Mr. Braga earlier today.

Somerville High School & Brown School

Thank you to all Somerville High School students/families who have completed the survey on possible in-person options. We hope to receive additional guidance from DESE on high school students this week. As we noted in last week's update, we received clearance to **return students and staff to the Brown School building this school year**, which will provide us additional space to be able to return more of our SHS students to in-person learning. We plan to move the Brown School classrooms from the Mods to the Brown over the weekend of May 1st. We will provide additional information on the use of the Mods once we review the survey data and receive guidance from DESE, but we are excited to have additional much-needed space for our high school students.

Afterschool Programming

Starting Monday, April 26, Community Schools afterschool programming will run 5 days a week at the current sites and will end at 5:00pm each day.

Grab-and-Go Meals after April Break

Starting Monday, April 26, Grab-and-Go meals will only be available for pickup at the main entrance of the new Somerville High School from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Mondays through Fridays. No ID is required for Grab-and-Go meals, and families are encouraged to take as many as they need.

Summer Programming

In partnership with the City, we are putting together a comprehensive menu and schedule of summer academic and enrichment programming offered by Somerville Public Schools, other City departments and various local and regional community partners. Please look for additional information in next week's update.

COVID-19 Vaccination Update

Starting Monday, April 19, all residents 16 and older will be eligible to receive the COVID-19 vaccine. You can pre-register for a vaccine appointment at a state site by visiting vaccinesignup.mass.gov or by calling 211. You can also visit vaxfinder.mass.gov to find vaccine appointments at other sites. The City of Somerville is also available to help those who face barriers to accessing vaccines, including needing transportation or language assistance. If you are currently eligible to receive a vaccine and need help accessing a vaccine, please call 311.

We look forward to reconnecting with our students and staff either remotely or in-person tomorrow. See you soon!

Respectfully,

Mary Skipper, Superintendent of Schools