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Dear SPS Families and Staff,

As we get closer to the end of the school year and to the summer months, we are continuing to build out our list of resources for students and families and to plan for virtual summer programming, working with our community partners. We will post information on our website next week with details about summer programming. While we know that nothing can replace the in-person experience that students have enjoyed in so many of our summer programs in the past, we are committed to providing robust virtual experiences that will support student learning over the summer, and that students will find engaging.

We know that as the weeks go by, more and more families are struggling. You can find a list of basic supports for families at [www.somerville.k12.ma.us/relief-our-families](http://www.somerville.k12.ma.us/relief-our-families), and a comprehensive list of resources available to families at [www.somervillema.gov/coronavirushelp](http://www.somervillema.gov/coronavirushelp). We also urge you to call 3-1-1 if you're not sure where to find information or what resources to look for. Their amazing staff will connect you to the right resource(s).

## NEW/UPDATED INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

**Virtual Town Halls:** This is a reminder that the City is hosting a series of virtual town halls with Mayor Curtatone where you can learn about local COVID-19 impacts and the City's response. Visit [www.somervillema.gov/virtualtownhall](http://www.somervillema.gov/virtualtownhall) for details on ways to participate and links to videos from previous Virtual Town Hall meetings. The remaining schedule includes:

- Community Town Hall (for the general public) – Tuesday, May 19, 7-8pm
- Parents Town Hall – Thursday, May 21, 7-8pm
- Youth Town Hall (for SHS, NWFC, and other Somerville teens) – date to be announced

**Help us Celebrate the Class of 2020!:** Here are 2 ways you can help us celebrate the Somerville High School, Full Circle and SCALE Class of 2020:

- Make posters/signs to put on your windows or yards (or use chalk on your driveways or sidewalks) to congratulate our 2020 graduates, and share messages on social media.
- Send a congratulatory message out to your graduate, at no cost to families. To participate, send an email to [somerville@wickedlocal.com](mailto:somerville@wickedlocal.com) with the subject line "Congrats Grad Message." Include a congratulatory message of up to 25 words, the name of the graduate the message is going to, and who the message is from. Submission deadline extended to Friday, May 29.

**Today's Shout-Out:** A huge shout-out to DPW for their tireless work in our schools and across the City throughout this pandemic. Through it all, they have continued to keep their focus on the health and safety of our students. Enjoy this recent video message to students from our DPW friends at the East Somerville Community School: [https://twitter.com/escs\\_sps/status/1261312063873392641?s=21](https://twitter.com/escs_sps/status/1261312063873392641?s=21).

**Just for Fun:** Learn how to create your own board game from PBS Kids (<https://www.pbs.org/parents/crafts-and-experiments/create-your-own-board-game>). For more fun and interactive activities, visit [www.somerville.k12.ma.us/JustforFun](http://www.somerville.k12.ma.us/JustforFun).

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## LIST OF RESOURCES, CONTINUING PROGRAMS AND IMPORTANT LINKS

Curriculum Resources and Tech Support Available Online

- High quality grade-level home learning resources from multiple sources: [www.somerville.k12.ma.us/home-learning](http://www.somerville.k12.ma.us/home-learning)
- If you are having trouble with your device, please submit a request for support using this [Somerville Public Schools Remote Tech Support Contact Form](#).
- Language Support for Technology Questions: SPS parents/students who need language assistance with technology should call 311 or email [311updates@somervillema.gov](mailto:311updates@somervillema.gov). A bilingual educator will contact you to assist you. Dial (617) 666-3311 if you are calling from a number outside of Somerville.
- SPS Remote Learning Plan can be accessed at [www.somerville.k12.ma.us/RemoteLearning](http://www.somerville.k12.ma.us/RemoteLearning)

#### Continuing Programs and Resources

- **Free/Reduced Lunch Application:** Qualifying for free/reduced lunch may open up additional resources for your family, such as eligibility for P-EBT benefits. If your student attends a non-CEP school in our district (a school other than SHS, Healey, NWFC, WHCIS, and ESCS) and you believe your financial situation might now make you eligible for free/reduced lunch, you can apply online [HERE](#).
- **Breakfast and Lunch Grab-and-Go Meals** Mondays-Fridays, 9-11 a.m. at ESCS, Healey, WSNS, and Winter Hill. No ID required. Bring a bag if you are picking up for multiple family members.
- **Other food-related resources in the city,** visit [www.somerville.k12.ma.us/food-resources](http://www.somerville.k12.ma.us/food-resources).
- **Distribution of Diapers:** Distribution of free diapers to families with babies or young children will continue on **Wednesdays from 9:00-11:00a.m.** at each of the four school food distribution sites, through June and while supplies last.
- **Comcast Internet Essentials:** We want to remind families that Comcast is offering two months of free internet service to families in need, through their Internet Essentials program. ***If you qualify for the school free/reduced lunch program, you are eligible for this important service.*** Information on how to apply and sign up for Internet Essentials from Comcast is available at: <https://internetessentials.com/>

#### Other Important Links & Information

- Visit [www.somervillema.gov/coronavirus](http://www.somervillema.gov/coronavirus) for the most current information on COVID-19 and resources available in our community.
- Talking to your kids about COVID-19: [www.somerville.k12.ma.us/TalkingAboutCoronavirus](http://www.somerville.k12.ma.us/TalkingAboutCoronavirus).
- Basic supports for families during COVID-19: [www.somerville.k12.ma.us/relief-our-families](http://www.somerville.k12.ma.us/relief-our-families).

Respectfully,

Mary Skipper, Superintendent