



Somerville Public Schools

Education • Inspiration • Excellence

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Dear SPS Families and Staff,

As a reminder, Monday is Memorial Day and a school holiday. While no instruction will take place on Monday, we will be distributing Grab-and-Go meals from 9-11 a.m. at the four designated school sites.

Graduation celebrations for this year's Full Circle seniors are set. Next week, Principal Green and some of her staff will be dropping off caps and gowns along with lawn signs and other school swag at each graduates' home. On June 10 beginning at 4:00pm, Full Circle graduates will have an opportunity to collect their diploma and have their picture taken at a "drive-up" ceremony at Dilboy Stadium. Students will be assigned an arrival time to ensure that all appropriate precautions are taken. A virtual celebration is also scheduled for the 16 graduates, the largest graduating class at Full Circle in at least 10 years.

We look forward to celebrating the outstanding work of our Full Circle and SHS graduating seniors over the next few weeks. I am incredibly proud of their dedication, their resilience, and their leadership despite the many challenges they have faced.

NEW/UPDATED INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

Memorial Day Reminder: A reminder that Monday, May 25th is a school holiday. No instruction will take place on Monday, in observance of Memorial Day. Have a safe and restful weekend.

Somerville School Committee State-wide School Choice Public Hearing: The Somerville Public Schools will conduct a public hearing to determine participation in the School Choice program for the 2020-2021 school year. The hearing takes place Wednesday, May 27, 2020 at 6:45pm on the GoToMeeting Online Webinar Platform. To join the hearing: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/1249113785733534224>. The public is cordially invited to attend.

Today's Shout-Out: Max, a student at East Somerville Community School, recently celebrated his 7th birthday. His teachers wanted to make sure that Max's 7th birthday was as memorable as possible. Their efforts did not go unnoticed. Max's mom, Lori Zasloff, expressed her gratitude with a very special note to Principal Morales, shared here with her permission:

"I am just feeling so touched and grateful right now, that I feel the need to let you know. Today was Max's 7th birthday. Not only did his 1st grade teachers help me in sending an email to his class including Spanish translation, but also BOTH Aileene Martinez and Marco Bradshaw drove by our house today. Aileene gave Max a heartfelt card and homemade tic-tac-toe game. Lastly we had a surprise visitor of Ms. Julie Allen (whom my daughter had for a 1st grade teacher). Oh my goodness this is so far beyond their job responsibilities but I know they genuinely care for my child and they were the highlight for all of us! I just feel so blessed to be a part of the ESCS community!"

Just for Fun: Jason Reynolds, the National Ambassador for Young People's Literature, uses his video series *Grab the Mic: Tell Your Story* (<https://guides.loc.gov/jason-reynolds/grab-the-mic/wrr>) to inspire kids and teens to write their own stories. For more fun and interactive activities, visit www.somerville.k12.ma.us/JustforFun.

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
- 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. 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

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.
- **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 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.
- Basic supports for families during COVID-19: www.somerville.k12.ma.us/relief-our-families.

Respectfully,

Mary Skipper, Superintendent