



# Somerville Public Schools

Education • Inspiration • Excellence

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Mary E. Skipper, *Superintendent*

8 Bonair Street · Somerville, MA 02145-3246  
[mskipper@k12.somerville.ma.us](mailto:mskipper@k12.somerville.ma.us) · [www.somerville.k12.ma.us](http://www.somerville.k12.ma.us)  
T 617-629-5200, x6005 · F 617-629-5611

May 29, 2020

Dear SPS Families and Staff,

With the summer months approaching, we know that families are looking for activities that will keep their students active and learning. Given the continuing safety efforts related to Covid-19, summer programming will look significantly different this year for schools and organizations across the country. We are continuing to build out our summer programming menu and identify programs that families can consider. All summer programming information will be made available at [www.somerville.k12.ma.us/summer](http://www.somerville.k12.ma.us/summer).

As we mentioned in our Wednesday update, we are developing a survey to get input on how the remote learning experience has been for you. Please look for the survey sometime next week. We hope you are able to take a few minutes to complete it as the data will be extremely helpful to our planning process for the fall. Thank you in advance, and our sincere appreciation for all you continue to do during this challenging time.

## **NEW/UPDATED INFORMATION AND RESOURCES**

**Spring 2020 School Committee Virtual Office Hours:** School Committee Spring 2020 virtual office hours continue through Tuesday, June 2<sup>nd</sup>. Join any of the sessions to share your thoughts about Somerville Public Schools with your elected officials. Visit <https://somerville.k12.ma.us/district-leadership/somerville-school-committee/spring-2020-virtual-office-hours> for a list and links to join each session.

**Today's Shout-Out:** The SPS Music and Theatre Arts Department produced and dedicated this video to all our students who are using Music and the Arts to help lift spirits and provide comfort and solidarity during this time. The video was produced by SHS Band Director, Jess Destramp. Song by Stevie Wonder. Enjoy [Sir Duke!](#)

**Just for Fun:** Visit the [National Museum of African American History and Culture](#) and its exhibit [The Wiz: The Supersoul Musical 'Wizard of Oz'](#), or check out their [exhibit on writer James Baldwin](#). 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: [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