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## Summer 2020 Weekly Update

July 10, 2020

Dear Somerville Public Schools Families and Staff,

We hope you had a safe and enjoyable 4th of July weekend. Summer programming kicked off this week for most of our district programs, with more than 475 students enrolled in a variety of targeted summer sessions. If you are still looking for ways to keep your students active and learning this summer, we encourage you to visit our summer learning web page ([www.somerville.k12.ma.us/summer](http://www.somerville.k12.ma.us/summer)) to find out about fun and engaging programs being offered by organizations in and outside of our community. We are continuing to update this list as we learn about new options.

We are anticipating additional guidance from the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education within the next week as Districts continue to make back-to-school plans for fall. On Monday, please look for an update about the reopening process, which will include information on the work of our reopening committees and about the timeline for release of the plan. Early next week, we will also be sharing out results of the Remote Learning Survey that we administered last month. In addition, a new survey will go out next week to solicit feedback on proposed models for returning in the fall. Thank you for your continued input.

### NEW/UPDATED INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

**SomerCamp:** Thanks to the generous support of the [Somerville Education Foundation \(SEF\)](#), several local organizations are partnering to offer [SomerCamp](#), an online summer program for Somerville youth that starts on Monday, July 13th. SomerCamp offers a rich array of fun and engaging activities – from boxing to filmmaking, and a lot of other options in between for all Somerville youth.

**This Week's Shout-Out:** A huge shout-out and congratulations to Next Wave/Full Circle for recently being awarded a \$550,000 2-year implementation grant from the Barr Foundation to continue their school redesign work as part of the Barr Foundation's [Engage New England](#) program. NW/FC has been moving toward competency-based learning, introducing co-taught courses and engaging students through Transformative Learning Experiences.

**Just for Fun:** [The Food Literacy Center](#) offers hands-on, kid-friendly healthy cooking videos and recipes for families to try together. For more fun and interactive activities, visit [www.somerville.k12.ma.us/justforfun](http://www.somerville.k12.ma.us/justforfun).

### PROGRAMS, RESOURCES AND LINKS

#### Programs and Resources

- **Breakfast and Lunch Grab-and-Go Meals:** Throughout the summer months, Grab-and-Go Meals will be distributed on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 9-11 a.m. at ESCS, Healey, WSNS, and Winter Hill. No ID required.
- **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:** Free diapers to families with babies or young children available for pickup on Wednesdays, 9:00-11:00a.m. at ESCS and WSNS through the end of July, while supplies last.

- **Comcast Internet Essentials:** Comcast has extended their offering of 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/>

#### Curriculum and Other Online Resources

- 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.
- List of resources on “talking about racism”: [www.somerville.k12.ma.us/talking-about-racism](http://www.somerville.k12.ma.us/talking-about-racism)

#### Important Covid-19 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