

CONNECTIONS

A Newsletter from the Somerville Public Schools – June 10, 2022

News & Notes

Capuano Students Enjoy Sunshine, Fun Activities at 2022 Field Day

Thursday, June 2 was a picture-perfect day for Capuano's Field Day. The event was organized and facilitated by physical education instructor Sharyn von Trapp. Students selected which "choose your challenge" games and activities to participate in, including relay races and parachute games. Eighteen students from Next Wave/Full Circle helped to run the different stations for the younger learners, and everyone had the opportunity to dance to Ms. von Trapp's musical playlist while on the field. Capuano's PTA provided Italian ice treats to help students cool down at the end of the event.



Charles Jabour Chosen as Teacher Leader for National Project



The Educational Theatre Association recently announced that Theatre Arts Instructor Charles Jabour has been selected to be a Teacher Leader for Theatre Education on a national 5-year Connected Arts Networks project. The project is made possible by an \$8.5 million U.S. Department of Education grant awarded to the National Art Education Association. Mr. Jabour joins a national team of educators who will collaborate over the next five years on creating and leading professional development related to the arts, social-emotional learning, and equity, diversity, and inclusion. During his time with Somerville Public Schools, Mr. Jabour has brought an innovative and entrepreneurial approach to theatre

studies curriculum and teaching in addition to producing the high school's theatre season. Learn more about the Connected Arts Network project at <https://bit.ly/3Nuoaiy>, and the Somerville High School theatre production company at www.highlandertheatre.org.

(photo credit: Sandra Mood)

John F. Kennedy School Fourth Graders "Get Caught Reading" in Fun Video

As Kennedy School fourth grade students demonstrate in a wonderful video, getting "caught reading" is fun! Caroline Hanly, 4th grade teacher at the Kennedy School, put together this "Get Caught Reading" video with the support of many people, including students, educators, and parents in the Kennedy School community, along with other community partners. Though the "Get Caught Reading" month is celebrated in May, it is a year-round national campaign sponsored

by Every Child a Reader and is designed to promote the fun of reading books.

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1U3UJrvBpybXTvgQ5hMKbRZhttcp1fCj/view?usp=sharing>

What's Happening

Annual Middle Grades Musical Production - June 9, 10, 11

Join Somerville Arts for Youth and the Highlander Theatre Company at Somerville High School for the return of the All City Middle School Musical: *Honk! JR*, based on the Hans Christian Andersen story "The Ugly Duckling." The cast and crew are 6-8th grade students. Performances are June 9th and 10th at 7pm and June 11th at 2pm in the new Somerville High School Centennial Auditorium.

Honk! JR. is a heartwarming celebration of being different that is sure to delight audiences of all ages with its sparkling wit, unique charm and memorable score. Witty and hilarious, but also deeply moving, *Honk! JR*. will treat audiences to equal amounts of laughter and tears. Great for all ages! Tickets are Pay-What-You-Can and are available at the door or at www.highlandertheatre.org.

End-of-Year Celebrations: Moving Up / Moving On / Graduation Ceremonies

With the 2021-22 school year coming to a close, we look forward to celebrating our students as they get ready for the next step of their learning journeys.

- Argenziano School: June 13, 5-6 p.m. outdoors at the playground area
- Brown School: June 16, 9:00 a.m. outdoors at the Brown School
- East Somerville Community School: June 15, 12:30 p.m. at the ESCS soccer field
- Healey School: June 16, 5-8 p.m. at the Healey School
- Kennedy School: June 17, 9:00 a.m. at the Kennedy School
- West Somerville Neighborhood School: June 16, 5:30-6:30 p.m. at WSNS
- Winter Hill Community Innovation School: June 15, 2022, 5 p.m. at the WH soccer field
- Next Wave Junior High Graduation: June 13, 5:00 p.m. at the SHS Lecture Hall

Will Your Student Attend Somerville High School This Fall?

All rising 9th graders are invited to join the FREE Summer Success Program at Somerville High School. It's a 2-week introduction to life at Somerville High School. Learn the layout of the new, state-of-the-art building, meet other students, and even earn high school credits.

Learn more about it: <https://bit.ly/3wNuivd>

Contact Michael Morgan: mmorgan2@k12.somerville.ma.us

Register in English: <https://bit.ly/3LJB7EC>. In Spanish: <https://bit.ly/3y8LYDW>. In Portuguese: <https://bit.ly/3vY2jst>. In Haitian Creole: <https://bit.ly/3vXatRX>.

Summer Program Openings

There are still several summer programs that have openings for students. The Somerville Calculus Project, Sing in Somerville, Somerville Arts for Youth Theater program, and the School of Honk are available. For details on each program, and to register, visit our [SPS Summer Learning page](#).

Just for Fun Events and Activities in Somerville and Surrounding Communities

Our district's Just for Fun Page lists in-person, online, and free or low-cost activities and special events to do solo or as a family. For more information, visit www.somerville.k12.ma.us/justforfun. Check back often – we will continue to update with new events and activities throughout the summer.

Upcoming School Committee Meetings:

Find the School Committee schedule, agendas, and meeting minutes (as approved) online at www.somerville.k12.ma.us/school-committee.

Monday, June 13, 5:30-6:30 p.m.: Rules Management Subcommittee Meeting – online (visit the [School Committee Meetings](#) page for the weekly Calls with meeting links, and Regular Meeting Agendas)

Monday, June 13, 7:00-9:30 p.m.: Regular School Committee Meeting – online (visit the [School Committee Meetings](#) page for the weekly Calls with meeting links, and Regular Meeting Agendas)

Wednesday, June 15, 6:00-8:00 p.m.: Special Policing Subcommittee Meeting – online (visit the [School Committee Meetings](#) page for the weekly Calls with meeting links, and Regular Meeting Agendas)

Thursday, June 16, 6:00-7:00 p.m.: Educational Programs and Instruction Subcommittee Meeting – online (visit the [School Committee Meetings](#) page for the weekly Calls with meeting links, and Regular Meeting Agendas)

Wednesday, June 22, 7:00-8:00 p.m.: Finance and Facilities Subcommittee Meeting – online (visit the [School Committee Meetings](#) page for the weekly Calls with meeting links, and Regular Meeting Agendas)

Monday, June 27, 7:00-9:30 p.m.: Regular School Committee Meeting – online (visit the [School Committee Meetings](#) page for the weekly Calls with meeting links, and Regular Meeting Agendas)

Community News & Events

Cozy Community Pop-Up



Come sing along with Max and friends and help make our community a welcoming place for everyone! This fun-filled event full of human and puppet characters speaks to themes of friendship, inclusion, and community. Activities include: a 40-minute sing-along puppet show followed by socially distanced craft activities, meet the puppet characters, the Book Nook quiet space, and take-home resources! For Family audiences, ages 3+. *Funded in part by a grant from the Boston Foundation, Somerville Arts Council, and the Massachusetts Cultural Council.* Join the fun on:

- June 12 (rain date June 18) at the Growing Center from 1:30 - 3:30 p.m. (performance at 1:45)
- June 24 at the West Branch Public Library from 4 - 5:30 p.m. (performance at 4:15)



Somerville Public Library's Book Club, Chapter Chatter, for Ages 9-11 to Meet

Somerville Public Library's Chapter Chatter for ages 9-11 meets the last Wednesday of every month. The next great read and discussion will be of Mark Oshiro's *The Insiders* on June 29. Meetings are held at the Central Library (79 Highland Ave.) from 6:30-7:15 p.m. More details can be found at <https://www.somervillepubliclibrary.org/kids/kids-book-clubs>.

Somerville Mathematics Fund Announces Its Scholarship Winners

The Somerville Mathematics Fund has announced this year's Math Fund scholarship winners. As Erica Dakin Voolich, President of the Somerville Mathematics Fund explains, "They persevered in the pandemic and came out ready to move on to college!" Read more about the scholarship and this year's winners in [this blog post](#).

Somerville Community Growing Center Spring Programs

The Somerville Community Growing Center invites you to enjoy meditation, learning about garden bugs, going on a pollinator safari, and much more this spring. Learn more about these and other fun and creative programs at the Somerville Community Growing Center: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1-SWkG5gcmpt8XLHbr7WYQr3MV1rej1VX/view>.

SPS Volunteer Opportunities

Serve and Inspire This Summer!

Somerville Public Schools and community partners have many ways you can serve this summer. There are opportunities to engage in academics, arts, music, athletics, outdoor adventure, gardening, and much more. New to volunteering with SPS? Contact SPS Volunteer Coordinator Jen Capuano at JCapuano@k12.somerville.ma.us.

City & District Employment Opportunities

Consider joining a winning team! Current city and district opportunities include:

- [Deputy Director of Communications](#), Communications & Community Engagement Dept., City of Somerville
- [Out of School Time / Child Care Coordinator](#), Health and Human Services Dept., City of Somerville
- [Deputy Director of Grants Development](#), Grants Development Department, City of Somerville
- [Community Engagement Specialist - Portuguese](#), SomerViva Office of Immigrant Affairs, City of Somerville
- [Racial and Social Justice Coordinator](#), Dept. of Racial and Social Justice, City of Somerville

Visit <https://cityofsomerville.applytojob.com/> for a complete listing of current open positions in the City of Somerville.

- [Anticipated Path Clinical Coordinator](#), Somerville High School, Somerville Public Schools
- [Anticipated Asst. Director of MLE](#), Multilingual Learner Education Department, Somerville Public Schools
- [Anticipated Special Education Paraprofessional](#), East Somerville Community School, Somerville Public Schools
- [Anticipated Theater Teacher](#), Winter Hill Community Innovation School, Somerville Public Schools
- [Anticipated Grade 8 UNIDOS/Humanities Teacher](#), East Somerville Community School, Somerville Public Schools

Visit <https://somerville.tedk12.com/hire/index.aspx> for a complete listing of current open positions in the Somerville Public Schools.

Our Commitment to the Whole Child

VISION: "We believe in developing the whole child — the intellectual, social, emotional, and physical potential of all students — by providing students with the skills, opportunities, and resources that will nurture innovative ideas, foster pride in diversity, inspire students to become lifelong learners and empower them to enrich their communities."