



Somerville Public Schools

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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SHS Graduate and Former U.S. Olympian Phil Reavis Sr. Visits Somerville High School

Reavis holds local and national records as a high jumper, placed seventh in the 1956 Olympic Games;

Once complete, the new athletic field at SHS will be dedicated in Reavis' honor.

Somerville, MA – Former Somerville High School athlete and U.S. Olympian, Phil Reavis Sr., paid a visit to his alma mater on October 27 to tour the new high school field house and gym. Reavis, a graduate of the class of 1954, rose to international acclaim for his skill in track and field as a high jumper. After winning local and national titles as an SHS student, Reavis was recruited by Villanova University and went on to win collegiate titles and compete in the 1956 Olympic Games. Reavis placed seventh in the Olympics that year.

In addition to his athletic skill and awards, Mr. Reavis returned to Somerville and taught at the Western Junior High School, mentored local youth, and ran programs for the Somerville Recreation Commission. Among his many other notable career accomplishments, Mr. Reavis coached and taught in Asia, where he retired and currently lives with his wife. Mr. Reavis is also an accomplished jazz saxophonist.

Recently, the City's Memorialization Committee voted unanimously to name the yet-to-be-built athletic field at SHS in Reavis' honor.

Photo Captions (next page):



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(1): SPS Athletic Director Stanley Vieira and Phil Reavis, Sr. view the new SHS trophy case which features a plaque with Reavis' name, and a recent addition of Reavis' Sports Illustrated cover feature.



(2): SPS Athletic Director Stanley Vieira presents Phil Reavis, Sr. with Somerville Highlander gear, including a Varsity letter.



(3) Phil Reavis, Sr. poses with members of the SHS Athletics staff.



(4 & 5): Phil Reavis, Sr. receives a tour of the new SHS gym from SHS staff.

