



**Somers Middle School**  
**Weekly Newsletter of October 30<sup>th</sup>**

Monday 11/2 Day 1A Red Group
Tuesday 11/3 Day 1B eLearning Day for SMS
Wednesday 11/4 Day 2C Red Group
Thursday 11/5 Day 2D White Group
Friday 11/6 Day 1D Red Group

**MESSAGE TO PARENTS**

- Election Day (11/3) is a full remote eLearning day for SMS.
- The Wednesday before Thanksgiving is a ½ day but also remote eLearning day.

**SMS STUDENT EXPECTATIONS FOR eLEARNING**

*As our school year progresses during these unprecedented times, we want to make sure that our learning environments both in school and at home are safe for everyone and conducive to learning. To that end, SMS has created this document to clearly communicate the expectations for students during eLearning. The basic tenet is that the eLearning environment is an extension of the classroom and school, so our Code of Conduct and Student Handbook applies whether a student is learning in school or at home. These guidelines are meant to prevent students from getting into difficult situations.*

**FOLLOW YOUR REGULAR SCHEDULE**

You must attend virtually each class every day you are assigned to eLearning, just as you would if you were in school. Attendance is mandatory and will be taken each

period. If there is a valid reason you cannot attend, your parent/guardian must notify the Attendance Office (SMSattendance@somersschools.org) to notify us of the reason.

### **BE PREPARED DAILY**

Make sure your device is fully charged and/or plugged in. Gather any materials that you need for class such as books, assignments, pen/pencil, and any other tools used in class. Log onto Schoology to review assignments for the day and locate the links to *Zoom*. Situate yourself at a desk or table in your house so that you can be best prepared to learn.

### **DRESS FOR SCHOOL**

Dress for eLearning just as you would in school and in accordance with our Student Handbook.

### **BE FOCUSED AND ENGAGED**

Set aside all other devices (cell phones, gaming systems, etc.) that would distract you from learning. Always have the teacher presentation on your screen. **Video must be on upon entry for attendance purposes. Please keep your video on until the teacher directs you otherwise.** Make sure your learning space is quiet and free from distractions.

### **BE RESPECTFUL**

Students must be respectful of their learning environment just as they would if they were in school. Work in an appropriate location for learning such as at a desk or at the dining room table. Examples of inappropriate locations would include in your bed or in a loud room. Be sure to follow your standard classroom expectations such as raising hands and waiting to be called on for example. Disruption to the learning environment both virtual and in person will be subject to discipline based on our SMS Code of Conduct.

### **RESPECT THE PRIVACY OF OTHERS**

Help us in creating a safe learning environment for all. The recording of the lesson or taking pictures of your teacher or classmates is strictly forbidden and is a direct violation of our Code of Conduct. **Zoom sessions are designed for student participation only.**

### **STUDENT COUNCIL**

Order your Somers Spirit Wear and Gear today! 5% of the sales will go to the SMS Student Council. <https://teamlocker.squadlocker.com/#/lockers/somers-middle-school?k=r513hvtteamlocker>

### **YEARBOOK**

The 2021 SMS "Pathways" Yearbooks and 8th grade Booster Ads are now on sale. Go to: [yearbookordercenter.com](http://yearbookordercenter.com) to order your copy today! We will not have many extra books for sale on distribution day, so make sure to order early. Questions? Contact: [castrologo@somersschools.org](mailto:castrologo@somersschools.org) OR [mmanko@somersschools.org](mailto:mmanko@somersschools.org)

### **COMPUTER CLUB**

Advisors: Mr. DeVito [rdevito@somersschools.org](mailto:rdevito@somersschools.org) & Mr. Lugo [mlugo@somersschools.org](mailto:mlugo@somersschools.org)

Who: All 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> graders; When: Thursdays at 3pm – 3:45pm on Zoom (starts 11/5); What: Computer club will be held on Zoom and use [Scratch](#) coding and app design to create fun and creative skits, animations and games.

Join Schoology group “SMS Computer Club” access code **G5S3-33PW-NN29F**

## **DRAMA CLUB**

If you are interested in joining the SMS Drama Club, please join the Drama Club Schoology Group, access code: BXQQ-KDVN-4CTBP. If you have any questions, please email Mrs. Williams, [MWilliams@somersschools.org](mailto:MWilliams@somersschools.org)

## **SMS VIRTUAL BOOK FAIR**

We are working hard to keep kids reading and raise critical funds for our school with our Scholastic Online-Only Book Fair from October 26 – November 8.

Plus, enjoy these special online shopping features:

- Access to over 6,000 products
- All orders ship direct to home
- **FREE shipping on book-only orders over \$25\***
- All purchases support our school and earn 25% in rewards

Visit our Book Fair homepage Monday 10/26-Sunday 11/8 to learn more and get started with online shopping: <https://tinyurl.com/smsbookfair2020>

## **SOMERS TRACK & FIELD - 2nd Annual Thanksgiving Virtual Turkey Trot**

Yes, Covid-19 may have gobbled up our chance to gather for our 2nd annual Turkey Trot, but there is still a lot to be thankful for! The Somers Track and Field Booster Club is thankful for everyone who joins us virtually this Thanksgiving. Run or walk; you choose when to trot your 5k/3.1 miles at any point from Saturday, 11/21 through Sunday, 11/29! Registration fee includes a special 2020 commemorative Turkey Trot T-shirt guaranteed for the 1st 100 registrants. Register by 10/30/20 to choose your shirt size. After 10/30/20, shirt sizes cannot be guaranteed. Trot with your coop and save \$5.00 per participant when you register 4+ participants at a time. Runners want to race? You can choose to submit your 5K time. Medals will be presented to the top 3 males and females in the following age groups: 14 and under, 15-19, 20-29, 30-39, 40-49, 50-59, 60-69, 70 and over. Click the link for more information: <https://runsignup.com/somerstrackandfieldannualturkeytrot>

## **5<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL WELLNESS SUMMIT**

Somers CSD 5th Annual Wellness Summit Presents: Managing Distress through Emotional Problem Solving. **SAVE THE DATE – November 5<sup>th</sup> @ 7pm.** See flyer on our website to access the zoom link.

To register:

[https://somersschools.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_T2jSJ6TgS8KvNqLbMFDLfw](https://somersschools.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_T2jSJ6TgS8KvNqLbMFDLfw)

## SHS MUSICAL

"Disney in Concert" is a fundraiser for the Somers High School Musical Company that will be held virtually on November 4th, 2020 at 7PM. This performance is filled with reminiscent, fun, and light-hearted musical numbers from a variety of Disney classics. The Somers High School students sing, dance, and perform solos, duets, and group numbers for the community of Somers—including many Primrose Elementary students who love to see their favorite princesses and characters in song! This event is a favorite amongst Somers performers, and we had a blast recording this performance despite the obvious obstacles of the pandemic. We hope you tune in to our Youtube Live on November 4th!" PURCHASE YOUR TICKETS [HERE](#). Please view this [FLYER](#) for full details.

## SEPTA Fall Fundraiser

Need a little more time to browse through the over 2,500 gift ideas in the Charleston Wrap catalogs and online store? The SEPTA fundraiser has been extended through the weekend, and will now close on Sunday, November 1st at midnight. Every year, SEPTA funds a wide variety of programs, activities, and grants that enrich the school year for students, staff, and parents. To help us reach our goals and make this fundraiser a success, register at [www.charlestonwrapstore.com](http://www.charlestonwrapstore.com) and use organization ID **20047**. Click on the link to find a flyer with detailed instructions about how you can register. <https://bit.ly/2Svebio>. We appreciate all of your support and encourage you to spread the word to your friends & family, near and far! If you'd like a catalog, or have a question about the sale, send an email to [somerssepta@gmail.com](mailto:somerssepta@gmail.com). Thank you!

