



Somerville Public Schools **Department of Equity & Excellence**

Caeli Gallitano
Director of Equity & Excellence

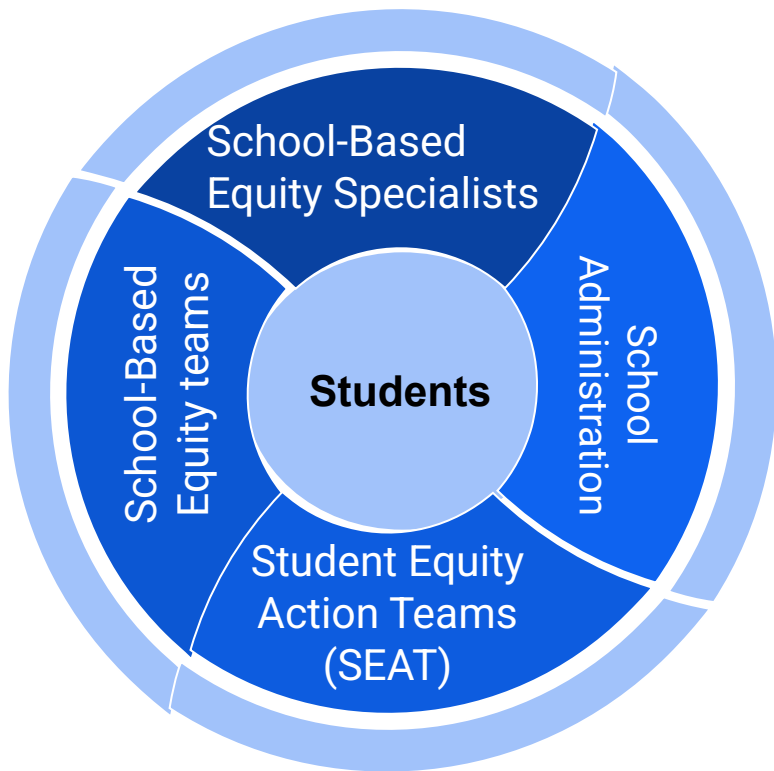
- MISSION
- DEPARTMENT of EQUITY & EXCELLENCE SUPPORTS
- BUCKETS OF WORK
- SEAT
- DATA & HIGHLIGHTS
- CELEBRATIONS & OBSERVANCES

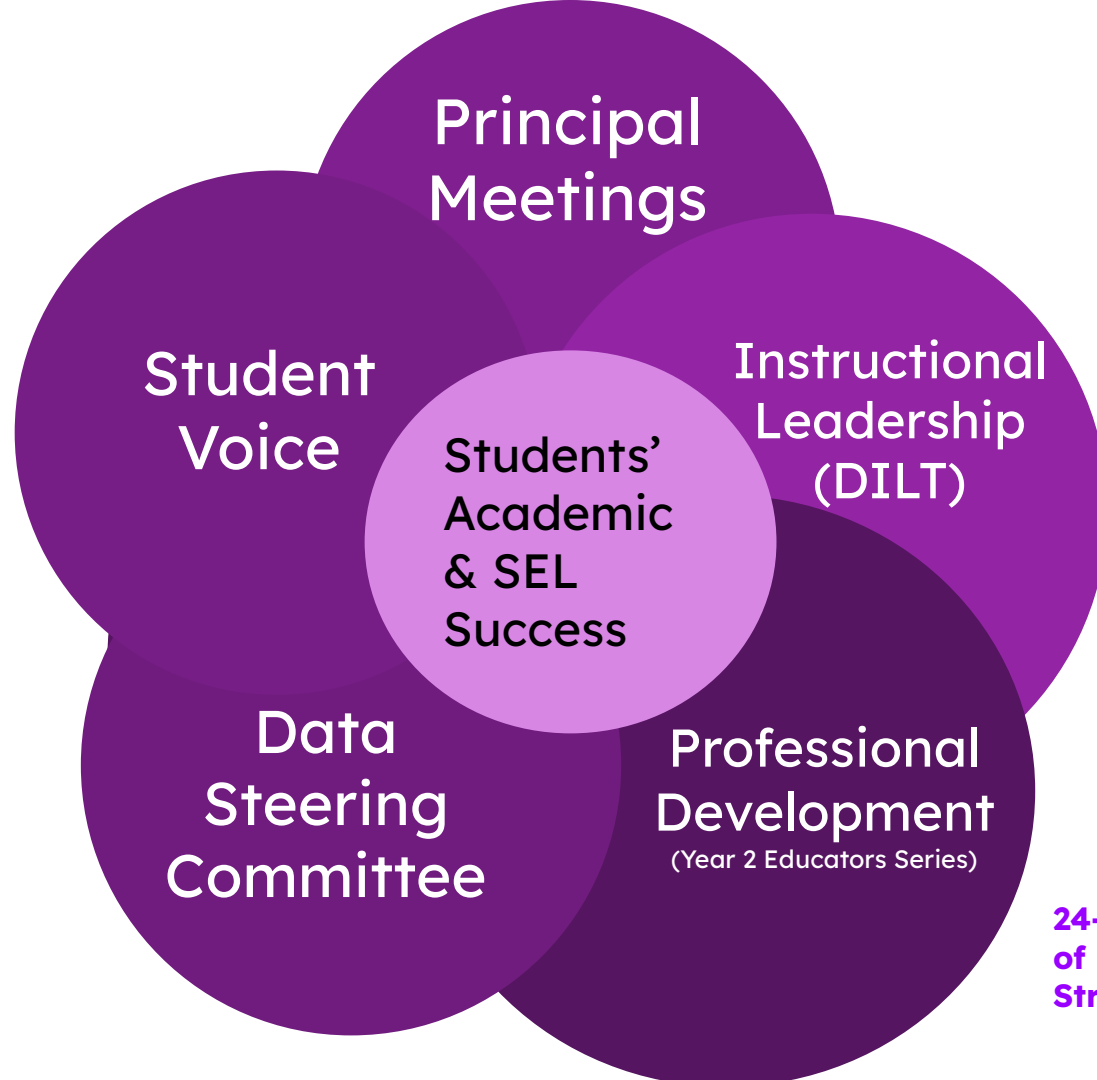


The background of the slide is a photograph of a modern, multi-story building with a grid-like facade of windows and balconies. The entire image is covered with a semi-transparent blue overlay. The word "MISSION" is centered in the upper half of the image in a bold, white, sans-serif font.

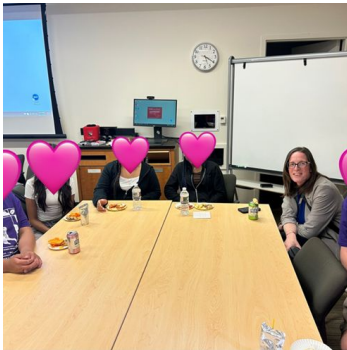
MISSION

Our mission is to work collaboratively with central office leadership, departments, schools, families, and students to transform systems, policies and practices in order to equitably provide opportunities, resources, staffing, and curricula that creates welcoming, rigorous, culturally relevant, and anti-racist learning communities for students and their families.





24-25 SY development
of Dept. of E&E
Strategic Plan



- The **Student Equity Action Team (SEAT)** is the youth arm of the School Improvement Team / School Improvement Plan
- SEAT is inline with the District Strategic Plan.
- SEAT is a collaborative effort between SPS (Somerville Public Schools) and the Harvard Graduate School of Education (HGSE)
- SEAT collects the youth perspective and allows for meaningful dialogues between youth and adults in the school to put thoughts into action and facilitate change



GLENDA SOTO
Principal
Argenziano School

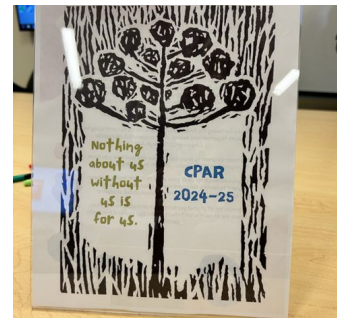
“I definitely noticed that if kids are in a project like SEAT, it’s a lot easier to create change because we have actual authority. When you’re on your own, you can feel like you are trying to build a boat in an ocean. In SEAT it’s like you have a small platform to stand on.” -Middle Grade Student

“I wasn’t very confident at first, but after the first year I got a huge ego boost... we kind of felt like, unstoppable... we can do whatever now.” -Middle Grade Student

“I think, working with social justice and social change...I think it’s gonna be with me for the rest of my life... [I now] think about myself as an activist and find a way to really speak what I, my beliefs and the ideas that I have in my mind. And it’s something that I’m looking forward to keep going.” - High School Student

“There was a really funny moment where we figured out that the kids didn’t realize that we weren’t just doing this for fun, that we were going to come up with recommendations and that people in power were going to hear our recommendations... [it was] the best day in terms of watching the kids’ faces go, wait, wait, we can say what we want to happen?And then the other really great part was ... watching the kids start to unpack systems of inequality and systems of equality – really neat to see them doing their own work in discovery.”

– Middle Grades Educator



Administration: *School leadership retention is high and remaining consistent: 90%*

Students: *Chronic absenteeism going down: from 23.3% in March 23-24 to 20.8% in March 24-25*

Students: “I have a voice in what I learn and how I learn it in my classes”: Increase from 61% in SY 22-23 to **63%** in SY 23-24 SY

Staff: “My school/department values diversity of families and students 23-24: 91% | 22-23: 94% | 21-22: 92%

Families: “School finds meaningful ways to involve families”: Increase from 65% in SY 22-23 to **71%** in SY 23-24

SPS educators and school leaders are committed to not only acknowledging opportunity gaps, but also uncovering their root causes, critically examining practices, and taking action to close them while strengthening family engagement.



Grade 1 DIBELS at East Somerville

SY23-24

BOY: 47%

EOY: 65%

SY24-25

BOY: 42%

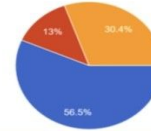
EOY: 71%

*An increase of
nearly 30%*

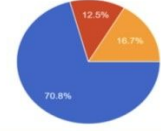


MID-YEAR VS END OF YEAR SURVEY

Is this school year different for you from last school year?
23 responses



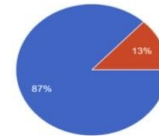
Is this school year different for you from last school year?
24 responses



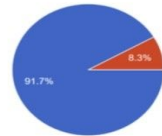
● Yes - feels better for
 ● No - feels worse for
 ● It is the same

MID-YEAR VS END OF YEAR SURVEY

Do you feel like a valued member of the ESCS community?
23 responses



Do you feel like a valued member of the ESCS community?
24 responses



● Yes
 ● No

MID-YEAR VS END OF YEAR SURVEY

Celebrations*

- Hispanic Heritage Month
- LGBT+ History Month
- Native American Heritage Month
- Black History Month
- Women's History Month
- Arab American History Month
- AAPI Heritage Month
- Haitian Heritage Month
- Jewish American Heritage Month
- Immigrant Heritage Month
- Pride Month

Observances*

- Rosh Hashanah
- Yom Kippur
- Eid al-Fitr
- Eid al-Adha
- Ramadan
- Naruz
- Passover
- Easter
- Lent

*These lists are not exhaustive





Thank you!