



SFLC 2025-2026



Comprehensive Family Engagement



Early Childhood

- Playgroups
- Developmental Screenings
- Parent/Guardian Support Groups
- Parenting Workshops
- ParentChild+ Home Visiting Program
- Cross-sector Alignment of Early Childhood Education
- Transitions to SPS

Enrollment Office

Family Engagement in SPS

- School-based Family & Community Liaisons
- Multilingual Services: Translation & Interpretation
- Basic Needs & Housing Support Services
- Volunteer Program
- District-wide events, programs, classes and workshops

4984

Students currently enrolled in SPS



- PK/K enrollment opened 1/2/26:
205 enrolled by 1/5/26
- In-person support by appointment +
2 days at ESCS and Capuano
- 143 people attended PK/K enrollment info
sessions

How are we collecting data?
Family feedback survey

2.84 out of 3 satisfaction rating

What did we do well? "It was a smooth, timely, and well communicated process. The enrollment specialists were kind, caring, and made us feel welcomed in Somerville."

How can we improve? "Understanding the enrolled/waitlist process during the wait time could be explained better."

Enrollment

Building trust in the school system

Basic Needs & Housing Support Services: 2025-26



What do we do?

Currently in 4th school year and firmly established as part of the broader support network for families

- Comply with federal mandate for McKinney Vento to ensure educational stability of students experiencing homelessness
- Work closely with SPS staff to identify families at risk for/experiencing homelessness
- Resource and referral for families, including emergency response, basic needs support and transportation
- Onsite at SHS to support the needs of unaccompanied students
- Collaborate with city and community partners to support initiatives that prioritize housing stability for families with children in SPS
- Policy and Advocacy

Children have only **1,800** days from birth to the start of kindergarten.

Each of these days is critical to their school readiness and success.

ParentChild+ Program



Birth-5 Programs & Services

Funded mostly by CFCE grant - flat funded for 10 years

Birth-5 Programs & Services: 2025-26

17 SFLC Multilingual Playgroups

Birth-5 years old
Birth-18 months
STEAM

Music
Social Emotional Learning
School Readiness
Math

Spanish
Portuguese
Nepali
Mandarin

“The sense of connection to the community in Somerville that we feel because of playgroups is irreplaceable.”

- Fall 2025 playgroup parent

4 Weekly Parent Support Groups

New Parents Group
Spanish Group
Portuguese Group
Families of Multiples Group

Parenting Workshops

- Power of Parenting: English and Portuguese
- Baby Sign Language
- Bilingualism and Language Acquisition: English and Spanish
- Toilet Training
- Social Emotional Development
- Helping Children Through Daily Transitions
- Infant Massage

How are we collecting data?

Pre and/or post surveys for all programs

94%

Survey respondents said that they understand more about their child's development as a result of being in SFLC playgroups, Fall 2025.



The visitor is the most special person in the whole process; she keeps the children completely engaged in the stories, games, and the entire visit. I've participated in other programs, and this one is the best.

- ParentChild+ Parent, July 2025 (Translated from Portuguese)



Languages represented amongst families: Arabic, English, Gujarati, Hindi, Nepali, Portuguese, Punjabi, Somali, Spanish

ParentChild+ Home Visiting Program

52 families receive:

- intensive, twice-weekly home visits for
- 30 weeks each year,
- focused on strengthening early literacy and language development,
- modeling parent-child interactions
- resource and referral for basic needs, early childhood services, and other community supports
- Feeder

ParentChild+
Equal Possibilities From The Start



Early Childhood Transitions to SPS

- November: [PK/K Enrollment Info Sessions](#)
- Dec-Jan, May: School Tours
- April - May: Child Development Workshops
- June:
 - Getting Ready for Kindergarten Workshop
 - [Getting Ready for Kindergarten Guide](#)
 - [School Specific Transition Stories](#)
- June - August: Popsicle Parties
- August:
 - [Get Ready for School Fair](#)
 - Welcome Bags

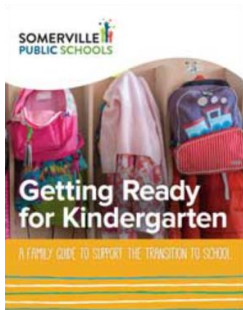
"You are all so warm and welcoming and make overwhelming decisions and moments feel doable. I have so much gratitude."

- Prospective SPS parent and PK/K Info Session attendee, November 2025

I Am Going to a New School



Somerville Public Schools Transition Kindergarten



Virtual Parenting Workshops

for Somerville families with children birth - 5 years old

Interpretation available upon request

Toilet Training

Thursday, May 8th 7-8:30pm

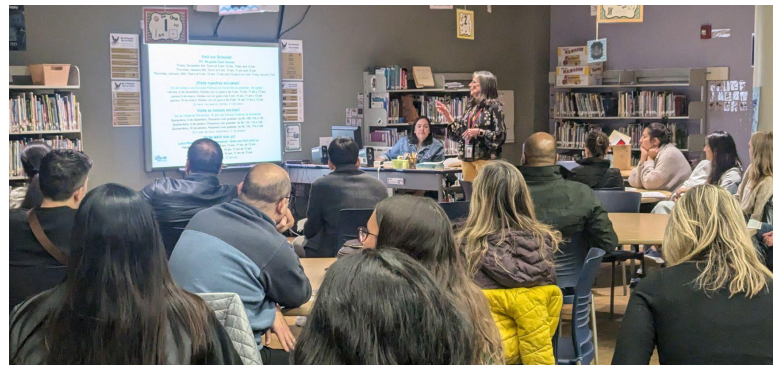
Toilet training your child can be hard, but we are here to help. Join us for this workshop on how to toilet train your child!



Helping Children with Transitions throughout the Day

Thursday, June 5th, 7-8:30pm

Transitioning from one activity to another can be stressful for children and adults. Come learn strategies for how to make transitions throughout the day easier!



Family & Community Liaisons: 2025-26



- Build trusting relationships
- Facilitate transitions: school tours, welcome bags, popsicle parties
- Make referrals to resources: food, housing, legal support, clothes, benefits
- Foster links to learning: interpretation requests, parent teacher conferences, parenting workshops, adult education courses

260

Avg people served
at WSNS / market

857

Avg people served
at ESCS / market

Carrot Cards
relaunching Jan
2026

How are we collecting data?

- Phase 1: Self-reported liaison surveys
- Phase 2: Family feedback survey

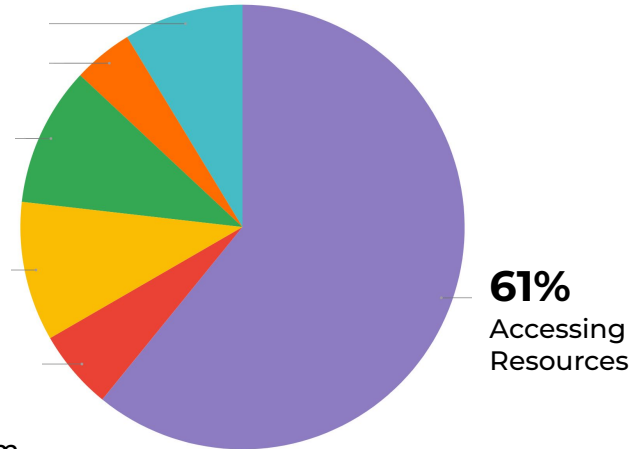
9% Fostering relational connections

4% Supporting with transitions

10% Increasing language access

10% Helping with applications and forms

6% Demystifying the American Education System



How are liaisons supporting families?

Self-reported liaison survey data, fall 2025



Multilingual Services: 2025-26

“La persona que me ayudó a interpretar hoy durante la reunión con la maestra fue muy bien.”

(The person who helped me interpret during the meeting with the teacher was very good.)

- WSNS Parent, Fall 2025

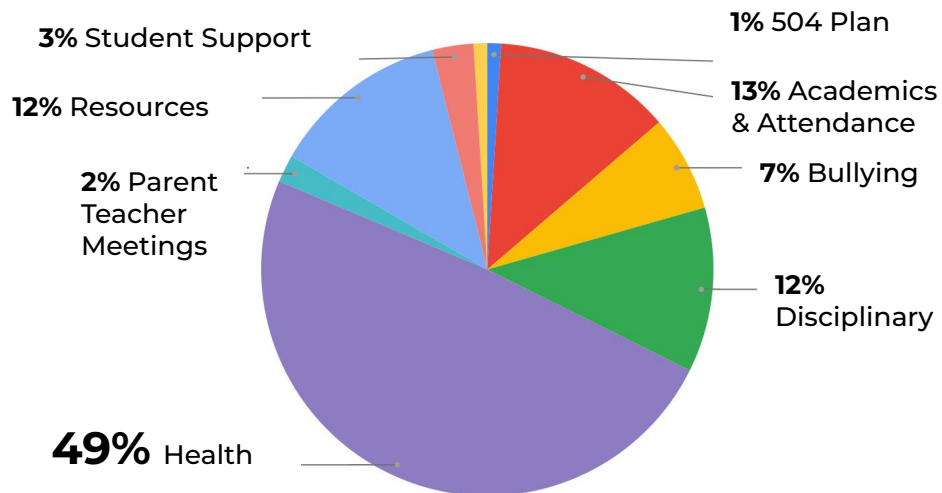


The Multilingual Services Team offers **interpretation services (verbal communication)** for Parent Teacher Conferences, 504 meetings, and school or district-wide events.

We also offer **translation services (written communication)** to help families access important information related to their children's education.

How are we collecting data?

- Multilingual Service Team Tracking survey
- SPS interpreter pool survey
- Family feedback survey
- SPS staff survey



Types of daily phone calls from SPS Staff

Self-reported Multilingual Services Team tracking
Fall 2025



Volunteer Program: 2025-26



Each school has a volunteer coordinator for 1-2 hours/week to help with communications and placements



Sampling of placements:

- Afterschool programs
- English classes with SCALE
- Free Food Markets
- Math / Literacy Tutoring
- Recess support
- Science class
- SEL support and mentoring
- ...and more!

Sept - Dec 2025

119

Active Weekly Volunteers

44 of those are at SHS

Many more help with one-off events
like food markets, college essay
workshops, gardens

Volunteer orientations are monthly

District-wide Family Engagement: 2025-26

District-wide Events and workshops

- [Get Ready for School Fair](#)
- [Enrollment Information Sessions](#)
- [School Tours](#)
- [Listening sessions](#) - OST, Special Education, MLE
- [Curriculum Workshops](#) - Math, Language Arts
- [Bilingualism and Lang. Acquisition Workshops](#)
- [Community Visioning Session](#)
- [Child Find Developmental Screenings](#)
- [Get Ready for Kindergarten Information Session](#)
- [Early Childhood Workshops](#)
- [Summer Activities Fair](#)
- Parent Teacher Conferences Working Group
- Interpreter/Translator training for paras
- Family Engagement PD
- McKinney Vento PD
- Early Childhood Advisory Council

Family Access Support

- [Redesigned SPS Enrollment Process Flyers](#)
- Redesigned Community Schools Enrollment Process Flyers: coming soon
- [Single Point of Entry Platform](#) for after-school clubs and summer programs (Arbiter Registration)

Community/Cross Sector Collaboration

- First Five Steering Committee
- OST Steering Committee
- Immigrant Services Coalition
- Youth Workers Network
- DESE State Family Engagement Advisory Council

Alignment with SPS Strategic Plan : 2025-26

Priority 1: Academic Excellence

- Multilingual access for families
- Support for curriculum sharing

Priority 2: Equity and Access

- Plain language info sheets for various offices
- Multi-pronged outreach
- Consistent language access

Priority 3: Wellness and Joy

- Agile emergency response to immigration matters, SNAP shutdown, housing emergencies
- Free Food Markets and Carrot Cards
- District-wide family events

Priority 4: Family and Community Engagement

- Community partners at food markets
- Presence at various cross-sector meetings
- Events and programs designed for the general SPS population and for specific groups
- Intentional inclusion of family voice for all decision making

