



Out of School Time Update

January 12, 2026

OST Department



MISSION: To support the academic, social, and emotional development of SPS PK-12 students through equitable access to high-quality OST programs.

WHAT WE DO: The SPS OST Department oversees the procurement, coordination, and collaboration of all OST programs within SPS schools and ensures that they meet the district's quality standards and expectations.

Goals

Increase
access

Ensure
sustainability

Academic
alignment
and
opportunity

SPS OST Landscape



Somerville is fortunate to have a wide variety of amazing community partners offering OST opportunities, both full time and part-time.

This evening you will hear about the OST landscape in SPS:

- Summer Programs
- Full-time Afterschool Care
 - Community Schools, Apollo and El Sistema
- OST Enrichment Clubs (one day/week) and Programs (more than one day)
- Middle and High School Contracted Partner Programming

Increased availability
of space for

18 partner programs

SY 25-26

Highlights and Growth

Increased availability
of options to all

11 schools

**Communication
Improvements**

Website, Facebook, Instagram

15%

Increased SPS Afterschool seat
capacity by 15% or 150 seats from
SY24-25 to SY25-26

Increased
Programming
Opportunities

**Middle
School**

**80% Waitlist
Decrease**

Implemented single point
of entry Arbiter digital
registration system

43

Youth Employment
Opportunities



Summer 2025

1403**Total Enrollment****17****Programs****14****Internal****3****External**

Program Shoutouts

Elementary SPELL

- Provided students with theme-based language learning experiences
- Developed students' reading, writing, speaking, and listening skills

The Calculus Project

- Developed student understanding and appreciation of mathematics through instruction, community building, field trips, and enrichment clubs.

Middle Grades Robotics

- Explored engineering, digital design, fabrication, coding, and robotics with high school students from the SHS Robotics Team.
- Pushed into different programs across the district.

Highlights

- Piloted Arbiter Sports as Single Point of Entry for registration
- Increased attendance across most programs
- Improved communication and alignment with programs offered and shared spaces

Areas of Improvement

- Increase high school student roles and hours; adding funding
- Improve access to buildings for non-SPS programs
- Start recruitment earlier for specific programs



Partner Programs

I BELIEVE IN ALWAYS ACCEPTING YOURSELF BECAUSE ONE DAY I TRIED THIS PROGRAM CALLED WOW. THE PERSON WHO TAUGHT ME THIS IS MY TEACHER MS. LUGO. I USE THIS LESSON TO CHEER MYSELF UP BECAUSE WHEN I FEEL DOWN, I REMEMBER WHAT I LEARNED IN WOW SO I DON'T FEEL DOWN ANYMORE." -WOW Scholar

Embedded in SPS

Enroot: Somerville High School; 70 students

Boston Debate League: Brown, Kennedy, East and SHS; 75 students

Apollo: Argenziano and Kennedy, 60 students

Becoming a Man: SHS, Next Wave/FC, Healey and Winter Hill, 153 students

Working on Womanhood (WOW): SHS, Next Wave/FC 60 students

The Calculus Project: district-wide grades 6th-8th, 47 students

Soccer without Borders: Winter Hill, grades 6th-8th, 30 students

Girl Start: Healey, grades 4th-6th, 10 students

Farrington Nature Linc: Winter Hill and East, grades, 6th-8th, 20 students

New Middle School College and Career Readiness Program-Knovva Future Lab:

Housed at East and West, grades 6th-8th, district wide, anticipated 45 students

A photograph of two young children sitting at a light-colored wooden table, engaged in a building activity with yellow plastic blocks. The child on the left, a young boy with short dark hair wearing a light blue tank top, is focused on connecting blocks. The child on the right, a girl with dark hair wearing a black t-shirt with a white Nike logo, is also working with the blocks. On the table, there are several yellow blocks of various shapes, including a 1x4 brick and a 1x6 brick. Two white square containers with the number '4' on them are also present. A crumpled white paper napkin is in the upper left corner. The background shows a green chair and a blue carpet.

Out of School Time Enrichment Clubs

K-8 OST Enrichment Clubs

Over 200 students participate across the district with enrichment clubs offered at every school



BALLETROX





Community Schools Program

Goldstar Programming

Community Schools is an in-house program of trained educators who develop high-quality curriculum and are deeply connected to our schools.

As our longest running program, it gives us the joy of working with students year after year, building meaningful relationships and truly understanding them as learners and individuals.

Operational Structure

- **Grades Served:** PK-6 students in every elementary school in the district
- **Program Oversight:** Managed by Site Directors and Assistant Directors at each site
- **Support Services:** Provided by a Clinical Consultant and a Student Services Coordinator



Enrollment & Staffing

Enrollment

- Opens March (all grades)
- Multilingual staff, SFLC, & site directors support families
- Priority: returning students & families with financial hardship
- Seats based on staffing; enrollment open into fall to accommodate as many families as possible

Staffing

- Lead Teachers, Assistant Teachers, Interns/Assistants
- Mostly part-time; some full-time with additional roles

Ratios

- **Pre-K:** 1:10
- **K-6:** 1:13



Community Schools Enrollment & Waiting List

School	Student Enrollment SY 24-25	Student Enrollment SY 25-26	Waiting List SY 24-25	Waiting List SY 25-26
AFAS/Apollo*	89	136/24*	11	10
Brown	105	131	10	1
Capuano	60	88	4	0
ESCS/ El Sistema*	132	164/75*	6	2
Healey	77	77	8	0
Kennedy/Apollo*	120	144/18*	26	1
WSNS	96	129	4	0
Winter Hill	89	71	1	0
Total	768	940/117*	70	14

Where Are We Now

Enrollment

SY25-26	940
24-25	872
23-24	768
22-23	706
21-22	590

Staffing

SY25-26	125
24-25	130
23-24	114
22-23	112
21-22	84

Salaries

SY25-26	4,461,038
24-25	4,057,419
23-24	3,338,183
22-23	2,733,961
21-22	2,078,782

Financial Assistance

SY25-26	216
24-25	181
23-24	138
22-23	120
21-22	112

Sustainability

	Since 7/1/25	Projected to 6/30/26
Total Revenue:	\$1,930,178.69	\$2,748,756
<i>Afterschool/Summer Tuition</i>	\$1,887,127.12	\$2,593,756
<i>Feb/Apr Tuition</i>	\$0	\$75,000
<i>Vouchers/Other</i>	\$43,051.57	\$80,000
Total Expenses	\$2,177,556.48	\$1,836,673.32

- Increase weekly and summer/vacation week tuition by 13%
- Adjust Sliding scale
- Decrease contracted provider expenses
- Implement a 2% annual increase policy to keep in pace with inflation and salary adjustments



OST Steering Committee

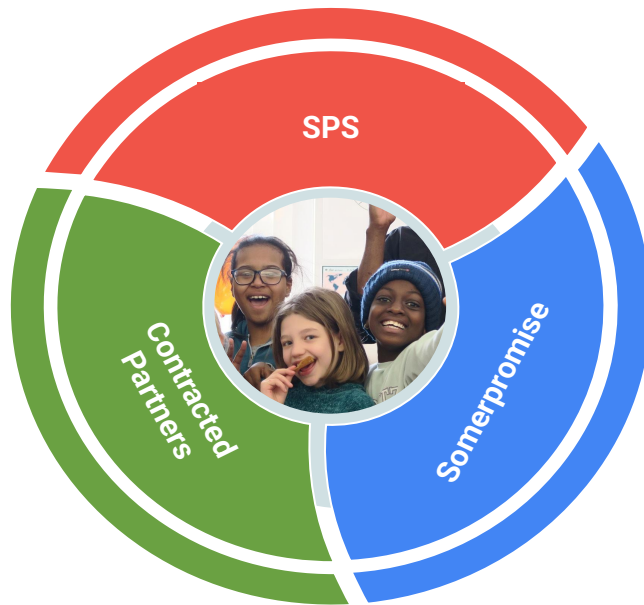
What We Are

The OST Steering Committee:

Promotes city-school cooperation and engages in collaborative planning with the primary goal of increasing equitable access to quality OST programming for Somerville Youth, and to strengthen collaboration and alignment.

Who We Are

- Somerpromise Out of School Time Community Coordinator
- Somerpromise Director
- SPS SFLC Director
- SPS Out of School Time Director
- SPS Out of School Time Assistant Director



Work of the OST Steering Committee:

- 1. Understand the Community-Wide Need for and Barriers to Accessing OST**
 - Surveys
 - Convened partner programs
 - Convened internal SPS stakeholders
 - Assessed financial aid process
 - Increased CS capacity
- 2. District-wide systems development**
 - Standardized procurement process
 - Arbiter sports as single point of entry
 - Aligned reporting mechanisms
 - Aligned Health and Safety protocols
 - Handbook of policies and procedures (in development)
 - Piloted shared use of school for OST Community Providers (YMCA at SHS)
- 3. Develop shared quality standards with School, City, and Community Providers**
 - Implemented Universal and Quality Assurance tool - APT-O
 - Arbiter for monitoring provider credentials (in development)
 - Established regular feedback loops with providers
 - OST PDs and Trainings
- 4. Identify sustainable and diverse Financial Strategies**

Questions

