

# **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

**Communication  
Improvements**  
Website, Facebook, Instagram

**80% Waitlist  
Decrease**

Implemented single point  
of entry Arbiter digital  
registration system

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

Increased availability  
of options to all  
**11 schools**

Increased  
Programming  
Opportunities  
**Middle  
School**

**43**  
Youth Employment  
Opportunities



**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



# 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





# 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
<b>Total</b>	<b>768</b>	<b>940/117*</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>14</b>

# Where Are We Now

## Enrollment

<b>SY25-26</b>	940
24-25	872
23-24	768
22-23	706
21-22	590

## Staffing

<b>SY25-26</b>	125
24-25	130
23-24	114
22-23	112
21-22	84

## Salaries

<b>SY25-26</b>	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

<b>SY25-26</b>	216
24-25	181
23-24	138
22-23	120
21-22	112

# Sustainability

Since 7/1/25		Projected to 6/30/26
<b>Total Revenue:</b>	<b>\$1,930,178.69</b>	<b>\$2,748,756</b>
<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
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$2,177,556.48</b>	<b>\$1,836,673.32</b>

- 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

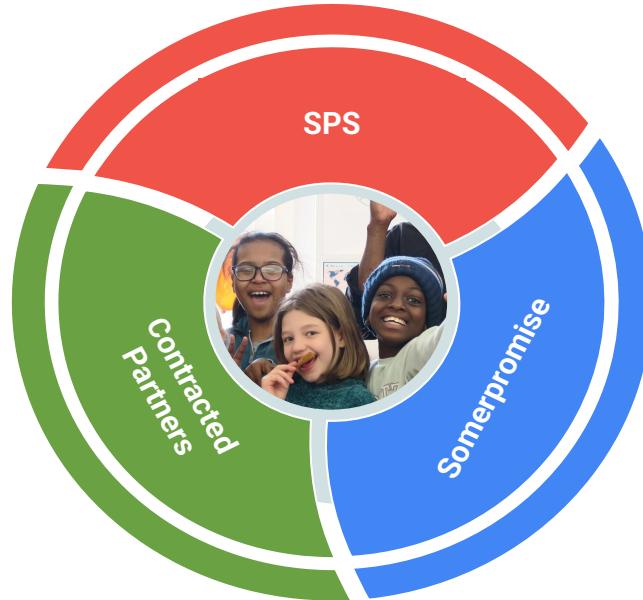
# What We Are

## 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

