SOMERVILLE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

School Committee Meeting | Superintendent Update

11.02.2026

Agenda

Superintendent Remarks

- **Joy:** SHS BioTech Grant
- **District Happenings:**
  - WSNS Update: Return to the West
  - Update: New School Building Project
  - Upcoming Key Dates
- **Strategic Update:** Impact of Strategic Plan

District Reports

- **Report 1:** Multilingual Learner Education (MLE)
  - Presented by Paulina Mitropoulos
- **Report 2:** Long-Range Planning Committee
  - Presented by School Committee Member Pitone & Sam Eligene

Celebrating MassBioEd Grant





Somerville High School has been selected as a partner school of MassBioEd, bringing a $25,000 grant to expand biotechnology and life sciences education.

- Six SHS educators will participate in professional development and collaborate with scientists.
- Students in Grades 6–10 will benefit from hands-on learning, new lab equipment, and opportunities to explore life sciences careers.
- The three-year partnership connects classroom learning with real-world applications and future career pathways.
- Full story now online at somervillepublicschools.org



District Happenings

Return to West: Anticipated Completion by 11/4



WSNS return timeline

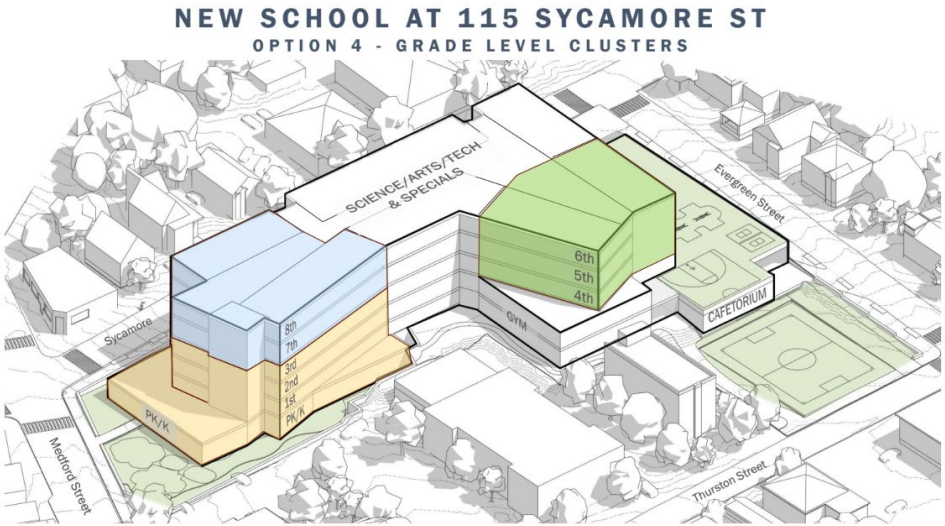
- Today: Grades PK–4 returned to their original classrooms, after an 8:15 a.m. welcome assembly in the cafeteria.
- On Wednesday, Grades 5–8 will return to WSNS, also preceded by an assembly.
- On both days, the PTA is providing breakfast for teachers as they unpack and settle back into their classrooms.

Recognizing the community's support

- We appreciate the flexibility, patience, and generosity of staff, families, and the broader school community throughout the restoration process. PTA provided breakfast, entertainment and communication. AIM Team and DPW and our educators, SEU, Central Office Team, SCALe team and of course this body that is constantly pushing for better results.

Next Steps

On Oct. 28, MSBA unanimously approved the PSR, moving us forward to the design phase of the project. Over the course of the next few weeks, SPS is partnering with Perkins Eastman to gather educator and staff input from an array of stakeholders on the design of the future school. Sessions will focus on instructional needs, classroom and shared-space use, furniture and technology, accessibility, and inclusive learning environments.



Upcoming Events:



November 10
Pre-K and K Enrollment Information Sessions

November 10
New School Building Community Forum (6pm, SHS)

November 19 SCALE Career Fair

November 24 SHS Football at Fenway Park

SC Goals Process Initiation: A Notes



Building on Strength. Sharpening Our Focus.

- **Build on Strength:** Recognize progress and the collective work of our school community.
- **Reflect & Refine:** Pressure-test our direction and integrate emerging priorities.
- **Strengthen Alignment:** Ensure shared goals reinforce our strategic direction.
- **Drive Accountability:** Commit to continuous improvement and measurable student outcomes.

Our North Star: Every Student Learns. Every Class. Every Day.

42

Focus Groups

22 Student | 16 Staff | 4 Family

2,607

Survey Responses

Responses from all

11 schools

Taken in

6 languages

English, Spanish, Portuguese, Haitian Creole, Arabic, Nepali

Out of 2,607 survey respondents:

66% from students

26% from families

8% from staff*

<1% from community partners

Students in Grades

4-12

33%

Multilingual Family respondents

SOMERVILLE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Staff responses from:

educators, administrators, Specialists, Coaches, Paraprofessionals, Counselors, Social Workers, Secretaries, and more

40%

Of families access district services such as: carrot cards, free food market, support from School & Community Liaisons, and/or MBTA cards

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