

# INSIDE SOMERSET & SOMERSET BERKLEY



@Somerset\_PS

## Family Newsletter

Dear Families,

Our school community, inclusive of students, staff, and families, displays acts of kindness throughout the year. This service is most prevalent during the holiday season. Through food drives, community service, and countless charitable acts that our students and staff organize, I am reminded daily of just how great our school communities are. On the following pages are highlights from some of the many celebrations and accomplishments that have taken place over the past month.

In this season of giving, sharing, reflecting, and celebrating I extend to all of our families best wishes for a joyful holiday season filled with special moments with family and friends and a healthy, happy new year.

Sincerely,  
Jeff Schoonover

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# SBRHS: The Home of Champions



November was a good month for SBRHS. On November 3, the SBRHS Blue Raider Marching Band became the 2018 US Bands Division 1A National Champions in Allentown, PA. Two weeks later on

November 17, the SBRHS Field Hockey Team won the Division I MIAA State Championship at Worcester Polytechnic Institute.

The Marching Band capped off its fall season by winning the US Bands Division 1A State, New England, and National Championships for its competitive field show, which was called *Flight*. In winning the national championship, the marching band also earned awards for Best Overall Effect and Best Color Guard. Congratulations to all of those students, teachers, advisors, and volunteers for a tremendous season.

The SBRHS Field Hockey team finished its season with a spectacular 23-1 record. In the playoffs, SBRHS defeated Wellesley, Canton, King Phillip and Walpole to earn the South Sectional Championship, followed by Masconomet in the State Semi-finals and Nashoba Regional in the State Division 1 Finals at WPI. They outscored their opponents in the playoffs by an overall score of 24-3, recording three shutouts along the way.



Congratulations to a group of student-athletes and coaches who epitomize teamwork and dedication. They finished the season ranked second in New England and 23rd in the country.

Following the season's end, senior Megan Salsinha signed her letter of intent to play NCAA Division I Field Hockey at the University of Massachusetts at Lowell next year.



# Honoring Veterans at South Elementary

On Friday, November 9, Dr. Hanneken and South Elementary honored our Veterans with a schoolwide flag raising, honor guard, and patriotic songs followed by a breakfast for Veterans. Dr. Hanneken is a Veteran himself, having served in the United States Air Force Special Operations Command.



# North Elementary Performs Cinderella

On November 9-10, students from North Elementary School performed *Cinderella Kids* at Somerset Berkley Regional High School.



# Wreaths Across America



On Saturday December 15th, the Town of Somerset celebrated and honored its veterans through Wreaths Across America. A special ceremony took place at the WWII Memorial, located in front of the Somerset Public Library. Students from the Somerset elementary schools, Somerset Middle School, and Somerset Berkley Regional High School participated in the ceremony through music and song. Following the ceremony, many volunteer students and their families along with other community volunteers placed 1,268 wreaths at graves of Somerset veterans. Wreaths Across America's mission is to **remember** those who have fallen, **honor** those who are serving, and **teach** the youth the value of freedom through their involvement in the ceremony.



# Project Contemporary Competitiveness

Project Contemporary Competitiveness (PCC) is a summer residential program at Stonehill College for students entering 8th, 9th, 10th, and 11th grades. Students have the option of a six-week summer program or a four-week program. Participating students enroll in several courses that include subjects such as American Sign Language, Astronomy, Aviation Science, Improv, Forensic Science, Marine Science, Journalism, Robotics, Theater, and more. Tuition is \$2500 for the six-week program and \$1900 for the four-week program. Interested students and families can learn more about PCC at <https://pccasp.org/>, by visiting the high school guidance department, or contacting Robin Vaccaro at [vaccaror@sbrregional.org](mailto:vaccaror@sbrregional.org).



## Superintendent's Award for Excellence

The Massachusetts Association of School Superintendents created an award for excellence to recognize students who select the most rigorous courses of study in their local high schools and succeed because of hard work. The awards are given to high school seniors who have distinguished themselves in the pursuit of excellence during their high school careers. This year's recipient is Lillie Ferreira.

On December 13, Lillie received the Superintendent's Award for Academic Excellence at a ceremony held at Stonehill College. Lillie is an extremely dedicated and gifted student who excels in the classroom and who participates in extracurricular activities including National Honor Society, Peer Tutoring, and Raiders Reaching Out. Lillie is so well-deserving of this award and epitomizes what we strive for as a school district when envisioning our high school graduates. Lillie was also presented with a South Coast Educational Collaborative Scholarship at the ceremony. Words used to describe Lillie by her friends and teachers include: inspirational, kind, humble, brilliant, and leader. How true!



Pictured above are Lillie, her parents George and Maria Ferreira, and Superintendent Jeff Schoonover.

# National Merit Commended Students

Recently, five seniors at SBRHS were recognized as National Merit Commended Students. These students are Lillie Ferreira, Abigail Montag, Mylee Setzer, Ryan Silverman, and Derek Slack. Of the 1.6 million U.S. students who completed the PSAT/NMSQT (National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test), the top 50,000 were selected as either Commended Students (34,000) or National Merit Semi-Finalists (16,000). These students' performance on the PSAT in 2017 qualified them as commended students, falling in the top 3% of all students who participated in the assessment.



## The Holiday Spirit

Teachers and students at SMS have decorated their classroom doors with seasonal themes. Below are a few:



At Chace Street School ...



The Grinch's visit to North Elementary