

# INSIDE SOMERSET / SOMERSET BERKLEY

## Superintendent

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## Kindergarten Registration and Screening

The Somerset Public Schools will be conducting screenings for all children entering Kindergarten in the fall of 2018. This screening is required by Massachusetts State Law for any child entering kindergarten and is used to help identify specific needs that may affect a child's educational progress. To schedule an appointment, parents or guardians are asked to return a completed registration packet to the school no later than Thursday, March 29, 2018.

Registration hours are: Monday-Friday 10-2 p.m at each elementary school. For parents' convenience, we have also added an evening registration option on Tuesday, March 20<sup>th</sup> from 5-6:30 p.m at each elementary school. The telephone numbers for the elementary schools are as follows:

Chace Street School	508-324-3160
North Elementary	508-324-3170
South Elementary	508-324-3180

Packets will be sent home on February 9<sup>th</sup>. If you do not receive one you may find it on the district or elementary school websites under the Family menu. Parents will also find there a list of streets by elementary district and a map of the town showing the residency boundaries for each elementary school.

## Parent Academy Series: Cyber Safety

The Somerset Public Schools and Somerset Berkley Regional School District will be hosting Stephanie Joyal from the Children's Advocacy Center of Bristol County for our next presentation in this year's Parent Academy. The presentation will take place in the Somerset Berkley Regional High School Performing Arts Center on March 6 at 6:00 PM. Her talk will address cyber safety and what parents can do to keep their children safe online. Digital devices are great for instant communication with friends and family and our online world can be a fun place to socialize. However, the Internet is a place where many unsafe people and situations can be found. In this session, parents and guardians will learn about the following: safe posting dos and don'ts; sexting and the related legal and social risks; and gain knowledge and understanding of online predators and grooming in an effort to reduce dangers to youth online.

Our school districts have not been free from middle school and high school students posting inappropriate content and finding themselves in trouble with the schools and, more importantly, with law enforcement. I urge parents to attend this session to gain a better understanding of social media, the inappropriate ways that some of our children are using social media, and what the risks are when using social media inappropriately.

Earlier in the day on March 6, Ms. Joyal will be giving a very similar presentation to our middle school students. This will give parents and students an opportunity to share and discuss the information that is presented in both settings that day.



**Middle School Math Team**

Congratulations to the Somerset Middle School Math Team, which captured first place on Friday January 26 at the Massasoit League math competition. This was the school’s 15th consecutive win, dating back eight years. Kiri Setzer placed second at the meet, which included middle schools from Bridgewater, Coyle-Cassidy, Dighton, Middleboro, Raynham, Rehoboth, Seekonk, Swansea, and Westport. Team members included: Elena Cabral, Madison Denis, Lillian Gentile, Katherine Hinves, Nicole Ledwidge, Amber Martin, Anatalia Pelletier, Sophia Puccini, Claire Romano, Mia Russ, Kiri Setzer, and Julia Viveiros.

**Middle School Boys’ Basketball**

The Somerset Middle School boys’ basketball team completed a tremendous season, compiling a 17-2 record. On January 27-28, they also competed in and took home first place in the Hurley Middle School (Seekonk) Winter Tournament, defeating North Smithfield, Riverside (East Providence), and Kickemuit Middle Schools along the way. Congratulations on a great season.



**National Honor Society**

Fifty-four Somerset Berkley Regional High School students were inducted into the Edward J. Kaylor Chapter of the National Honor Society (NHS) on January 24. These students, mostly juniors, demonstrated their excellence in the four pillars of the NHS: scholarship, leadership, character, and service. Not only have these students maintained high grade point averages, but they have demonstrated their leadership within and across SBRHS, exhibited sound character, integrity, and strong work ethic, and have shown their dedication to the community as measured by their fulfillment of the community service graduation requirement in about half the time that they would normally have. Somerset Berkley Regional School Committee member Cris Ghilarducci was the ceremony’s guest speaker.



### Chris Herren Presentation

On January 8, former college basketball star and NBA player Chris Herren spoke to students at Somerset Berkley Regional High School about his struggles with heroin and opioid addictions starting with his use of alcohol in middle school, marijuana in high school, and cocaine as a freshmen at Boston College.



Throughout the 90 minute presentation and discussion with students, the entire student body was silent, intent on his message and story. Chris' message included the importance of self-esteem, showing empathy to others, and confidence to say no and make good decisions despite what others say or do.

To read more about Chris' presentation, please read student Colby Yokell's article in the SBRHS Breeze [here](#). Click these links to learn more about [The Herren Project](#) or Chris' [Project Purple](#).

### BJ Voss Scholarship

The Officer BJ Voss Memorial Scholarship Committee has announced that it is offering two \$5000 scholarships this year to graduating seniors of SBRHS who will be pursuing criminal justice in college next year. Applications are available in the SBRHS Guidance Office and are due by April 24.

Seniors should pay close attention to announcements from Guidance about available scholarships this time of the year.

### Project Contemporary Competitiveness

Somerset Berkley Regional High School is a member district for Project Contemporary Competitiveness (PCC). PCC's Advanced Studies Program is a six-week long residential program at Stonehill College, starting on July 1, 2018 and ending on August 11. SBRHS has had several students attend during each of the past several summers. Any student who will be enrolled in grades 9-11 at SBRHS in 2018-2019, which includes our current eighth graders at Somerset Middle School, are eligible to attend PCC. The cost of the program is \$2370 for students in member districts. This fee includes room and board and all meals. Students enroll in several courses and have options such as aviation science, forensic science, American Sign Language, Improv, Journalism and Publishing, Model United Nations, Painting, Psychology, Robotics, Sculpture, TV Production, Theater, and many more. A full listing of the program of studies can be found [here](#). Interested students can find more information by visiting the [PCC website](#), by visiting the SBRHS Guidance Office, and/or by viewing a video highlighting the 2017 program at <https://youtu.be/gkXtqQL4T0E>. The application deadline is February 28, 2018. Students can apply online at <https://pccasp.org/apply/>.



### Other Student Summer Learning Opportunities

[Brown Summer Learning: Grades 7-12](#)

[Bridgewater State University's Center for the Advancement of STEM Education](#) (grades 6-12)

The Somerset Berkley Kids Summer Learning program will take place from June 25—August 10. As soon as more information is available about specific courses and when they will be offered we will share it with families for your summer planning needs.