



Somerville Public Schools

Education • Inspiration • Excellence

Mary E. Skipper, Superintendent

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Dear SPS Parents, Guardians, and Staff:

As we head into the long weekend, we want to provide you with a brief update on our schools reopening plan. We are continuing to make progress with the buildings and are finalizing our plan based on building availability. We are also working hard with our unions and making progress. Work on the ventilation and filtration systems in our schools is going well and although nearing completion, it will take a couple of weeks longer than expected to get certificate of occupancy for Somerville High School.

We will provide a more concrete update next week and at our next Schools Town Hall events. The staff and community Town Hall events originally scheduled for early next week have been rescheduled to the following Tuesday, January 26th so that we can provide you with the fullest update possible. The Town Hall sessions will also be recorded and made available for viewing at a later time.

In planning your weekend, we hope you will tune in to Somerville's annual Martin Luther King, Jr. celebration, which will be a pre-recorded program this year. The program will air on City Cable (RCN channel 13 and Comcast channel 22) and on the City's YouTube channel, www.youtube.com/SomervilleCityTV starting Monday, January 18. The celebration will include readings from student essays; music from the World Percussion Ensemble; and poetry by Arthur Collins as well as remarks from Mayor Curtatone and Somerville resident Keidrick Roy.

As always, a sincere thank you for all you are doing to support your students throughout this challenging time. Have a safe and restful long weekend.

Respectfully,

Mary Skipper, Superintendent