



TUSKER TRACKS

A weekly, trunkated note from Dr. B



The Bronstein Brief

Happy Friday, Somers! I hope you all had a restful Thanksgiving holiday.

This past Tuesday evening, I had the honor of speaking with the Somers Lions Club about my background and our ongoing initiatives in our schools throughout the Somers Central School District. We are so thankful for the Club's support and most importantly, their countless hours of community service to help those in need, especially during this holiday season. We thank the Lions and the Leos for all that they do!



Tusker Pride

8th grade mentors took the short trip to SIS last week to lead a gratitude lesson and craft with 3rd graders. They read the book Turkey Trouble with students before guiding classes through a short reflection on what they're thankful for and helping to bring their disguised turkeys to life.

The visit gave mentors a chance to sharpen their leadership skills, practice public speaking, and spread a little extra positivity throughout our school community!

Around the District

Students from the SHS Culture Club recently enjoyed an enriching trip to The Frick Collection museum in NYC, where they explored the history of Henry Clay Frick, the Gilded Age in New York City, and the museum's remarkable art collection. They were given a rare opportunity to experience a private tour before the museum opened—having the entire building to themselves.

During the visit, students examined works of art by Goya, Rembrandt, Titian, Whistler and several notable French, Spanish, Italian and British artists, and even took time to sketch details from selected pieces. Their guide, Samuel Snodgrass - a New York City-based artist, educator, and fashion and art historian - shared insights informed by his wide-ranging research, from eighteenth-century Italian opera to the evolution of historical textiles. It was truly a day of "culture" for the Culture Club.

Tusker Tidbits

A group of SMS 7th graders recently joined peers from 30 regional middle schools at the Human Rights and Education Center's annual Leadership Conference at Congregation Emanu-El of Westchester in Rye, where students collaborated in workshops on How to Be an Upstander and Respecting the Rights of All Individuals.

They also experienced a powerful presentation by storyteller Sheila Arnold, who brought to life the story of Bess – an enslaved woman in 1774 Williamsburg – sharing pivotal moments leading up to the American Revolution, including the dissolution of the House of Burgesses and the events of the Boston Tea Party.

Huge thanks to the No Place for Hate Club Coordinators Samantha Morrison and Stephanie Kurchack for making this meaningful experience possible!

'Tails' of Triumph

In November, the SHS Albanian Culture Club explored the Metropolitan Museum of Art, taking a guided tour focused on European works that highlight themes found in Albanian architecture and design.

This week, the club wrapped up their month-long celebration of Dita e Flamurit—Albanian Independence Day (11/28) – with a vibrant day of history, music, and traditional treats, including Burek and homemade Baklava.

A big thank you to our student members and advisors, Mia Sinanaj and Michelle Bangash, for creating such a meaningful (and delicious!) cultural experience!

The Week Ahead

- 12/8 - Behind the Screen:** Protecting Kids in Today's Digital World (Zoom, no recording will be available)
- 12/9 - Board of Education Meeting** (SMS)
- 12/10 - Half Day, All Schools**
- 12/10 - Annual Veterans Brunch**
- 12/10 - SMS Chorus & Orchestra Winter Concert**
- 12/11 - SHS Chorus & Orchestra Winter Concert**
- 12/11 - 12/13 - Mike Depaoli Basketball Tournament**

