

Somers High School & The New York State Portrait of a Graduate

Preparing Our Students for College,
Career, and Civic Readiness

Somers High School:

Preparing
graduates
for the
future

Agenda:

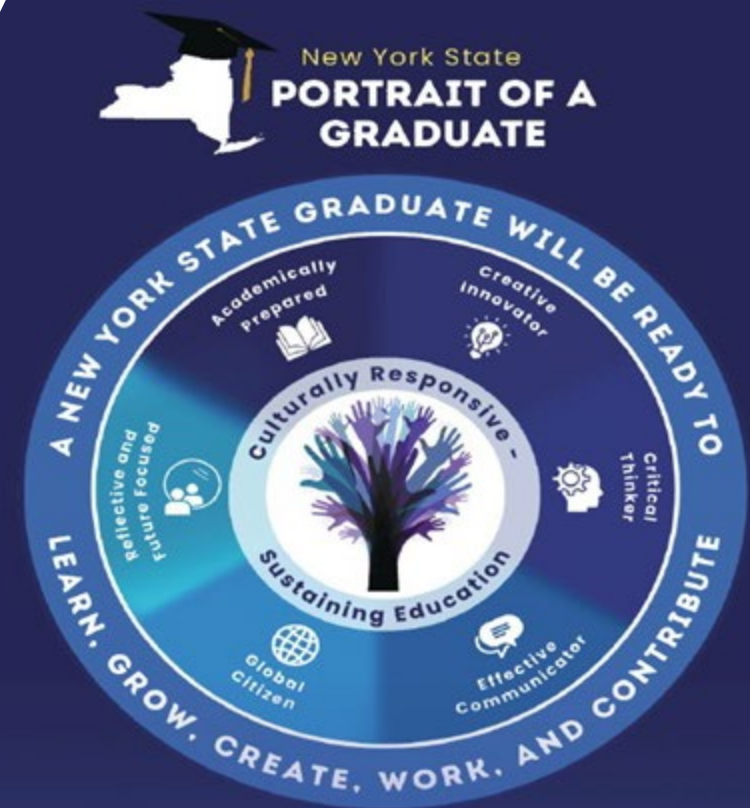
- Understanding the Portrait of Graduate and changing NYS Graduation Requirements
- What courses capture students' attention?
- How do BOCES programs help our students?
- Robotics demonstration

The Portrait defines what all NYS students should know and be able to do upon graduation

Six Attributes:

1. Academically Prepared
2. Creative Innovator
3. Critical Thinker
4. Effective Communicator
5. Global Citizen
6. Reflective & Future Focused

Goal: Move beyond Regents-based compliance to demonstration of mastery through authentic learning.



A New York State high school graduate who is **culturally responsive** builds strong, respectful relationships, valuing diverse perspectives as essential to a rigorous, inclusive learning community. New York State students who embody cultural responsiveness and academic readiness—demonstrating creativity, critical thinking, communication, reflection, and global awareness—will be prepared to learn, grow, innovate, and contribute meaningfully to society. These graduates will be equipped with the interpersonal and intellectual skills needed to thrive in an interconnected, ever-evolving world.



Academically Prepared

Demonstrates a strong foundation in the NYS learning standards and is equipped with the knowledge and skills necessary to achieve success in college, careers, civic engagement, service, and life.



Creative Innovator

Utilizes imagination, curiosity, and flexible thinking to solve problems creatively, and develop new ideas and products, while adapting to evolving circumstances and challenges.



Critical Thinker

Analyzes information thoughtfully, evaluates evidence critically, and identifies patterns and connections between different pieces of information (across multiple content areas) to address complex issues and navigate the world with insight.



Effective Communicator

Articulates ideas clearly and confidently through speaking, writing, and the use of different types of media for various purposes, while engaging with diverse audiences and actively listening to different perspectives.



Global Citizen

Acts responsibly and ethically within local, global, and digital communities, employing civic knowledge, skills, and mindsets to promote global sustainability and contribute positively to a culturally diverse, democratic society.



Reflective and Future Focused

Engages in self-reflection to identify strengths and areas for growth, sets meaningful goals, uses social awareness to maintain supportive relationships, and demonstrates responsible decision-making that prioritizes social, emotional, and mental well-being.

Statewide Transition Timeline

- 2025–26: PoG rubrics and guidance released
- 2026–27: Financial Literacy and Climate Education required
- 2027–28: Regents exams optional; single diploma model
- 2029–30: New transcript showing proficiency in PoG attributes

Somers will align local work with each implementation phase.

Learning Beyond the Classroom

Redefined credits will recognize learning outside traditional courses:

- Senior Experience, MYP Community (Gr. 8) & Personal project (Gr. 10),
- Work-based and service-learning experiences
- CDOS (Career Dev & Occupational Studies)
- Graduation Seals: Biliteracy & Civic Readiness

Curriculum & Instruction Alignment

Existing programs already support Portrait of Graduate outcomes:

- PLTW, AP/IB, Senior Experience: Inquiry, problem solving, resilience
- World Languages & Seal of Biliteracy: Communication and cultural competence
- Social Studies & Seal of Civic Readiness: Citizenship and community involvement
- Arts & CTE (*Career & Technical Education*): Authentic, performance-based assessment
- Financial Math, IB Business: Real world readiness



What do students say is the most interesting, important, or unique class they've taken at SHS?

Hearing from
our BOCES
students:

How has a BOCES
program prepared
you for the real
world?



Hands-on Learning: Robotics Demonstration