



Somers Central School District

FORWARD IN EXCELLENCE

Family & Community Engagement



April 21, 2026

Elements of Excellence

FAMILY & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

SCSD will strengthen and nurture connections across the Somers community.

01

Host the 3rd Annual Tusker Café community event.

02

Ensure all families have access to district communications and expand outreach strategies.

03

Share resources with families to support distraction-free learning environments.



Host the 3rd Annual Tusker Café Community Event

Tusker Café is a community event series that gives the Somers Central School District the opportunity to connect with the larger community on an opportunity to foster engagement with families.

April 28, 2026 - Somers Middle School at 6:00 p.m.

This year's Tusker Cafe will be a presentation of "*13 Drivers' Licenses*," a traveling exhibit and educational project that details the 1938 Nazi confiscation of drivers' licenses belonging to Jewish residents in Lichtenfels, Germany, shortly after the November Pogrom, also known as Kristallnacht. Following the discovery of the licenses, 80 years later, the local high school created a project to learn about the fate of the license holders.

In a partnership between the Somers Central School District, the Town of Somers and the Holocaust & Human Rights Education Center, this Tusker Cafe will feature a 45-minute presentation, followed by a Q&A and breakout session for group discussion.



FAMILY & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Ensure all families have access to district communications and expand outreach strategies.



Dr. Bronstein's 2025-2026 Entry Plan:



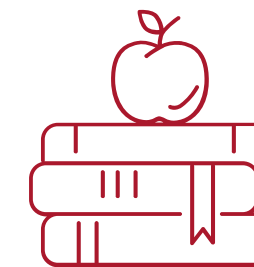
Hire a Public Relations Coordinator

Bring on a dedicated, full-time SCSD Employee who doesn't split time with other districts



Engage With Various Local Partners

Somers Library, YMCA UPK, Somers Town Supervisor, local police and volunteer fire departments, Somers Lions Club, Heritage Hills, Kennedy Catholic, state and local legislators, SYSO



Regularly Meet With Parent & Community Groups

PTA Council, Somers Education Foundation, Citizen's Finance Committee, Partners in Prevention, TEAM Tuskers Mentoring, Safety Team



Ensure all families have access to district communications and expand outreach strategies. (cont'd)

▶ Spreading the News

- Facebook, Instagram, X, LinkedIn
 - Student Successes
 - Athletic Accomplishments
 - Touting New Administrative Hires
 - Sharing Job Openings
- Tusker Tracks
- The Somers Spotlight
- Website/Branding/Policy Updates

▶ Transparent Communication

- Sharing Safety Updates
- Regular updates on ParentSquare
 - ParentSquare:
 - 99.5% Contactable (at least one student contact is contactable)



Ensure all families have access to district communications and expand outreach strategies. (cont'd)

Additional Outreach Strategies:

- “Hold Music” made from a medley by the Somers music department & students
- *Tusker Shop* – gives community members a chance to donate new and gently used items directly to those in Somers, as well as the chance to shop for donated items
- Maintaining relationships with local media (The Somers Record, The Journal News/LoHud.com, News12 Westchester)

Beginning Next Year:

- District-wide physical calendar
- Celebrating new hires on social media
- Checking in with recent hires on social media
- Continued website/branding updates



Share resources with families to support distraction-free learning environments.

NYS Internet-Enabled Device Ban

Last summer, New York State passed a law that all schools must follow, which bans the use of internet-enabled devices during the school day.

This includes smart phones, tablets, smart watches or other internet-enabled devices.

Somers Central School District Policy

As required by Education Law §2803, this policy prohibits student use of internet-enabled devices during the school day, on school grounds, unless under an exception.

Lessons Learned in Year One

- While the existing policy is not perfect, students agree that the device ban causes them to be more focused during the school day
- Some students expressed worry about missing SportsU messages from coaches regarding a change or cancellation

Students & Staff Have Noted:

- More conversation
- SHS students are utilizing board and card games, playing pool in the commons



THANK YOU!



SOMERS

Central School District

Forward in Excellence