



TUSKER TRACKS

A weekly, *trunkated* note from Dr. B



The Bronstein Brief

Happy Friday, Somers!

We had another great week in each of our schools, rounding out most Back to School nights, with only UPK to go on 10/8. Most families have had the chance to meet or connect with their child's teacher(s) and set the groundwork for a great year ahead.

Please stay safe as you prepare for the incoming inclement weather over the weekend.

Around the District

We are so proud to celebrate Smera Thekkenmar, who was selected as a second-place recipient in the 2026 Community Service Award Essay Competition presented by AWAKE (Asian Women's Alliance for Kinship and Equality) for South Asian High School students in Westchester and Rockland Counties.

The AWAKE education panel, comprised of judges from Columbia University and the United Nations, was impressed by Smera's thoughtful essay detailing her volunteer experience and commitment to serving others.

As part of the award, Smera received a scholarship in recognition of her dedication to community service and efforts to make a positive impact in the lives of others.

Congratulations, Smera, for this well-deserved honor and for demonstrating how service, compassion and community involvement can help create a stronger society.

Tusker Tidbits

This week, Somers High School students marked Constitution Week by reflecting on the rights, responsibilities and shared values that help strengthen our school community. Students had a chance to sign the "No Place for Hate" Pledge, reaffirming their commitment to creating a welcoming and inclusive environment where everyone feels respected and valued.

Led by SHS Library Media Specialist Mrs. Amato, students also learned about the importance of academic integrity and their responsibility to uphold honesty, trust and fairness in their schoolwork and interactions.

These important conversations remind us that being part of a community comes with both rights and responsibilities, and that every student has a role to play in building a school community grounded in respect, integrity and belonging.

Tusker Pride

Somers High School seniors Scarlett Toledo, Kathryn Moesta, Smera Thekkenmar, and William Thorton have been named Commended Students in the 2027 National Merit Scholarship Program, recognizing them among a select group of high-achieving students nationwide.

Principal Pete Rodrigues presented each student with a Letter of Commendation from Somers High School and the National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC), which conducts the annual scholarship program.

Approximately 34,000 students nationwide are being recognized as Commended Students for their exceptional academic promise. Commended Students placed among the top 50,000 students who entered the 2027 National Merit Scholarship Program by taking the 2025 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT). This recognition reflects both their individual accomplishments and the support of the families, teachers, and school community who have contributed to their development.

Please join us in congratulating Scarlett, Kathryn, Smera, and William on this outstanding national recognition!

'Tails' of Triumph

Congratulations to Somers High School Girls Volleyball Coach Diane Swertfager on reaching an incredible 700 career wins!

Coach Swertfager ranks 5th all-time in New York State for girls volleyball wins - an extraordinary achievement that reflects decades of dedication, leadership and commitment to her athletes.

Congratulations, Coach Swertfager, on this well-deserved milestone!

The Week Ahead

9/29 - 8th Grade Washington D.C. Parent Meeting (SMS)
9/29 - SEPTA Meeting (SMS)
9/29 - **9/30** - SMS Drama Club Auditions
9/30 - PTA Council Meeting (Zoom)
10/1 - **10/3** - Homecoming Weekend

