FORWARD IN EXCELLENCE

Academic Knowledge & Skills



Somers Central School District

October 20, 2026

Elements of Excellence

ACADEMIC KNOWLEDGE & SKILLS



Goal: SCSD will ensure academic preparedness and intellectual growth in all learners.

2026-2027 District Priorities:

01 Embed Portrait of a Graduate competencies into K–12 learning experiences, performance tasks, and reporting structures with clear developmental progressions toward independent, real-world application.

02 Continue to support an articulated K–12 vision for mathematics instruction by providing opportunities for cross-grade analysis of instructional practices and student outcomes.

03 Examine current writing practices, strengthen vertical alignment, and enhance consistent, research-based approaches to writing instruction.

04 Continue to compile, analyze, and communicate progress of student academic growth.

ACADEMIC KNOWLEDGE & SKILLS

Embed Portrait of a Graduate competencies into K–12 learning experiences, performance tasks, and reporting structures with clear developmental progressions toward independent, real-world application.

Professional Learning

Leadership Summit

- Strengtheing Tier 1 through universal design to support all learners

K-5 Faculty Learning

- Discussions on the importance of building the foundation of the Portrait competencies.
- Creating a vision of the learner at the transitional grades 2 and 5.

New Teacher Support

- Building classroom environments that foster effective communication, connection and a sense of belonging

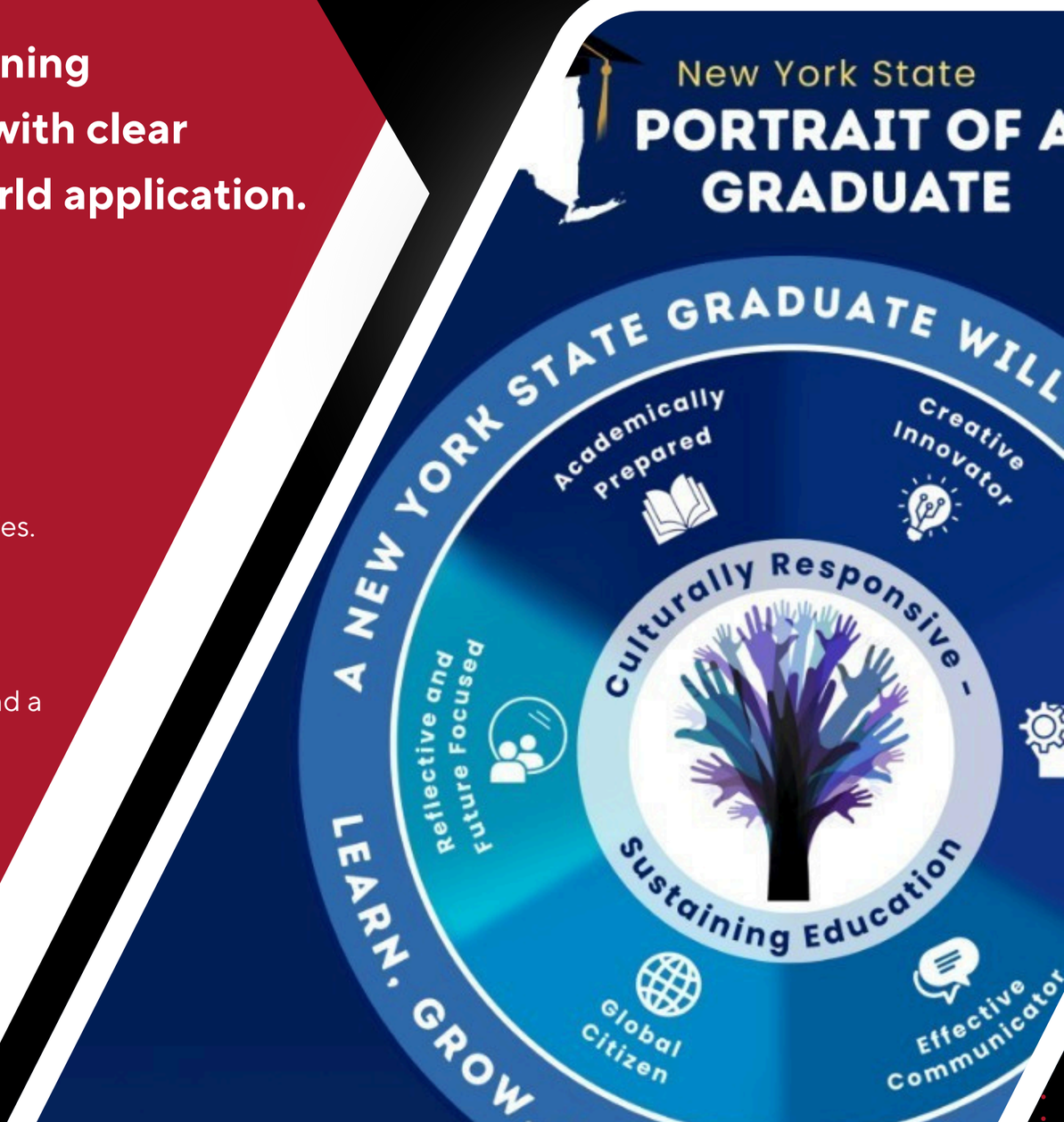
Assessment of Student Learning

6-12 Vertical Articulation:

- Grading Rubrics
- Self-Management Skills

SHS Learning Experiences:

- Senior Experience
- NYS Seal of Biliteracy & NYS Seal of Civic Readiness
- Local Seal of Sustainability



ACADEMIC KNOWLEDGE & SKILLS

Continue to support an articulated K–12 vision for mathematics instruction by providing opportunities for cross-grade analysis of instructional practices and student outcomes.



K-12 Professional Learning

- Continued sessions with Dr. Anchala Sobrin, PNW BOCES Math & Data Coordinator

- Workshops on “Building Thinking Classrooms,” and intervention strategies: research-based best practices to engage students

Curriculum Review

- Evaluating current and future materials aligned to the SCSD Vision for Math Learning, the NYS Numeracy Brief on high-quality materials, and school-based feedback

K-12 Math Summit

- Implications of NY Inspires for Math teaching and learning

ACADEMIC KNOWLEDGE & SKILLS

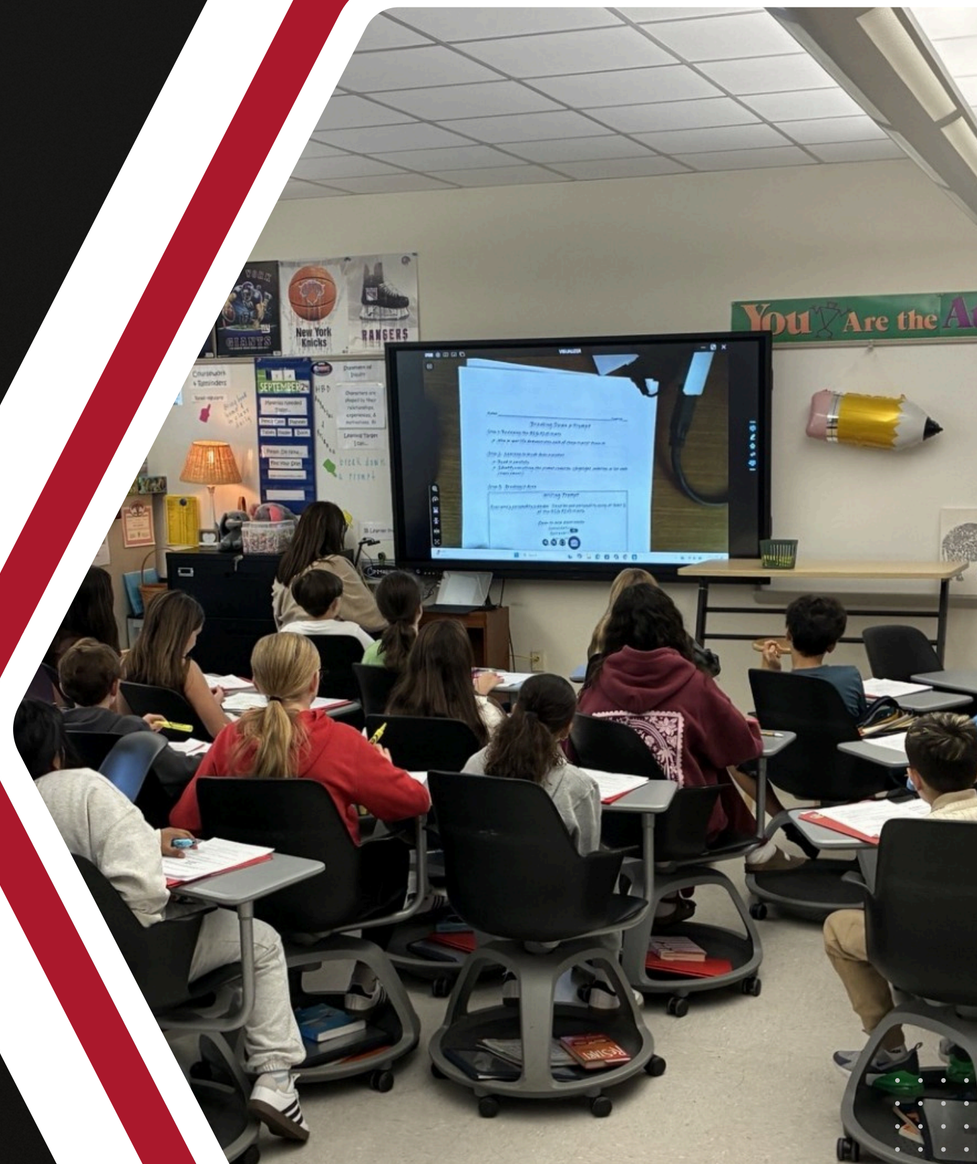
Examine current writing practices, strengthen vertical alignment, and enhance consistent, research-based approaches to writing instruction.

Primrose Arts & Letters Implementation

- Building foundational writing skills
- Examining tasks, scaffolds, and rubrics

K-12 Writing Summit

- Stage 1: Building-level examination of student work
- Stage 2: K-12 view of design of tasks, development of skills, and student outcomes

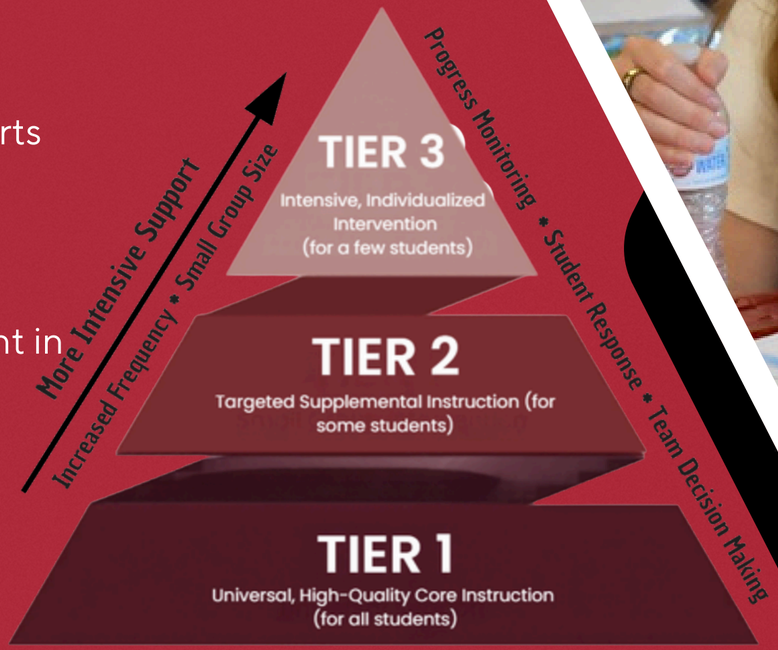


ACADEMIC KNOWLEDGE & SKILLS

Continue to compile, analyze, and communicate progress of student academic growth.

Strengthening coherence of K-12 MTSS structure

- Analysis of state and local data points
- mCLASS DIBELS ELA and mCLASS Math universal screener pilot
- *LinkIt* fingertip student performance reports to bolster school/home connection and communication
- Examination of tiers of support/enrichment in core academic areas to increase efficiency and effective practice





THANK YOU!

SOMERS
Central School District
Forward in Excellence