

SOPHOMORE NEWS
JUNE 2017
Sponsored by the Guidance Department

SUMMER SCHOOL Hopefully this school year has brought academic success; but for those students who have fallen short of the academic standards, summer school is offered to Somerset Berkley Regional High School students through the Somerset Berkley Community School. Summer school allows students the opportunity to correct failing grades and possibly credit deficiencies in various subjects by successful completion of the summer school program. Students and parents should review the graduation requirements on pages 112-113 of the Student/Parent Handbook. At the close of the 2016-2017 school year, guidance counselors will be sending letters to parents of students who should or need to attend school in the summer.

- Summer school will run from Wednesday, July 5th to Wednesday, August 9th, 2017.
- There will be two classes each day. The time of the first class is 7:30 AM until 9:20 AM; the second session will run from 9:30 AM until 11:20 AM.
- The fee for Somerset and Berkley students is \$130 for one course and \$250 for two courses.
- Students must register for a particular course offering, not a particular time period.
- Registrations are currently being accepted in the Somerset Berkley Community School office located in Room 140A of Somerset Berkley Regional High School. The telephone number is 508-324-3146.

REPORT CARDS Final report cards will be mailed home to all students at the end of the school year, once the grades are verified. Included within the report card mailings will be summer school notices and registration forms for those students who could benefit from summer school.

COURSE SCHEDULES FOR 2017-2018 will be distributed on the first day of school. Students with schedule conflicts will be contacted by the guidance department during the summer.

TEXTBOOK RETURNS Because of the spiraling costs of textbooks, the school takes great care in ensuring that students return all textbooks in, except for normal wear, the same condition in which they were issued. Any student who fails to return a textbook at the end of the school year is expected to make financial restitution for the cost of the lost or damaged books.

YEARBOOKS For those interested in purchasing a 2017 Raider yearbook, please contact Mrs. Gosson. This year's edition includes pictures of clubs, teams, groups, and other activities. The cost is \$78.

COMMUNITY SERVICE GRADUATION REQUIREMENT Students are reminded that beginning with the Class of 2014 all students are required to complete and document 20 hours of community service to graduate. Summer is the perfect time to volunteer! Please see Page 113 in the Student/Parent handbook for more information regarding this graduation requirement.

NAVIANCE All of the students at Somerset Berkley Regional High School have been introduced and been given access to a new computer program- Naviance- that was first implemented during the 2013-2014 school year. Naviance is a college and career readiness platform that helps to connect academic achievement to post-secondary goals. Once the students have established their accounts, they (along with their parents/guardians) will be able to search for colleges, majors, and scholarships that are relevant to the students' individual interests and achievements. If you have not yet created an account and used Naviance, the summer would be a great time to embark on this worthwhile and exciting endeavor.

“BECOMING A STUDENT ATHLETE” Please visit the Athletic Department Website at www.sbreghional.org/athletics.html for important information about becoming a Raider athlete. Information regarding physicals, eligibility, registration, pre-season start dates, and Wellness Night can be found there.

COLLEGE PLANS The summer prior to junior year is a great opportunity to begin the college search. It is a good time to check out web sites, visit college campuses, and attend college fairs. The annual Somerset Berkley Regional - Case College Night will be held at Joseph Case High School on Thursday October 5, 2017 from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm in the Library. Further, there are several college fairs throughout New England; the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth will hold a college fair on Sunday September 24, 2017 from 12:00 to 2:00 pm. Most colleges require standardized test scores from the SAT or ACT. The summer is also a good time to prepare for these tests. Try logging on to www.collegeboard.com for the “question of the day.” There are also many commercial programs and books that are available for purchase at bookstores. SAT prep mini-courses are also available through the PrepMe in Naviance and at local colleges and universities. Counselors will conduct a junior class workshop early in the fall of next school year to advise students to take the PSAT in October and plan for the SAT or ACT in the spring of junior year. Additionally, it is never too early to start making financial plans for college. The Somerset Berkley guidance department will be sponsoring a Financial Aid Night in the Performing Arts Center at 6:30 pm on Wednesday October 18, 2017. A representative from MEFA (Massachusetts Educational Financing Authority) will conduct the workshop. Among a variety of pertinent and valuable information, an overview of the financial aid process well as a detailed line-by-line analysis of the Free Application for Federal Student Aid and the Financial Aid form (FAFSA) and Financial aid Profile form (required by many private schools) will be provided.

WHAT ELSE CAN I DO FOR MY SUMMER VACATION?

- Read, Read, Read. The summer provides well-earned leisure time, part of which can be used by students to read. No other activity will help you more in the

future. Besides broadening one's general knowledge, reading develops a vocabulary base, improves skills of written expression, and raises scores on verbal and writing sections of the SAT. A recommended reading list is available in the library or on our website at www.sbreghional.org.

- Volunteer. Getting involved with community service is not only personally rewarding, but it also makes your resume more interesting and is now a graduation requirement. Churches, hospitals, environmental groups, camps, geriatric centers, YMCA's, to name a few, are frequently looking for volunteer workers.
- Think about careers. Talk with relatives, neighbors, older acquaintances about their work experiences and maybe even shadow them at work for a day. For college and career exploration, go on Naviance or look through the Occupational Outlook Handbook, which is available online or at the local library for ideas.
- Take an enrichment course. The High School Summer Learning Center is offering nine high interest enrichment courses this summer at the high school. These courses include: Mixed – Media Arts, Advanced Photography, Trip the Light Fantastic, Computer Science and Programming, Drawing Workshop, Ceramics and Pottery, Meteorology, Introduction to Sign Language, and T.V. Production. Please see your guidance counselor for more information. Through continuing education programs, local colleges offer courses for people in the community who are not necessarily matriculated in a degree program. Such courses can improve skills, pique interest in a particular career, or stimulate career interest. Certainly, at the very least, this type of intellectual ambition will look favorable on future college applications.
- Be safe, make good decisions, and enjoy your well-deserved vacation. Please share this newsletter with your parents.

COMMUNICATION WITH GUIDANCE Please feel free to contact the guidance office and/or your guidance counselor at any time with any questions that you may have.

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