



**Somerset Board of Education**

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**TRADITION  
AND  
BEYOND!**

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# Jumper Connection

## Connecting School and Community

www.somerset.kyschools.us

Somerset Independent Schools

May 2012

Last Day of School For Students; May 24, 2012

**Somerset High School Graduation; May 25, 2012, 7:00 PM**

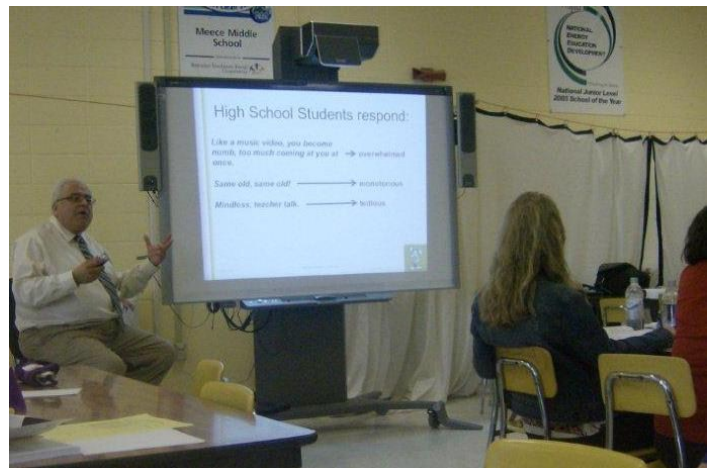
### Students Prepare for New State Accountability

The teachers and students in the Somerset Independent School System have been busy preparing for the new accountability measures which have been put into place by the Kentucky Department of Education. Teachers in the system have deconstructed standards, utilized performance calculators, and implemented a variety of strategies to assist students as they navigate through the standards that will ensure College and Career Readiness.

Ms. Cindy Ham, Assessment Coordinator, has worked to ensure that everyone is comfortable with the changes that have been put into place. Somerset has always strived for excellence and this year is no different!

Superintendent Boyd Randolph and the district leadership team have diligently monitored classroom activities and provided an atmosphere of support

### Harvey Silver, Dan Moirao, and Ed Thomas of Thoughtful Education Are Working With Teachers



through professional learning opportunities which focus on strategies for student engagement. Principals and teachers have participated in the Content Support Networks and *Thoughtful Education* sessions. This should translate into student success as they tackle the End of Course Assessments, KPREP, KOSSA, COMPASS,

ACT and a variety of other assessments.

The District will continue working with Dr. Harry Silver, *Thoughtful Education*, as we prepare for the 2012-13 school year. Somerset Independent continues to focus on student learning opportunities which support "Tradition and Beyond..."

**The Mission of Somerset Independent Schools is to provide our students with the highest educational learning experience by creating innovative opportunities, effective communication, and leaders who inspire Everyday, Everyway, No Exceptions!**

## Teacher Recognition



**Mr. David Head** was recently notified that his master thesis has been accepted and published. Mr. Head is a teacher at Somerset High School and he is the School Technology Coordinator.

**Ms. Debbie Harris** has been recognized as the Kentucky Marketing Teacher of the Year. Ms. Harris is a teacher at Somerset High School and she is actively involved in DECA and various local and state committees.

**Mr. David Head(SHS), Mr. Scott Dunn(MMS), and Ms. Patty Canon (HES)** were selected by their peers to receive the Campbellsville College Excellence in Teaching Award. Congratulations to all!

### Summer Opportunities

**SHS:** Somerset High School will be offering learning opportunities during the summer break. Math, English and other select courses may be available. Please contact the Somerset High School Counseling Office for more information at 606.679.0537.

**21st Century Program:** Students in the district will have an opportunity to participate in varied activities that will expand their skills and knowledge base. Please contact Mr. Cloyd Bumgardner, Program Director, for more information at 606.679.4451.

## District Improvement Plan

The Somerset Independent Improvement Planning Committee is diligently working to complete the District Improvement Plan. The process includes school representatives, as well as community members.

Ms. Cindy Ham monitors and leads the process, thereby ensuring that the resulting plan supports an environment of learning and opportunity for all students.

Somerset Independent encourages community members to continue their involvement in school and district activities. Students are the main focus and they are our future community leaders!

## Somerset Independent...Tradition & Beyond!

### Somerset Students Selected as Governor's Scholars

Somerset High School proudly announces that seven Somerset High School Students have been selected into the prestigious Governor's Scholar Program.

The Governor's Scholars Program is a summer residential program for outstanding high school students in Kentucky who are rising seniors. The program originated in 1983 as a result of Kentucky leaders' concern that the state's "best and brightest" were leaving the Commonwealth to pursue educational and career opportunities elsewhere without fully understanding the potential of their talents at home. Students who are selected attend the program without charge.

Selection for GSP is highly competitive, with an application process similar to that of prestigious colleges and universities. In addition to an academic profile that includes difficulty of course load, GPA, and at least one standardized test score, the application

requires an outline of all extracurricular activities, a history of volunteer service, and a list of job positions held.

Teacher recommendations include both quantitative evaluation and qualitative descriptions of the student's performance and potential. The final component of the application is an original essay.

Congratulations to: Elizabeth Coldiron, Hannah Lake, Tyler Megargel, Leeya Mengistu, Abhisek Patel, Kirschten Roberts, and Shravya Veliganda. Somerset Independent is proud of our Governor's Scholars!



**Somerset's Governor's Scholars**

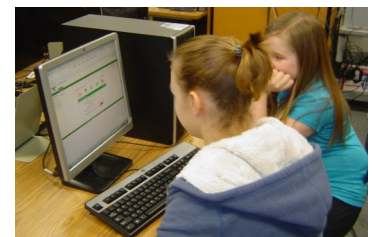
### New Media Center Program

Somerset Independent recently implemented a new program in the media centers at each school. *Destiny* is the new web-based program that allows students and parents better access to resources.

Students can easily find books, magazines, and other resources to assist them as they gather information for classes.

The new system encourages students and parents to utilize resources that will support a lifetime of reading and learning. The media specialist at each school can provide information about *Destiny*.

(Katie Myers & Annie Denham study the new *Destiny* )



## Hopkins Elementary School

### Dates to Remember

**Hopkins Elementary School hosted the Spring Fling** on April 13, 2012. This family event offered food, fun, and games.

The games and activities included: ring toss, scooter racing, coke walk, face painting, nail painting, cake walk, and dunking booth. These activities provided an evening of fun and fellowship for students, teachers, and parents.

Principal, Mike Reynolds volunteered for the dunking booth. His son, Cole, was the first student to successfully dunk him!

A special *Thanks* to PTA for this event and the support they give HES throughout the year.

Mr. Reynolds in the Dunking Booth.



This is another example of true Jumper Spirit!

### Retirement....

Ms. Freda Bishop, Assistant Principal, has announced her retirement effective June 1. Ms. Bishop stated, "It has been a long thought through and tough decision to make. When you have spent twenty-four years in the Somerset school system in various roles, developing many relationships, it isn't easy to leave."



April 30-May 11, Testing

May 8-UK Basketball Players @ MMS

May 9-Senior Honors Night @ SHS  
May 15-9-11th Grade Awards @ SHS

May 16-KY History Mobile @ MMS

May 17-Field Day @ MMS  
May 18-6th Grade Trip  
May 21-7th Grade Trip

May 22, Election Day (School Closed)

May 23-24, HES Awards @ WB Jones

May 24-Last Day of School

May 25-SHS Graduation, Clark Field @ 7 p.m.

May 31-PD for Teachers  
June 1-PD for Teachers  
June 4-29, Summer School @ SHS

## Meece Middle School

## Internet Safety

The John Sherman Cooper Leadership Institute is a two week leadership development program for 8th grade students at Meece Middle School. It is two weeks of intense leadership training sessions used to develop the potential of this select group of students.

The students participate in community projects, develop team skills, and experience a variety of governmental meetings. All these activities provide opportunities for students to develop leadership skills that will be available to them throughout their lives.

This program is a

unique experience for Somerset students and provides another advantage for our students.

Goals of the John Sherman Cooper Leadership Institute include:

- Provide opportunities for students to acquire and apply leadership skills
- Involve students in problem solving activities
- Provide an opportunity for students to realize their intellectual and creative potential
- Expose students to community businesses and leaders
- Broaden their awareness of career opportunities.

(For information contact: Ms. Becki Edwards, MMS)

Somerset Independent is developing a new Internet Safety Curriculum that will meet the needs of all students. Representatives from all grade levels are collaborating to ensure that students gain knowledge about cyberbullying awareness and response, online behavior, and digital citizenship.

The district continues to put student safety at the forefront as they meet the challenges that are included with new technologies. The goal is to provide the educational foundation so that students and parents are digital learners that make sound decisions concerning appropriate use.

Parents are encouraged to actively participate in the online

activities of students at home and school. Students are the real winners when everyone works as a team to meet their needs!

## Summer Feeding

Students under the age of 19 will be able to participate in the Summer Feeding Program at SHS Cafeteria.

Meals will be served on Monday through Friday, 11 a.m.-1 p.m., June 4-July 6, 2012. (No meals will be served on July 4, 2012.) Meals are free to all eligible participants.

Please contact Ms. Vicki Stanley at 679.4451 for more information.



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**HOMESPUN**

On April 16, 1888 the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky approved legislation creating a system of public graded schools in the City of Somerset, Kentucky. A petition to create an Independent School System had been approved by Somerset voters and introduced in the legislature by Senator G.W. Shadoan. Five trustees were elected on the first Saturday in June, 1888.

**Somerset Students Prepare for Testing!**

The State required testing is coming soon for all three Somerset Schools. The tests for 3-8th grades are required to be given in a 5 day window within the last 14 days of the school year. The assessments at the high school are required to be given in an 8 day window near the end of the course year. The chart below contains specific testing dates and times by grade:

<b>Monday April 30th</b> 8:05-10:45 a.m.	<b>Tuesday May 1st</b> 8:05-10:45 a.m.	<b>Wednesday May 2nd</b> 8:05-10:45 a.m.	<b>Thursday May 3rd</b>	<b>Friday May 4th</b>
<b>SHS English II</b> End of Course Exam (ACT Based)	<b>SHS U.S. History</b> End of Course Exam (ACT Based)	<b>SHS Algebra II and Biology</b> End of Course Exam (ACT Based)		
<b>May 7th</b> Approximately 8:30-11:20 a.m.	<b>May 8th</b> Approximately 8:30-11:20 a.m.	<b>May 9th</b> Approximately 8:30-11:20 a.m.	<b>May 10th</b> Approximately 8:30-11:20 a.m.	<b>May 11th</b> Approximately 8:30-11:20 a.m.
<b>Hopkins</b> 3rd and 4th Grades <b>Reading</b> Parts A & B	<b>Hopkins</b> 3rd Grade <b>Reading</b> Part C  4th Grade <b>Reading</b> Part C <b>Math</b> Part A	<b>Hopkins</b> 3rd Grade <b>Math</b> Parts A & B  4th Grade <b>Math</b> Parts B & C	<b>Hopkins</b> 3rd Grade <b>Math</b> Part C  4th Grade <b>Science</b> Parts A & B	<b>Hopkins</b> 4th Grade <b>Science</b> Part C & Language Mechanics
<b>Meece Middle</b> 5th, 6th, 7th, & 8th Grades <b>Reading</b> Parts A & B	<b>Meece Middle</b> 5th, 6th, 7th, & 8th Grades <b>Reading</b> Part C <b>Math</b> Part A	<b>Meece Middle</b> 5th, 6th, 7th, & 8th Grades <b>Math</b> Parts B & C	<b>Meece Middle</b> 5th, & 8th Grades <b>Social Studies</b> Parts A, B & C	<b>Meece Middle</b> 5th, & 8th Grades <b>On Demand Writing</b> Parts A & B
	<b>SHS</b> 11th Grade <b>On Demand Writing</b> Part s A & B	<b>SHS</b> 10th Grade <b>On Demand Writing</b> Part s A & B	6th Grade <b>Writing</b> Part A- Language Mechanics, Part B-On-Demand Writing	6th Grade <b>Writing</b> Part C-On Demand Writing
			7th Grade <b>Science</b> Parts A & B	7th Grade <b>Science</b> Part C

Please talk to your student about trying their best on the test and make sure that your student follows these tips for testing:

- **Be at school every day of testing.**
- **Be on time to school.**
- **Get a good night’s rest before each testing day.**
- **Eat breakfast to give your brain fuel for thinking.**
- **Try your hardest on each and every question on the test.**

Every **Briar Jumper** is required to test so be sure to come prepared to excel.....**Go Jumpers!**

Please contact Ms. Cindy Ham, Assessment Coordinator for more information.