Board of Education Recognitions December 2020

Student Recognitions:

NAME/SCHOOL	RECOGNITION
All SOMSD Students	To all of our SOMSD students we recognize you for your courage, resilience, determination, spirit and commitment during the pandemic and this challenging time. Our Administration and Board of Education express appreciation, support and remind all students they are valued, they are not alone and they are part of the SOMSD family.

Staff:

NAME/SCHOOL	RECOGNITION
Maplewood Middle School: Dara Gronau, Principal	Dara Gronau, Principal of Maplewood Middle School was selected to serve on a panel entitled "School Leadership in a Year Like None Other: Learning from New Leaders Alumni," as part of ExcelinEd EdPalooza conference, a can't-miss event for policymakers, policy shapers and practitioners. This year's event was held virtually from December 1 -3, 2020.
	EdPalooza provides state leaders the opportunity to explore next generation learning models, develop strategies to drive transformative change and consider policies that modernize schools and empower families. Close to 100 virtual sessions featured the latest education policy trends, innovations and state-driven solutions.
South Orange & Maplewood Board of Education	Congratulations to the South Orange Board of Education members. On Wednesday, December 9, at the Essex County School Board Association meeting the South Orange-Maplewood District Board was recognized by NJSBA for achieving the Carole E. Larsen Master Board Certification.
	The earning of this certification demonstrates the Board's commitment to effective governance, training, student achievement, building shared knowledge and values and working together as a team. Certified board members among other requirements, must complete 16 hours of team training over a 4-year period; additionally to earn the Master Board certification, members must complete an additional 10 hours of training together as a Board within their first two years of earning Board certification.
	During the presentation it was noted that only 40 Boards have achieved this designation out of the more than 500 in NJ. The meeting also highlighted Board Members who have achieved individual certification and Board member Shannon Cuttle was acknowledged for achieving New Board Member (NBM) Certification.