

The School District of South Orange & Maplewood

Board of Education Recognitions

June 27, 2022

Student Recognitions:

NAME/SCHOOL	RECOGNITION
CHS Class of 2022 Graduates	Well wishes and congratulations to the entire Class of 2022, Columbia High School graduating class. We wish you all the best in the next chapter of your academic and professional journeys.
Maplewood Middle School	<p>In the 2021-2022 school year, all SOMSD middle schoolers were invited to compete in three math contests: the American Mathematics Contest 8 (AMC 8), MathCounts, and Math Olympiad. All three contests are designed to be extremely challenging, even for the best students. Under the guidance of Maplewood Middle School (MMS) math teacher Mr. Marc Kessler, 82 MMS students participated in at least one of the competitions, with 19 competing in all three.</p> <p>Of the 48 MMS students who participated in the AMC 8:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Abraham Hoffman (7th grade) placed first place and also received the Honor Roll Certificate for scoring in the top 5%;• Owen Shubart (8th grade), Henry Spielberg (6th grade) and Hunter Eggert (8th grade) tied for second place; Henry Spielberg also received the Certificate of Achievement, awarded to 6th graders who score 15 or higher out of a maximum 25.• Overall the top three scores summed to 53 (out of 75), earning MMS the School Certificate of Merit for demonstrating outstanding proficiency by scoring above 50. <p>The MathCounts School Competition drew 46 contestants from MMS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The top four finishers, Abraham Hoffman (7th grade), Taylor Barnes (8th grade), Nathaniel Greenberg (8th grade), and Hunter Eggert (8th grade) – comprised the MMS team for the North Central New Jersey Chapter Competition• The next 8 finishers advanced to the Chapter level as individuals: Katelyn Chan (8th grade), Alice Cohen (8th grade), Anna Cooper (8th grade), Kevin Roth Deves (8th grade), Aidan Heindl (8th grade), Charlie Knutsen (8th grade), Angelo Lynch (8th grade), and Henry Spielberg (6th grade). <p>The Math Olympiad contest was comprised of 5 rounds spanning several months, with 46 MMS students participating in at least one of the rounds. Scores were cumulative, with Hunter Eggert (8th grade) receiving the Highest Individual Scorer trophy for first place at MMS.</p>
South Orange Middle School	<p>In the 2021-2022 school year, all SOMSD middle schoolers were invited to compete in three math contests: the American Mathematics Contest 8 (AMC 8), MathCounts, and Math Olympiad. All three contests are designed to be extremely challenging, even for the best students. Under the guidance of South Orange Middle School (SOMS) math teacher Ms. Elizabeth LiPuma, 101 SOMS students participated in at least one competition, with 34 competing in all three.</p> <p>Of the 57 SOMS students who participated in the American Mathematics Contest (AMC 8):</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Noah Trokenheim (6th grade) placed first; Trokenheim also received the Honor Roll Certificate for scoring in the top 5% and the Certificate of Achievement, awarded to 6th graders who score 15 or higher out of a maximum 25. ● Corinne Arnold-Berkovits (8th grade) placed second; and ● Noah Akinnuoye (8th grade) and Isabelle Archer (7th grade) tied for third. <p>The top three scores summed to 53 (out of 75), earning SOMS the School Certificate of Merit for demonstrating outstanding proficiency by scoring above 50.</p> <p>The MathCounts School Competition drew 61 competitors from SOMS.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The top four finishers – Theo Archer (7th grade), Noah Trokenheim (6th grade), Isabelle Archer (7th grade), and Corinne Arnold-Berkovits (8th grade) – comprised the SOMS team for the North Central New Jersey Chapter Competition. ● The next 8 finishers advanced to the Chapter level as individuals: Noah Akinnuoye (8th grade), Parker Howell (7th grade), Jazzy Lyons (7th grade), Zane Merriweather (7th grade), Saanvi Rohatgi (8th grade), Caleb Rubinstein (6th grade), Caroline Shaw (8th grade), and Gabriel Tarrow (8th grade). <p>The Math Olympiad contest consisted of five rounds spanning several months, with 75 SOMS students participating in at least one of the rounds. Scores were cumulative, with Isabelle Archer (7th grade) and Theodore Archer (7th grade) receiving Highest Individual Scorer trophies by tying for first place at SOMS. Isabelle Archer, Theodore Archer, and Noah Trokenheim (6th grade) won Math Olympiad logo pins for scoring in the top 10% among the 15,481 contestants.</p>
<p>CHS Students: Achieve Foundation Volunteer Awardees</p>	<p>Every year the Achieve Foundation celebrates all of the exceptional volunteer student tutors who served District students throughout the academic school year. For the 2022 school year the students below were recipients of the following Achieve awards:</p> <p>2021/22 Achieve Volunteer Tutor Award Recipients</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Kohl Angelo Award (for outstanding middle school tutors) ● Santos Garner (SOMS) ● Gracie Klein (MMS) ● Harper Anderson - (Rising Star- 5th grade) <p>Dubrow Awards (for outstanding tutors)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Silas Epstein ● Gianna Forrester ● Isabel Hahr ● Eli Hakim ● Lauren Kasdan ● Sierra Mannion ● Malachy Meyer ● Susan Pendleton ● Holden Reeves ● Maia Romanowsky <p>Super Senior Awards (seniors who tutored 3+ years)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Emma Booker-Dodd

- Layla Brisset
- Marina Chernin
- Zoe Ferguson
- Ben Fuhrman
- Dylan Gill
- Isioma Grant
- Jackson Kondak
- Emily Lopez
- Sydney Mannion
- Violet McEwan
- Priya Pai
- Nina Panzer
- Jady Park
- Lucy Parry
- Seth Peiris
- Lila Promisel
- Cassandra Ratkevich
- Calliope Reeves
- Elodie Reeves
- Ashakiran Rochette
- Kate Rohan
- Sarah Schneider
- Tyler Stephan
- Ryan Thomas
- Katie Trzaska
- Oren Van Allen
- Addie Wiener
- Alex Yang

Distinguished Super Seniors (*seniors who tutored 3+ years and were nominated for Dubrow this year*)

- Ava Byrd
- Ella Rose Cervi
- Aidan Cunningham
- Brianna Lucas
- Courtney Plaza
- Kaia Thewell

SOMSD Model UN Club

On Saturday, May 21, the award-winning Columbia High School Model UN club hosted its first ever Maplewood-South Orange Model United Nations Conference (MAPSOMUNC) for students from Maplewood Middle School and South Orange Middle School (SOMS).

The topic of the conference's committee was the Ukrainian Humanitarian Crisis, which attendees debated and discussed from the perspective of various countries. Maplewood mayor Dean Dafis spoke at the opening ceremonies to the attendees about various topics including the electoral college, the supreme court, and his role as mayor, and SOMS student Blake Gordon won the Best Position Paper award and SOMS student Teagan Fineman won the Best Delegate award.

<p>South Mountain Elementary School</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Snow Fox, 4th grader 	<p>Congratulations to South Mountain Elementary School, 4th grader, Snow Fox, who was chosen as a Winner in the Essex County Clerk's "My Essex County" Poster Contest. A ceremony to honor the winners in the lobby of the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Justice Building, Newark, NJ, was held on May 25, 2022; Essex County Clerk, Christopher J. Durkin presented an award to each student.</p>
---	---

Staff Recognitions:

<p>2002 SOMSD Staff Retiree's</p>	<p>On Monday, June 9th, the District celebrated the retirement of 16 employees who have a combined years of service totals, 330.4 years. We sincerely thank each teacher and staff person for their commitment and years of service to our District. Most of all we wish them all the best in the next phase of their life journey. Once again thank you for your years of service and congratulations to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Sheila Bellini 2. Susan Betcher 3. Kathleen Bohm 4. Michaia Brown 5. Nettie Davis 6. Deborah DeLorenzo 7. Susan Donatelli 8. Carla Dos Santos 9. Jonathan Fisher 10. Donna Grohman 11. Lori Hersh 12. Renee Joyce 13. George Mauritzen 14. Renaud Pierre Louis 15. Veronica Simmons 16. Ingrid Williams
<p>District Staff:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maureen Davenport • Susan Froelich • Phil McCormick • Liping Meng 	<p>Congratulations to SOMSD teachers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maureen Davenport: Seth Boyden kindergarten teacher (M.A.) • Susan Froelich: Clinton School 4th grade teacher (Ed.S.) • Phil McCormick: CHS CST Social Worker (Ed.S.) • Liping Meng: CHS Chinese teacher (Ed.S.) <p>Who all recently completed the M.A./Ed.S. program in Education Leadership, Management, and Policy at Seton Hall University.</p>
<p>The Achieve Foundation</p>	<p>The Achieve Foundation of South Orange & Maplewood established the Michelle T. Riecke Teaching Fellowship in 2004 in memory of Board of Education president Shelley Riecke, and since then the Fellowship has provided nearly \$93,000 to fund professional development opportunities that inspire excellence, innovation, and creativity in the classroom and beyond. Riecke Fellows share their learning with their colleagues to maximize the benefit to the District.</p> <p>This spring, Achieve proudly awarded \$5,103 for Michelle T. Riecke Teaching Fellowships, enabling five faculty members to participate in summer professional development programs. Congratulations to the following 2022 Riecke Fellows, who deserve special recognition for</p>

honing their craft during their summer break:

- **Caitlin Dennehy** (South Orange Middle School special education teacher) will attend a weekend-long conference on Mindfulness & Education at the Omega Institute in Rhinebeck, NY.
- CHS guidance counselor **Karissa Handler** will complete “College Advising Program” coursework through Teachers College at Columbia University.
- Tuscan librarian and media specialist **Amy Popp** will attend the American Library Association (ALA) Annual Conference in Washington, D.C. from June 23-28.
- **Matthew Rice** (CHS science teacher) received funding to participate in a “Train the Trainer” course through the Transgender Institute.
- **Elana Ris**, Math Recovery specialist at Seth Boyden School, will take the “Add+VantageMR Course 2” offered by the US Math Recovery Council.