

THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF SOUTH ORANGE & MAPLEWOOD

BOARD RECOGNITION **PUBLIC BOARD MEETING**

November 19, 2012

Special Recognition

The Board of Education is grateful for the extraordinary efforts of our community in the wake of Hurricane Sandy. In particular, the Board acknowledges:

- **SOMSD administrators** for their leadership and creativity.
- **SOMSD teachers and staff** for their dedication to our students, despite personal hardship.
- **SOMSD parents and guardians** for their commitment to getting students back in class, and their flexibility in adjusting to different locations and schedules.
- **Municipal officials** for their outstanding leadership in challenging times, and their relentless pressure on PSE&G to restore power to all of our schools and homes.
- **The Maplewood Police Department, South Orange Police Department, Maplewood Fire Department, South Orange Fire Department, and Offices of Emergency Management** for both towns for tirelessly working to keep our students and community safe.
- Community partners, including local churches, temples, libraries, community centers, food pantries and restaurants, for supporting families without power or adequate food supplies.

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A Columbia High School senior, **Jacob McNamara**, was named a semi-finalist in the **2012-13 Siemens Foundation Competition in Math, Science and Technology**. The Siemens Competition, regarded as one of the leading science and mathematics research-based competitions for high school students, has high academic standards, a rigorous judging process and emphasizes authentic scientific research. Jacob was selected for his outstanding accomplishments in these categories.

A Maplewood Middle School 7th-grader, **Hunter Kovacs**, will soon be seen as Kurt von Trapp at the **Paper Mill Playhouse** in the revival of *The Sound of Music*. Hunter got the part after competing against 400 other children in an open call audition. The show opens on November 23 and runs through December 30. Tickets to *The Sound of Music* can be purchased on the Paper Mill Playhouse website, <http://papermill.org>.