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Weekly Update | May 15, 2019

Vol. 5, Issue 3

A Message from Angie



We are at the time of year when teachers and students are both busy wrapping up the current school year while planning in earnest for the new year to come. This week is particularly testing heavy as our students in grades 5-8 complete their Math MCAS exams, our Seniors finish up the last final exams of their high school careers, and high school students take their final [Advanced Placement](#) exams. End of year field trips and culminating projects are keeping students and teachers busy in both buildings. First and second graders visited the zoo last week, fifth graders performed in an impressive history wax museum, and our kindergarteners will be visiting the South Shore Science Center tomorrow.



Looking ahead, high school students are thinking about schedules for next year. Today students in grades 8-11 are bringing home their course selection forms for 2019-2020. These course assignments are based on a combination of course selection

communicate with families about student schedules. The availability of courses varies by grade; choice increases as students move through the high school. The selections available in ninth grade are relatively narrow as students complete the foundational courses they need for high school success. Seniors have a wide number of courses available to them as they consider what they need to achieve their postsecondary goals.

Significant consideration on the part of both teachers and students went into these course selections. First, we determined what our students are interested in taking and what courses they need for the college majors and the careers they are considering. Students at the high school completed a student interest survey in February. We used this information, combined with student data and college admissions trends to develop our course offerings for next year. Those offerings along with descriptions of the courses, information about prerequisites, and general policies can be found in the [2019-2020 Course Descriptions](#) document. The selections that came home today are not final. There is still time if students would like to make changes. Changes can be made by the [guidance department](#) in consultation with the appropriate Curriculum Coordinator.

Our course offerings for the 2019-2020 school year include a significant expansion of the programming available to students. Students will now be able to elect to take French at the high school level, beginning with French I. We will expand the French program each year as students progress through the levels. New elective courses that satisfy core course requirements will also be available to students. Seniors may now choose between British Literature and a new course titled Communication and Connections, a course focused on the importance of communication across a number of areas. A new Nutrition and Fitness science course is now open to Juniors and Seniors.

We have also expanded our Advanced Placement course offerings for next year. Students may now choose to take [AP Chemistry](#), [AP Calculus BC](#), and [AP United States History](#) as well as the courses that we have offered for many years. The full list of AP courses available, information about the program, prerequisites, and requirements can all be found on our website [here](#).

One additional change for 2019-2020 is that our ninth grade courses will now carry a [Pre-AP](#) designation. Over the summer ninth grade teachers will be attending Pre-AP training to prepare for this transition. Pre-AP coursework prepares students for Advanced Placement and other college-level courses by emphasizing the literacy, quantitative, and analysis skills students need for college readiness. Teachers will use assessments and performance tasks provided by Pre-AP as they implement the curriculum using SSCPS materials supported by Pre-AP resources. These assessments will provide actionable feedback, allowing teachers to support students in their acquisition of key skills. The goal is to improve the college readiness of all students. Pre-AP courses are designed to be the baseline courses for all students. Every ninth grader will participate in this level of coursework and this is reflected on their course selections.

Please take some time to review the course selections that came home with your child and reach out to make any necessary changes. Thank you for all you do at home to support your children at this busy time of year. I look forward to seeing everyone at our end of year events and celebrations.



**Congratulations to 6th grader Fisher Roman who competed in the
Massachusetts State Science Fair
this past weekend at Worcester Tech High School.**

2019-2020 Parent Association Election for SSCPS!
Survey Closes: 5/31/2019 – Click the link below to cast your vote:
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/SSCPS PA Election>

Building)

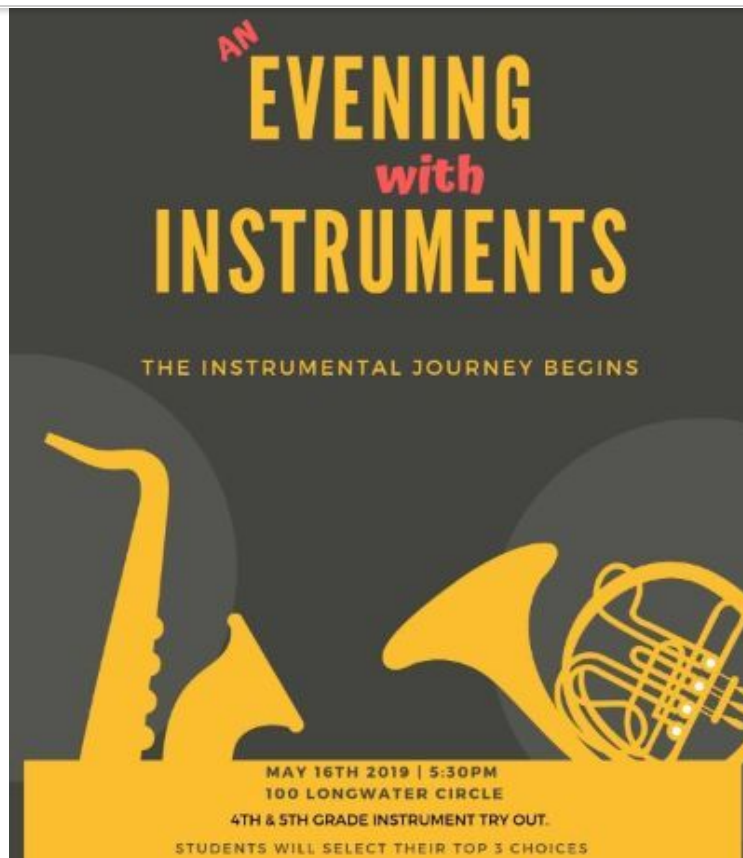
Thank you all for coming to cast a ballot for all Parents Association positions.

As your appointed Election Team, we are committed to ensuring the process is efficient, fair, measurable and accessible to all parents.

- Only current SSCPS Parents or Guardians may vote in this election,
- One vote per parent/guardian will be allowed,
- You must make one selection for each position,
- You are given the option to abstain from voting for a particular position if, for any reason, you choose not to (via an "I choose not to cast a vote for this position" option),
- Results will ONLY be shared on an aggregate level (e.g. # of total voters, # of votes per nominee, # that chose not to vote for a position, etc.)
- If there is a tie for a position, a second survey will be sent out only for those who need a tie-breaker,
- If you would like to self-nominate for a position that has no nominees, please insert your name with brief intro. Election will be held at June PA meeting,
- If there is a dispute or demand for a recount, at least one member of the Election Team (*Heidi Aylward, Cliff Peacock, Andrea Poudrier & Ken Poudrier*) and one school administrator will be engaged to review or recount parent/guardian submissions.

The Election Team remains committed and unbiased throughout its work on this process, and we're committed to the integrity of the SSCPS Parent Association.

Thank you for carefully considering the nominees who have stepped up to represent us.



[Click here for more information.](#)

SAVE THE DATE!



Summer Reading Book Fair is coming!

The Library Committee will be hosting the summer reading fair from 5:30-7pm on Thursday May 30th, the evening of the Spring Concert. This is a “cash and carry” event, with all summer reading choices available for purchase. More information will follow.

From the Development Office

Thank you for being a part of our school community! Your investment in your child’s education is an important one. Parent giving is an integral part of our school’s fundraising. Our goal this year is to have 100% Annual Fund participation. The members of the Board of Trustees have led the way by contributing 100% to our Annual Fund.

The South Shore Charter Educational Foundation is the non-profit organization

participate! The school relies on the support of our community to provide students with the resources needed to keep class size low, to keep improving facilities, to provide books, musical instruments, and technology, and to keep our innovative project-based and service learning programs alive.

If you have participated in the Annual Fund previously, we thank you and ask you to consider increasing your support. If you have never participated, we ask you to make this a priority in your charitable giving during this fiscal year. SSCEF is a 501C(3) organization and your monetary contribution is tax deductible. Please check with your employer to see if they will match your donation, and if they offer education grants to public schools.

You can click [here](#) and make an online donation, or send a check payable to SSCEF to SSCEF, P.O. Box 512, Accord, MA, 02018. Thank you!

Level I and Level II Families – Register [here](#) for our Annual Grandparents and Special Friends Day for Thursday, May 30th at 1:30! We ask that you sign up by Friday, May 24th so we can plan accordingly. If you need handicap accessible parking, please email Sheina at sprince@sscps.org.

Please save the date for Thursday, June 20th to head to the Brockton Rox game with your SSCPS friends! This event is open to all and scheduled the day after the last day of school due to the home game schedule with the Rox.

Click [here](#) to purchase your \$10 per person ticket. Contact Laurie Dannison ldannison@sscps.org with any questions.

Level	Math MCAS	Science MCAS
Level II	May 20 May 21	<i>3rd and 4th grade not tested</i>
Level III	May 14 May 16	May 20 (5 th grade) May 21 (5 th grade) <i>6th grade not tested</i>
Level IV	May 13 May 15	May 20 (8 th grade) May 21(8 th grade) <i>7th grade not tested</i>
High School	May 21 May 22	June 4 (9 th grade) June 5 (9 th grade)

Wednesday	05/15	Parents Association Meeting in the Music Room at 100	7:30pm
Thursday	05/16	AP Statistics Exam	
Thursday	05/16	Kindergarten Class to South Shore Science Center	
Thursday	05/16	An Evening with Instruments Grades 4 and 5 at 100	5:30pm
Friday	05/17	Junior/Senior Prom – Quincy Marriott	6:00-10:00pm
Monday	05/20	MCAS Grade 5 and Grade 8 Science	
Monday	05/20	MCAS Level II Math	
Tuesday	05/21	MCAS Grade 5 and Grade 8 Science	
Tuesday	05/21	MCAS Level II Math	
Tuesday	05/21	MCAS Grade 10 Math	
Wednesday	05/22	MCAS Grade 10 Math	
Wednesday	05/22	Title I End-of-Year Celebration	3:15-4:15pm

Weekly Updates are emailed and posted to our website www.sscps.org every Wednesday.

Here are links to upcoming events and other items of interest.

- [Food Service](#) – **May and June** Order Forms and Menus are available!
- **Order your 2019 Yearbook!** Order online at www.coffeepond.com and use password: **bluejaguar** or complete an order form available at the front desks
- [SSCPS Counseling Department](#) offers workshop information and resources for students and families
- Visit our new online option to [purchase](#) SSCPS apparel
- Please visit our [Giving](#) link for information regarding *The Fund for SSCEF*
- Community Service Opportunity: Join the Quinn Family and participate in the "[Fundrive](#)" for Declan Hickey

Please contact Pam Algera at palgera@sscps.org to submit SSCPS items for publication.

[Accountability Plan](#)

[SSCPS By-Laws](#)

[School Improvement Plan](#)

[School Council](#)

Schedules by Level:

- [Level I](#)
- [Level II](#)
- [Level III](#)
- [Level IV](#)

[Pick-up Procedures](#)



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