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## Weekly Update | May 8, 2019

Vol. 5, Issue 2

### A Message from Alicia

Here at the South Shore Charter Public School the excitement of May is hard to contain. Efforts to do so would prove fruitless and we could not imagine it any other way. In our classrooms and hallways we see are just beginning to see the events that mark the end of the school year. Seniors have completed their final Exhibition of Mastery for Ethics, the Senior Debates and are now on their internships. This week students from Level IV participated in a Day of Service by traveling to [Wollaston Beach](#), [Nantasket Beach](#), and [Houghton's Pond](#) to beautify and clean beaches and recreation areas. Students from Katie Cianelli's 10th grade English class ventured out to the [Newport Mansions](#) to get a feel for the setting of [F. Scott Fitzgerald's](#) timeless novel, [The Great Gatsby](#). Yesterday some of our 8th grade students returned from New York City. And today students on Level III are hosting a Historical Wax Museum in our gym. In the upcoming weeks we look forward to more wonderful EoMs, end-of-year field trips, and the now legendary Color and Jaguar Games.

Although the end of the year six weeks away, the spring is a season of new opportunities. This is reflected in the work being done on the Strategic Plan, the Annual Report, and the Charter Renewal Application by students, the parent community, the faculty and staff, the School Site Council, the Parents Association, the Strategic Planning Committee, the Board of Trustees, and the South Shore Charter Educational Foundation. Yesterday, I sent our school community an email asking for input on the SSCPS Mission Statement for our Charter Renewal Application. If you have not done so already, please take a few moments and reply to any or all of the five questions within that email. The voice of our parent community is essential as we chart the direction and purpose of the school over the next five years.



*Students in 10th grade ELA enjoying a day at the Newport Mansions.*

I would like to thank all families who took the time to complete the Annual SSCPS Parent Satisfaction Survey. The results of the survey have been recorded and the quantitative data is linked [here](#) for your review. This survey data will be reviewed during the May Board of Trustees meeting tomorrow evening. We received 106 responses from 650 families. This is a solid response rate, however not as high as last year. Last year we received 223 responses out of 587 families. In 2017 we received 114 responses from 493 families. Our highest response rate was in 2016 when we received 166 responses from 372 families.

We will continue survey data to determine the direction of our academic programming, school culture, and campus growth as we plan for the upcoming year. Survey data is exceedingly helpful when we receive grant money from the state and when the opportunities to expand or improve our facilities arise. Parent provided survey data alerts us to other changes necessary to improve classroom resources and support our project-based learning model.

We are looking forward to next year and to the many improvements in our buildings. This past year we were able to improve and increase classroom space for the arts, we built a new computer lab, built and supplied a new workout room at the high school, create new offices and conference areas, and build a new classroom. On our wish list are a larger gymnasium, athletic fields, increased classroom space for music and language, and more outdoor space. During the Board of Trustees meeting on Thursday evening our trustees will review the data and we will be using these results to once again inform our discussion and summer planning. Your input is essential to our school and I welcome any additional thoughts you may have.

Lastly, I would like to give a shout-out to all of our high school students taking AP exams this week and next week. It has been a year of hard work and commitment. Kudos to our family and faculty members who have stood by in support. Advanced

Alicia Savage

Executive Director, South Shore Charter Public School

#### Level IV Day of Service 2019

On Monday, May 6 over 100 students from Level IV spread out across some of our communities to make a subtle but important difference. Students participated in our 3rd Annual Level IV Day of Service. The Level IV students modelled participation in the community service aspect of our school's mission *Inspiring students to excel in academics, service and life*. Students travelled to Wollaston Beach in Quincy, Nantasket Beach in Hull and Houghton's Pond, part of the Blue Hills Reservation in Milton for the purpose of picking up refuse that others had carelessly or mistakenly left behind. Students did not realize what an impact they were making as they set out to beautify these areas that morning. "It didn't look like there was this much trash when we pulled in," said one 8th grader at Houghton's Pond. Collectively, Level IV students completed nearly 250 hours of community service on Monday. Congratulations to all who participated!







#### FROM THE PARENTS ASSOCIATION

It's that time of year! While every parent is automatically a member of the Parents Association (PA), we have a few positions that require a vote! We are

Are you interested in being more involved? Care to hang out with a group of SSCPS parents and guardians once a month to make our school better? Want to be part of keeping families and school connected?

Well....joining PA might be for you! We're an integral part of engaging families to support our school. **All positions are up for nomination!**

We're kicking off the election process by inviting you to self-nominate for a position. Nominations will be accepted until 5/10/19. Please consider nominating yourself.

Once nominations have been collected, we will send another email with a survey link for you to vote for all of your PA officers, committee chairs and level/grade representatives.

We plan to close the voting by 5/31/19 and hand the PA over to the incoming group during our June PA meeting.

**If you are interested in running for a position, we invite you to self-nominate here:**

**<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2G988ZR>**

Thank you for your continued support of our children and their school. Questions can be sent to [sscpspaelection@gmail.com](mailto:sscpspaelection@gmail.com), or you can contact any member of the PA.

Heidi Aylward - [summer\\_skies@msn.com](mailto:summer_skies@msn.com)

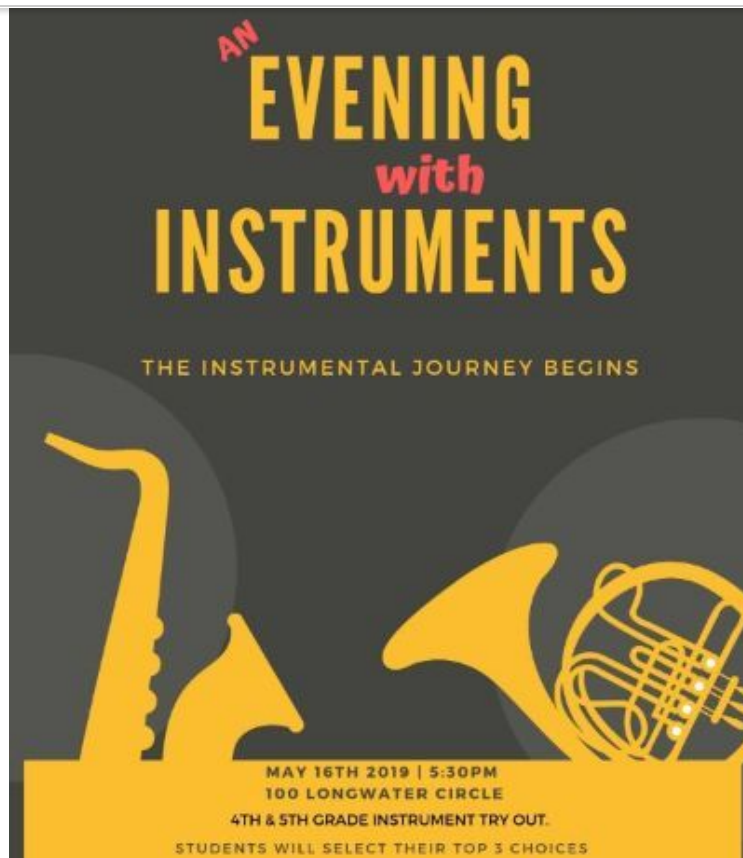
Ken Poudrier - [krp@pillarfs.com](mailto:krp@pillarfs.com)

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**Thank you all who participated in Wear Red Day on Friday, May 3 to raise funds for a new van for Declan. We raised over \$1,600.00! If you would like to contribute, please click on the link below.**

**[Declan Hickey's New Van](#)**

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[Click here for more information.](#)

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**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.

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**A Special Event for Level I and Level II Families**

**From the Development Office**

Please [register here](#) for Grandparents and Special Friends Day by May 24, 2019. Check your email for the invitation and contact Laurie Dannison at [ldannison@sscps.org](mailto:ldannison@sscps.org) with any questions.

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

Wednesday	05/08	Class of 2021 Trip Meeting at 700	6:00pm
Thursday	05/09	New Student Shadow Day for Grades 5, 6, 7, and 8	
Thursday	05/09	In Control Driving Course	
Thursday	05/09	Board of Trustees Finance Committee Governance Committee	7:30pm 6:00pm 7:00pm
Friday	05/10	Grades 1 and 2 to Franklin Park Zoo	
Friday	05/10	AP Computer Science Exam	
Monday	05/13	AP Biology Exam	
Monday	05/13	MCAS Level IV Math	
Monday	05/13	Senior Science Final	
Tuesday	05/14	AP Calculus Exam	
Tuesday	05/14	MCAS Level III Math	
Tuesday	05/14	Senior Math Final	
Tuesday	05/14	April 2020 Trip to Italy Meeting in the Music Room at 100	6:30pm
Wednesday	05/15	AP English Language and Composition	
Wednesday	05/15	MCAS Level IV Math	
Wednesday	05/15	Parents Association Meeting in the Music Room at 100	7:30pm



Weekly Updates are emailed and posted to our website [www.sscps.org](http://www.sscps.org) every Wednesday.

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

- [Food Service](#) – May Order Forms and Menus are available!
- **Order your 2019 Yearbook!** Order online at [www.coffeepond.com](http://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: [Carry5 Walk for Water](#)
- **Attention Level I and Level II Families!** Register for Grandparents and Special Friends Day by May 24th. Check your email for the invitation and reach out to Laurie Dannison at [ldannison@sscps.org](mailto:ldannison@sscps.org) with any question

Please contact Pam Algera at [palgera@sscps.org](mailto: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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**Our website address is:**

[www.sscps.org](http://www.sscps.org)

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