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Weekly Update | April 29, 2020

Vol. 4, Issue 4

A Message from Alicia

Returning from April break looks different this year. Usually the weeks from April to June are full of excitement and promise. Field trips, color games, and award ceremonies are end of the year traditions that students happily anticipate. Yet this year looks different. Throughout Massachusetts students continue to stay home, giving up their world temporarily for the greater good of the world at large. The incredible sacrifices our students have made must be recognized.

As parents you not only have a front row seat to these sacrifices, you have made sacrifices as well. Many of you are working from home trying to juggle your child's distance learning. Some of our families have one or two parents working in healthcare on the front lines. Many of you are essential workers unable to supervise your child's learning until you come home exhausted from a long day. Other families are struggling with the economic ramifications of business closures and job loss.

As a collective whole, we understand the importance of staying at home; this is a pandemic and lives are at stake. Health is the first priority, but it is not the only priority. Your child's education remains a priority in all circumstances, even during a pandemic.

The Massachusetts Department of Education released updated guidance on remote learning for school districts and charter schools Friday night following Governor Baker's announcement on school building closure for the remainder of the academic year. The Department of Education has divided the learning period into four phases. Phase I, the first week of building closure, was described as a time when the state focus was on "student and staff safety, nutrition, and other foundational needs." At the South Shore Charter Public School, we took Phase I one step further by beginning our remote learning model on Monday, March 16, 2020.

The Department of Education released initial guidance on remote learning on March 26, 2020. This is described as Phase II. By the time we received Phase II guidelines from the state, our school was well into our second week of remote learning. Not all districts and charter schools began Phase II at the same time. A few schools and districts began on March 16, however most districts began onboarding distance learning programs later in April.

Friday's message provided new information regarding the phase we are entering now; Phase III. Phase III includes, "Further defining the recommended elements of a quality remote learning program, including a focus on teaching the content standards most critical for success on the next grade level." We have now entered the period of time where we are focused on solidifying the learning standards that we have been working on throughout the school year, both before and after March 13, so that we can anticipate where the each student will be when we reconvene in the fall.

Phase IV is identified as the final phase in which we are permitted to return to our buildings for the next school year. Before we look to Phase IV, it is critical for our school to continue to build and refine the remote learning program we began implementing on March 16. Although remote learning has its challenges, it is the hand we have been dealt and we will make the best of it.



Fourth grade students read their new copies of *Wonder* in John Toland's ELA class.

In order to accomplish the best possible outcome, we are asking for feedback on how remote learning has been for your child(ren) and family. We have written a short survey for families to glean data which will assist our planning for the weeks ahead. We would greatly appreciate your input. The survey is twelve questions and should take approximately ten minutes.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/parentremotel Learningsurvey>

Thank you for your ongoing support of our school.

Alicia Savage, Executive Director
South Shore Charter Public School

SSCPS Makes Art History

Community Art Show

Here we are together working through this strange time in our daily lives. We are making our own history in our own ways. We are asking you to be witness to this time in your life by joining us and sending in a piece of what you are seeing, feeling, hearing, doing so that together we can compile our history as a community.

Draw and write, compose and sing, paint and assemble, layer upon layer, create a video, design a poster which ever way you choose to express how you are feeling or what you are seeing, doing, hearing.

Please follow this link to the new **SSCPS Arts web site**.

<https://sites.google.com/sscps.org/sscps-arts-music/sscps-makes-art-history>

Submissions are a simple upload away. Please have them in by **June 1** for this year's virtual show. Let us establish our place in the history of today!

All family members welcome!

The Arts Department

An Important Message from Tim Nicolette and the Massachusetts Charter Public School Association

Dear Charter Public School Supporters,

Over the weekend, [Commonwealth Magazine published an opinion piece](#) that I co-authored with Tom Scott, Executive Director of the Massachusetts Association of School Superintendents. Collectively, our respective associations represent almost all of Massachusetts's public schools.

In the piece, which I kindly encourage you to read, we argue that if we want to keep

students at the center, we need the federal government to take meaningful action NOW.

[Click here to ask your congressional representative to support a federal stimulus package that makes relief for state and municipal budgets a priority, and includes additional, dedicated funding to support K-12 public schools.](#)

The economic impact of COVID-19 in Massachusetts could result in a [\\$4 billion to \\$6 billion revenue shortfall](#) for the state budget. This could jeopardize planned spending designed to address decades-long inequities in state education funding, and will also create further financial stress on schools at a time when the “[COVID-19 Slide](#)” will likely worsen these inequities. We cannot allow the virus to hurt our children’s education and their future.

In the coming weeks, the federal government will consider a further stimulus package to respond to this public health crisis. I respectfully ask you to join us in supporting the National Governors Association’s call for [\\$500 billion](#) to help offset state revenue shortfalls, as well as the National School Superintendents Association and other education groups request for [\\$200 billion](#) for public schools.

Once again, we ask that you please support our Commonwealth’s kids by taking a quick and easy action today!

[Click here to ask your congressional representative to support a federal stimulus package that makes relief for state and municipal budgets a priority, and includes additional, dedicated funding to support K-12 public schools.](#)

Together, we can help to ensure Massachusetts’s children will continue to receive the resources they need to further their public education.

Gratefully,
Tim Nicolette



Executive Director, Massachusetts Charter Public School Association

COVID-19 RESOURCES

Articles for Families

[PBS | How to Talk to Your Kids About Coronavirus](#)

[Child Mind Institute | Supporting Families During COVID-19](#)

[New York Times | 5 Ways to Help Teens Manage Anxiety About the Coronavirus](#)

[New York Times | Talking to Teens and Tweens About Coronavirus](#)

[ACEs in Education and COVID-19](#)

[Parenting with ACEs in a pandemic](#)

[Practicing resilience during social distancing](#)

Podcasts for Families

[The Daily | A Kid's Guide to Coronavirus](#)

Books for Children and Families

[My Hero Is You, Storybook for Children on COVID-19](#)

COVID-19 Government Updates

[CDC Updates](#)

[FDA Updates](#)

[Massachusetts Department of Public Health](#)

[City of Boston](#)

Remote Learning Resources for Families

[Zoom Information for Parents](#)

[The Parents' Guide to Google Classroom](#)

IMPORTANT MEAL INFORMATION

DISTRICT INSTRUCTIONS FOR RECEIVING FREE AND REDUCED MEALS

With school closures due to COVID-19 outbreak, many schools and community partners are preparing to make meals available to students when school is closed.

For the most up-to-date information we have available, please visit this [link](#) or view a map of locations below or via this [map link](#) . Please be aware that plans are continuously changing, so continue checking back if you do not find any meals for your community.

For more information and to learn of other food assistance resources available, please contact Project Bread's FoodSource Hotline. The FoodSource Hotline can be reached at 800-645-8333 from 8am-7pm Monday-Friday, and Saturdays from 10am-2pm, and can provide information in 160 languages through our Language Line.

211

If you need assistance finding food, paying housing bills, accessing free childcare, or other essential services, [click here](#) to find your local 211 or dial 211 to speak to someone who can help.

If you need further assistance from SSCPS, please contact Charlene Salamone at csalamone@sscps.org.

ABINGTON

The Abington Public Schools Food Service Program will be providing grab-and-go breakfast and lunch meals to families in need of food assistance. If your family is in need of assistance, please contact Bernie Darcy, Food Service Director, at meals@abingtonps.org or at 781-982-2156 to make arrangements for meals.

ATTLEBORO

Students will have access to a “grab and go” school lunch during this closure. For the safety of participants and staff, our procedure will comply with social distancing expectations. Hours for pick up are 11:30 to 1:00 PM at the Principal’s Entrance (on Blue Pride Way) at Attleboro High School. Contact Marc Furtado at mfurtado@attleboroschools.org or at 508-222-0012 x1522 for more information.

In addition, The Attleboro Interfaith Collaborative “Food N Friends” Program serves meals daily, to anyone who needs it. The meals are served to go, between 4:00 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. at various locations around the city. Visit their [Facebook page](#) for the schedule.

AVON

Butler Elementary School Monday through Friday from 8:00 am-11:00 am. Please come to the door on the left side of the building. Meals will be “grab and go”. Lunches will be brought outside upon your arrival. There will be no admittance into the building.

BOSTON

BPS will continue to provide free breakfast and lunch meals to all Boston children beginning Tuesday, March 17. Locations will be open Monday - Friday from 8:30 am - 11:30 am at the schools listed below and shown on this map in blue. A variety of packaged meal options will be available for pick-up. <https://www.boston.gov/departments/food-access/map-meal-sites-boston>

BRAINTREE

Offering grab and go meals FREE to all children in Braintree 18 years and under during school closures. Pick up meals between 10 AM to 12 PM Monday and Thursday at Hollis Elementary School (482 Washington St) or Ross Elementary (20 Hayward St). Any questions please contact Sarah Coughlin at sarah.coughlin@braintreeschools.org or at 617-653-7166

BRIDGEWATER

Monday through Friday from 9 to 11 at the front entrance of Bridgewater High School 415 Center Street, Bridgewater.

BROCKTON

Meals will be available from 11:30 to 1 pm at Brockton High School, North Middle School, South Middle School and East Middle School. Families who plan to pick up meals at Brockton High should use the Belmont Street entrance. Upon arrival, please follow the traffic cones to enter the line. The Food Services team will count the number of children in your vehicle and provide one breakfast and one lunch for each student present. The team will provide reheating instructions when needed. There are several food pantries in the city of Brockton ready to help families cope during this school closure. The Charity Guild on Main Street has a Food Pantry that is open between 10:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m. Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. Learn more on their [website](#).

Here's a [list](#) of other food pantries in the Greater Brockton area.

HALIFAX

Please contact Megan Ahrenholz, RD, School Nutrition Director, 781-582-3556 or mahrenholz@slrsd.org.

HANOVER

Please contact jvlassakis@hanoverschools.org to receive meals during school closures.

HANSON

If you are in need please contact Jeffrey.szymaniak@whrsd.org

HINGHAM

[Complete Survey Here](#)

HOLBROOK

Meal pick up at the Superintendent Office door #3 Monday through Friday 11-12 pm.

HULL

A week's worth of meals will be delivered every Tuesday from 10:00am and 12:00pm. Use this link to sign up for weekly deliveries

<https://www.hullpublicschools.org/district/families-students/pages/freereduced-meals-information> or if you have any questions please contact Vinny Harte at vinny@wellspringmultiservice.org or at 781-925-3211 x110

KINGSTON

Please contact Megan Ahrenholz, RD, School Nutrition Director, 781-582-3556 or mahrenholz@slrsd.org.

MARSHFIELD

Marshfield Food Pantry located at 1837 Ocean Street is opened on Tuesdays 9:30 am to 12:00 pm, Wednesdays 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm and Fridays 9:30 am to 12:00 pm. If any additional food assistance is needed call 781-837-0359 or www.marshfieldfoodpantry.org

NORWELL

Please email judith.crooks@norwellschools.org

PEMBROKE

Grab and Go meals are available on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at the Hobomock Elementary School 11-1. There will be tables set up so families can truly grab and go.

PLYMOUTH

Grab and Go meals are available Monday – Friday from 11:30 am – 12:30 pm at the locations listed below.

Families in need are welcome to visit one of these locations on Fridays from 9:30 am - 12:30 pm to pick up a bag of non-perishable food items to take home.

- Indian Brook Elementary School - 1181 State Road
- Hedge Elementary School - 258 Standish Avenue (Please enter the back of the building through blue cafeteria door)

Should you need additional assistance, please do not hesitate to reach out to food@plymouth.k12.ma.us.

Delivery is available for families who need it. Please visit www.bit.ly/PPSFoodDelivery.

QUINCY

Breakfast and lunch will be available for Quincy students to pick up at Lincoln Hancock Community School (Water Street side of building), North Quincy High School (316 Hancock Street), Quincy High School (100 Coddington Street) and Snug Harbor Community School (333 Palmer Street) Monday through Friday from 11:00 am to 12:00 pm during the weeks of school closure. Beginning on Monday, March 30, Clifford Marshall Elementary School (200 Moody Street Ext) will begin meal distribution on the same schedule. Additional information can be found here: [School Nutrition Meal Plan 3.16.2020](#)

RANDOLPH

Randolph Public Schools will deliver meals on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 10:20 am near the rental/leasing offices at Liberty Place, Rosemont Square aka

Chestnut West, Pacella Park, Avalon Apartments/Pryne Hills, Franklin Square Condominiums. The buses will stay for 20 minutes. If you can't make it to those sites, the four pick-up sites will still remain from 11:00 am to 12:30 pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays at the Donovan Elementary School, the Lyons Elementary School, the JFK Elementary School and the Randolph High School.

ROCKLAND

Free bag lunch will be served Monday through Friday at the "Mainstreet" entrance of RHS/RMS between the hours of 11:30 am and 12:30 pm Monday through Friday.

TAUNTON

Contact Karen Pappa at kpappa@tauntonschools.org or at 1-508-821-5859

WEYMOUTH

Student meals will be available for DRIVE-THROUGH and walk-through pick up between 11:00-1:00 each day at Seach Primary School and Abigail Adams Middle School. Each student meal will consist of milk and a bagged lunch. The program will be available each weekday during the closure period. This form will be sent out each week for you to complete. These lunch options are FREE for all students. Lunches noted may change due to student participation. We appreciate all families who complete this form to help us estimate demand but will provide food to all families. [Sign Up Here](#)

WHITMAN

If you are in need please contact Jeffrey.szymaniak@whrsd.org
Information is constantly changing so please check this [list](#) for the most up to date information the state has on meal distribution.

Stay Healthy!

SSCPS YEARBOOK COMMITTEE

To order online go to www.coffeepond.com, to login use school password: bluejaguar.

See the information from [Coffee Pond!](#)

The deadline for families to has been extended to April 30!

Submit a special personalized page for their senior that will appear in the back of the book at these rates: Full page \$150, 1/2 pg. \$75, 1/4 pg. \$50. The yearbook staff can help with any design concerns.

Please email Christine at cbodnar@sscps.org with any questions.

Wednesday	05/06	Executive Committee Meeting	8:00am
Wednesday	05/06	Advanced Placement Contracts Due	
Thursday	05/14	Board of Trustees Annual and Regular Meeting	7:30pm
Thursday	05/14	Board of Trustees Committee Meetings	TBD

Zoom Information for Parents

Important Links

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

- [2020 Annual Family Survey](#)
- [Free and Reduced Lunch Pick Up Information](#)
- [Massachusetts Department of Transitional Assistance](#)
- Visit our new online option to [purchase](#) SSCPS apparel
- Community Interest: Click here for information on [Team IMPACT](#)

Here are links to upcoming events and other items of interest. Please contact Pam Algera at palgera@sscps.org to submit SSCPS items for publication.

School Documents

[2019-20 School Calendar](#)

[2020-21 School Calendar](#)

[Student and Family Handbook](#)

[SSCPS By-Laws](#)

[Pick-up Procedures](#)



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