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Weekly Update | September 11, 2019

Vol. 9, Issue 2

A Message from Alicia



9/11 Memorial, New York City Photo Credit: Shawn Connors

Today our nation recognizes Patriot Day and all those who were lost on September 11, 2001. It is an important day for our nation and our school community. The flags outside our building are flying at half-staff and there are remembrances on television, radio, and the internet. This morning our school observed a moment of silence at 8:46, the moment American Airlines Flight 11 flew into the North Tower of the World Trade Center. The moment of silence began with words from K-4 Assistant Principal, Sheina Prince-Eugene.

On September 11th each year we come together to remember one of the most

We take a moment on this day to remember and appreciate our local military, veterans, first responders, and local unsung heroes. We hope you honor them with an act of kindness or act of service as a sign of unity, appreciation, and a remembrance of the strength we have as a united community and country.

Each year our school marks the events of September 11 with age-appropriate lessons and classroom discussions. Students in Jody Regan's middle school math class watch [Boatlift](#) and discuss bravery and resiliency. High school students in United States Government classes read [The Red Bandanna](#) to explore individual sacrifice and what it means to serve others. Last year I was particularly moved by history teacher Margaret Bulger's words to our high school students, most of whom were born after 2001.

With the passage of time it is easy to forget that September 11, 2001 was the bloodiest day in U.S. history since the Civil War. This week we talked about the balance between order and freedom. Let us remember those who died by remembering that freedom is still the cornerstone of our democracy and that we must preserve it in their memory.

As the adults in our children's lives, parents and teachers have become the means by which students learn about September 11. We remember the tragic events of the day clearly. We can recall where we were, who we were with, the beautiful weather that morning, and how we felt when we learned of loved ones lost. Although this is a role we may not have anticipated, parents and teachers have become the oral historians for our children and their generation. It has become our job now to honor the memory of all that was lost and to share those stories with the children in our lives. Thank you for being an essential participant in this remembrance.

Alicia Savage

Executive Director, South Shore Charter Public School

Charter Renewal Update

Last week we welcomed a site team visit from the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. This year marks our 25th anniversary and it is also a charter renewal year. The charter renewal process occurs once every five years. The purpose of the renewal cycle is to ensure that our school is effective and viable, and that we are staying true to our mission of inspiring every student to succeed in academics, service, and life.

The site visit team did their complete visit and review on Thursday, September 5, 2019, the seventh day of the new school year. The visiting team was comprised of four educators from School Works, the organization contracted by the state to conduct site visits. The team arrived at 6:45 in the morning and left at 6:30 in the evening. Throughout the day members of the team observed classrooms and met with focus groups. These focus groups were categorized into Board of Trustees, Administration, Special Education Administration, Special Education Faculty, High School Faculty and K-8 Faculty. It was a full day for all. Thank you all who participated in the focus groups and a special thanks to all faculty and staff who prepared so well for that day.

The next step for the visiting team will be to finish the Renewal Inspection Evidence (REI) report based on data gleaned from the site visit and the documentation we provided over the summer. Once the Department of Education receives the REI, they will prepare a Summary of Review. The school will receive a preliminary draft of the Summary of Review so that we may make any factual corrections to the report. When able to do so, the results will be shared with the school community.

Thank you all members of the school community who have helped along the way; students, faculty, staff, families, and members of the Board of Trustees.

Pickup Procedures

All of us share the common interest at dismissal time of getting all students safely and efficiently into their correct vehicles. Our first goal is safety. The second is an efficient system that treats everyone equitably. Following these procedures will help us maintain a positive school culture and neighborly relations with the other tenants of Assinippi Park. Please remember the following:

- The campus is closed to pick-up traffic before 3:00 pm at both locations
- Students in K-8 must be picked up at 100 Longwater Circle
- Students in grades 9-12 should be picked up at 700 Longwater Drive
- Students may be picked up at the front or back doors only. Other pick up points put student safety at risk. Pick up in other lots is trespassing
- If you do not want to wait in line, you may find that planning to arrive between 3:15 and 3:25 pm works better for your family
- When an appointment requires an exact 3:00 pm dismissal, we ask that you pick up your student at or before 2:30
- There is no cell phone use while driving on campus during arrival and dismissal

- The speed limit on campus is five miles per hour
 - All drivers are to stay in their cars and staff members will help your child get into the car
 - If your student or any student in your carpool is not present when you come to pick up that student, a staff member will ask you to pull into a designated waiting area to keep the line moving
 - Parents and guardians who are late to pick up their students must park and come to the front desk to sign out their child(ren)
 - Families will be assessed a fee when they pick up between 4:15 and 5:00. The fee is \$25 per day
 - SSCPS reserves the right to contact the local police and/or transport any student not picked up by 5:00 pm, or any student left waiting for longer than half an hour following a school based event
 - Any person who does not cooperate with these procedures will be asked to meet with the Assistant Principals or Principal
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~ News from the Library: September 2019 ~

Dear SSCPS Families,

Welcome back to another school year! As many of you know, students can borrow materials from the SSCPS library throughout the school year. Library materials are checked out to students during their regularly scheduled class library time.

Students may only borrow one item at a time, and items are checked out for a two week period. Students are expected to bring their library materials with them during their class library time to return. If a student forgets to bring back their materials, they may not check out any additional materials until those items are returned. Our students do a great job of taking good care of their books, and they look forward to using the library. If your child's library materials should get damaged or lost, your family is responsible to pay for a replacement.

If for any reason you do NOT want your student(s) to check out library materials, please email faculty liaison Bev Bruce (bbruce@sscps.org). They will still participate in their scheduled class library time.

We look forward to serving you this year!

SSCPS Library Committee

librarian@sscps.org

All medication must be dropped off directly to the nurse but a parent with doctor's paperwork.

At 100 Longwater (K-8), the school is Peanut/Treenut free. This includes Such things as Nutella, Granola bars/protein bars with nuts, Almond milk, or anything that "May contain nut". Please make sure to read all labels, this is important in keeping all our students safe at school.

We Need YOU to Complete a NSLP Benefit Form!

Would you like to make a difference in your child's education? Well, here's how!

Every year, your family receives a [Free and Reduced Price Meal Application with Instructions](#). It is important to fill out this form and return it to school by **September 30, 2019** for two reasons:

1. The application lets us know if your child is eligible for free or reduced price school meals. Children from families that earn below a certain income level can receive free or reduced price lunch and breakfast at school.
2. Applications we receive by **September 30, 2019** are used to determine federal and state entitlement grant funding our school receives for additional student services and academic materials for the upcoming school year.
3. School breakfast and lunch will energize your child's day and provide a healthy dose of vitamins and nutrients for a strong and healthy body. Students that eat healthy meals are more alert and learn more in class too.

The application is easy to fill out and easy to understand. Also, you do not have to worry about your information being shared with others because application information is CONFIDENTIAL. Support the SSCPS' Breakfast and Lunch Program today by completing your [application](#)!

Here are our [Food Service Program Instructions](#) which explains how to order meals at SSCPS and you can click on the appropriate [order form here](#) to order meals.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact Charlene Salamone, Food Services Coordinator at 781-982-4202x156 or via email csalamone@sscps.org



The High School Mock Trial Workshop will be participating in the “Making Strides Breast Cancer Walk,” in Boston on September 29, 2019. Many of the workshop members have a relationship with someone who has had the disease and they are excited to help the cause as a team!

The workshop is participating in the High School challenge, where all high schools that enter try to raise the most funds for research and patient assistance. Contributions can be made on the team dashboard. The team name is South Shore Charter Public School (Mock Trial).

To donate use the following link

[South Shore Charter Public School Mock Trial Team](#)

on the “Making Strides “webpage.

SOUTH SHORE CHARTER PUBLIC SCHOOL

Before School

Concert Band

All are welcome

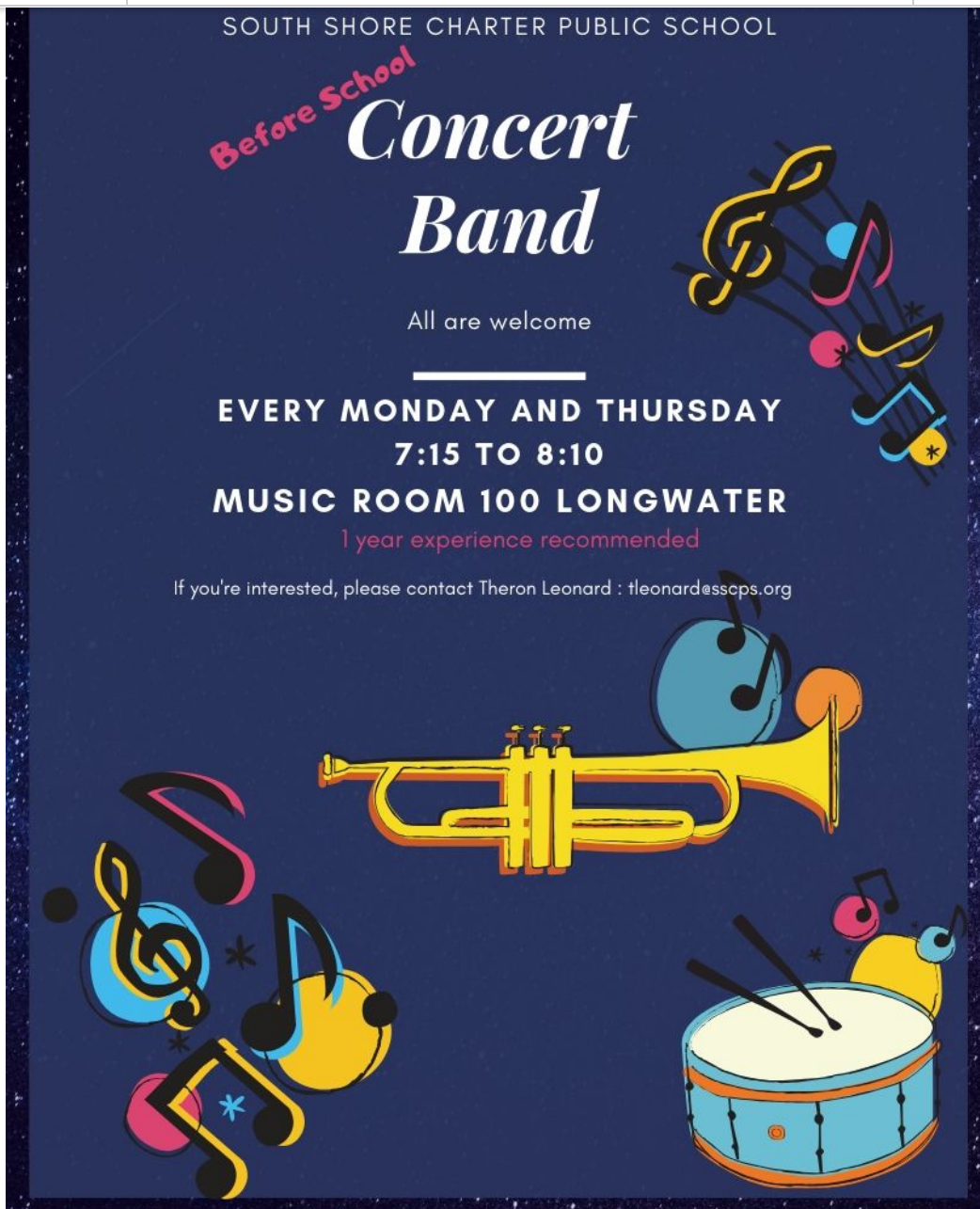
EVERY MONDAY AND THURSDAY

7:15 TO 8:10

MUSIC ROOM 100 LONGWATER

1 year experience recommended

If you're interested, please contact Theron Leonard : tleonard@sscps.org



SCHOOL PICTURE DAYS!

Grades K-8 Only

Friday, September 13

Please check your child's backpack for the order form, FILL IT OUT, and send it back in to your child's Pod or Advisor!

Wednesday	09/11	Professional Development Early Release	12:00pm
Wednesday	09/11	Governance Committee	7:00-8:30pm
Thursday	09/12	Board of Trustees	7:30pm
		Personnel Committee	6:00pm
		Finance Committee	6:30pm
		Development Committee	7:00pm
Friday	09/13	K-8 School Picture Day	
Thurs & Fri	09/12-09/13	Senior Class Overnight Retreat	
SAVE THE DATES:			
Tuesday	09/17	High School Back-to-School Parent Night at 700	6:00-7:30pm
		Freshman Parent Information Night	7:30-8:30pm
		Senior Parent Information Night	7:30-8:30pm
Thursday	09/19	Level I (Grades K-2) and Level II (Grades 3-4) Back-to-School Parent Night at 100	6:00-7:30pm
Saturday	09/21	Parents Association Back-to-School Picnic at 100	1:00-4:00pm
Tuesday	09/24	Level III (Grades 5-6) and Level IV (Grades 7-8) Back-to-School Parent Nights at 100	6:00-7:30pm
Thursday	09/26	Parents Association Meeting at 100	6:30pm

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

- [Back-to-School Information](#)
- [Breakfast and Lunch Menus and Order Forms](#)
- Visit our new online option to [purchase](#) SSCPS apparel
- The students traveling to Italy in April have organized [FUNDrive with Savers](#)

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.

[2019-2020 Calendar](#)

[2019 Summer Reading Book List](#)

[Student and Family Handbook](#)

[SSCPS By-Laws](#)

[Pick-up Procedures](#)



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www.sscps.org

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