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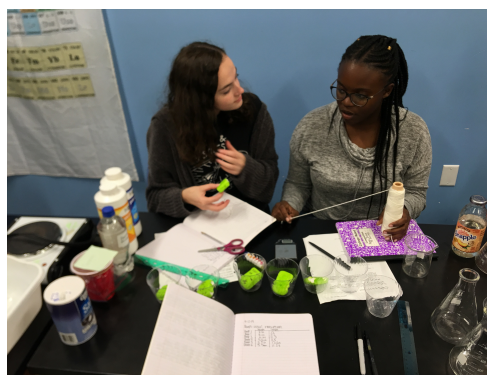
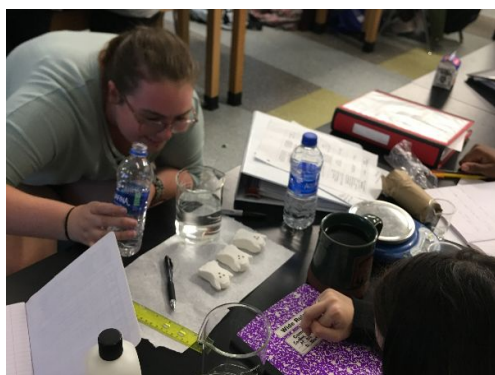


Weekly Update | October 16, 2019

Vol. 10, Issue 3

A Message from Jamie Allen

My name is Jamie Allen, I am the Science Curriculum Coordinator, and this is my 9th year at the South Shore Charter Public School. I oversee the K-12 science curriculum, including the development and implementation of new curriculum and the K-12 classroom teaching supporting the MA STE science standards. I am pleased to share with you our STE state testing results, some new classes and changes, as well as what we have been busy doing in our science classrooms.



AP Biology Students designing and carrying out their own inquiry based investigation testing the properties of water, entitled "How to Kill a Peep."

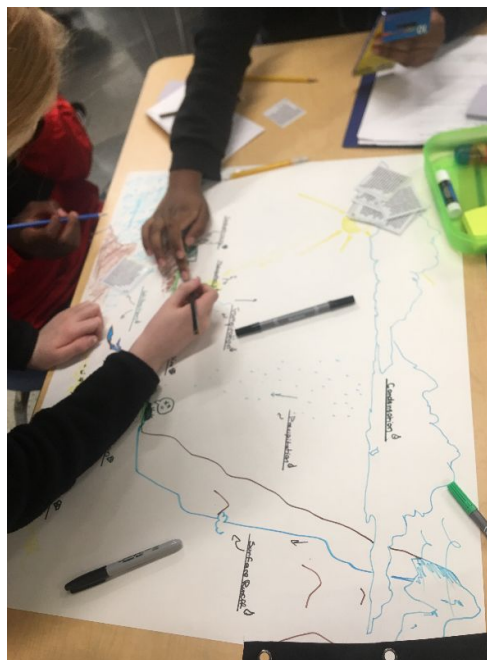
MCAS

Our grade 5 and 8 students took the Next Generation STE MCAS this past Spring. This test was the first year that was based solely on the new 2016 MA state standards and used the computer-based Next Generation MCAS. These tests have been redesigned to include assessing the content standards, as well as the science and engineering practices. Our teachers and students waited in anticipation for our scores to be released, as well as the release of the new achievement levels that were set and released in August. The hard work of our students and teachers was demonstrated by our achievement points, growth, and student scores. In summary, 56% of the students at SSCPS were *Meeting/Exceeding Expectations* in comparison to 47% at the state level. Great job everyone!

Courses and Programs

This year will be a full implementation of [Full Option Science System](#) (FOSS) in grades K-2,

Erin Hayes-Pontius has filled the role of Level IV 8th grade teacher and is enjoying her first year at SSCPS as part of our 5-12 science team. This year at the high school we are excited to offer Pre-AP Biology to all of our Biology students, and have added AP Chemistry as a new science offering.



Students in a 9th grade Pre-AP® Biology class participating in hands-on modeling activities.

Pre-AP® Biology: Pre-AP® Biology emphasizes the integration of content with science practices, which are tools that support students in analyzing the natural world around them. This course focuses on the foundational biology knowledge and skills that matter most in preparing students for subsequent coursework in science. This course concentrates on the core areas of ecological systems, evolution, cellular systems, and genetics. Rather than understanding content topics in isolation, students make meaningful connections between the structures, processes, and interactions that exist across biological systems—from cells to ecological communities. The Pre-AP® courses share many of the same principles; close observation and analysis, evidence based writing, higher-order questioning, and academic conversations. Upon completing of this course, students will be academically prepared to be successful in future AP® courses, as well as for post secondary success.

AP Chemistry®: AP Chemistry® is designed to be the equivalent of the general chemistry course usually taken during the first year of college. This course is structured around the six big ideas articulated in the AP Chemistry curriculum framework provided by the College Board. A special emphasis is placed on the seven science practices, which capture important aspects of the work that scientists engage in, with learning objectives that combine content with inquiry and reasoning skills.

The course is structured with lectures and inquiry based investigations and problem solving around the six Big Ideas:

Big Idea 1: Structure of matter

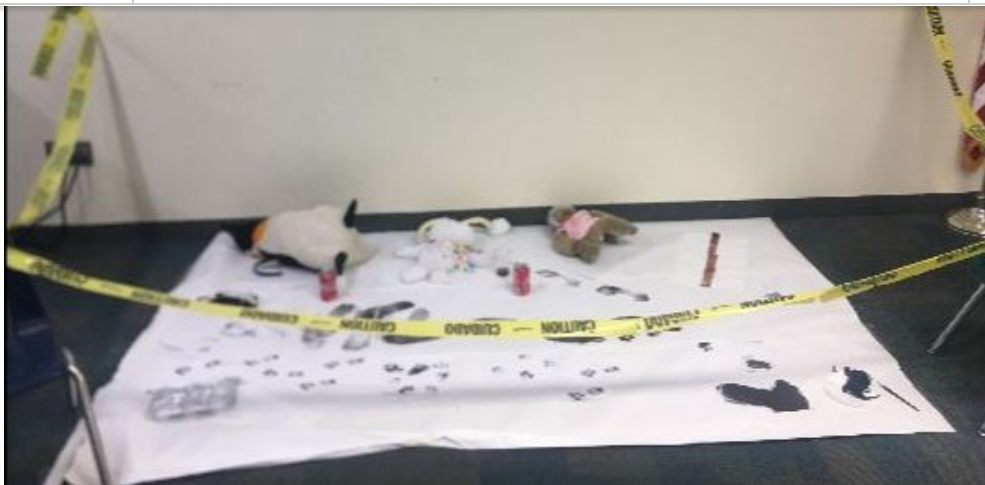
Big Idea 2: Properties of matter—characteristics, states, and forces of attraction

Big Idea 3: Chemical reactions

Big Idea 4: Rates of chemical reactions

Big Idea 5: Thermodynamics

Big Idea 6: Equilibrium



The Mock Crime Scene created by Level II teachers. This interactive investigation was used to practice the steps of the scientific method, as well as reinforce CER.

Science in Action

In the words of Neil deGrasse Tyson, “Kids are born scientists.” Please watch [this](#) video in which Neil deGrasse Tyson explains how children are born scientists with an inquisitive nature that we should start fostering from an early age. We have worked hard at SSCPS to create a curriculum and learning environment in which we are teaching our students to learn about the world around them through a hands-on, inquiry based approach. We value the importance of students learning by doing, as well as through asking questions. Our science curriculum K-12 focuses on the ability of students to make observations, ask questions, and carry out investigations; all while emphasizing questioning and evidence-based argument. These are vital skills that every student needs to engage the world around them and to succeed in the career or college of their choice.

Part of successfully instilling science and engineering mindsets into students is helping them to understand that the conclusions they come to at the end of a scientific investigation or an engineering design must be based not on anything other than objective evidence. This is where claim-evidence-reasoning (CER) comes in; a model in which students offer claims about their hypothesis or prototype, using the evidence available from their investigation or prototype testing to support their reasoning, just as a scientist or engineer would.

Our science curriculum here at SSCPS fosters an environment in which we let our students tap into their inquisitive nature. FOSS in grades K-4, our teacher created curriculum in grades 5-8, and our Pre-AP, AP, and teacher created core disciplinary science courses and electives at the high school provide opportunities for our students to grow and develop as young scientists and master content and skills which will prepare them for the world beyond SSCPS. Please continue to follow along with us this year, look for our new science newsletter, and stay tuned for updates on classroom investigations, EoM’s, the science fair, field trips, and guest speakers.

Jamie Allen
Science Curriculum Coordinator



In an unfortunate turn of events, the Harvest Run 5K had to be cancelled this year due to unsafe conditions and poor weather at Wompatuck State Park. Despite the cancellation, we had a very successful packet pick-up with over 150 total race shirts distributed. We also raised close to \$9,000! Thank you to all of 200+ registered participants for signing up and many of you who came by Marathon Sports this past Friday. The Harvest Run requires months of planning and we want to thank our key sponsors and lead volunteers for supporting us. A heartfelt thank you to Leslie Alden, Annette Golden, Caitriona Hollowed, Justina Pettinelli and Naomi Preble for your dedication and volunteerism.

Thank you to our talented teacher Christine Bodnar, who runs the Computer Graphics Workshop. The students in Christine's Workshop annually work on the design of the race shirt. This year, Omar Shehadeh's design was chosen for the front of the shirt and Kylie Shaeffer-Flynn was chosen for the back. Thank you to all the students who worked on their design.

We would like to thank Tyson Sunnerberg for offering free registration to our race participants for the Renegade Run Obstacle Race if you transfer your registration by today, Wednesday, October 16. The Renegade Run will take place this Sunday at Bare Cove Park in Hingham; it is a 4 mile obstacle course. Tyson is a parent here at SSCPS and the Race Director of the October 20th race. The Renegade Run raises money to cure Type 1 Diabetes and the event website is www.typeonerenegaderun.com

Thank you to our Race Sponsors who generously supported our event and we hope you will support them. Please reach out to any of the following businesses.

[Amy Farrell Real Estate](#), [ABA Alternatives](#), [Bridget's Dance Studio](#), Derby St Shoppes, [Duxbury Fitness](#), Driftway Muscular Therapy, Empire Engineering, JB's Indoor Dog Park, [Kris LaRue](#)

The Harvest Run has been an annual community event for the past 10 years and we hope you will be back next year! I have been busy contacting all of our race participants and we hope to see you at our next event.

Save the date for January 25th for an SSCPS Parent Trivia Night at Weston Hall in Weymouth.

Join us for the next event or help out with our Annual Auction. Volunteering is fun and is a great way to give back to the school. We are always looking for new people to help.

Laurie Dannison
Director of Family Engagement and Development
ldannison@sscps.org



Celebrates 25 Years

Support our Mission

As our school supply drive comes to a close, we would like to thank all families who have generously given to our school.

Together we have raised \$775.00 for school supplies.

All funds raised during this drive will go directly to our classrooms.

There's still time to help.

Make a donation in honor of our 25th birthday by clicking below.

[DONATE](#)

Come to Murder Mystery at Charter on Friday, October 18th!

The High School Theater Workshop invites you to try to solve the mystery at Dr. Hoffman's Hospital (aka the High School at 700 Longwater) from 5-6:30 PM. Tickets are \$5 at the door.

This event is recommended for grades 4 and up (children ages 11 and under must be accompanied by an adult--parents enter for free).

Contact Debra Greene at dgreene@sscps.org with any questions.

LOOK WHAT'S COMING...
in your child's backpack soon!



A CREATIVE OPPORTUNITY to support your child and our school through the Original Works Program.

CAPTURE a moment in time by ordering custom keepsakes featuring your child's very own masterpiece.

LEARN more about this exciting program by visiting:
www.originalworks.com/parents

Original Works

Mugs • Magnets • Totes • Tiles • Ornaments • and more!

Hello SSCPS Parents and Guardians!

The high school Art Workshop conducts this fundraiser in conjunction with Original Works every year.

If you are new to the program let me explain. Your child will come home with a packet from Original Works (starting the last week of October). The packet includes their art and an order form. IF you are interested in purchasing any products with your child's work on them you will fill out the order form, enclose a check to SSCPS and together with their ART, send that back to school **by November 6th**. If you are not interested merely keep your student's art and recycle the rest of the materials. If you have any questions please email me at mbuckleycurran@sscps.org or call my x304.

"Creativity is contagious. Pass it on."

-Albert Einstein

Community through Creation an Art & Craft Fair Fundraiser

For

The South Shore Charter Public School

Sat. & Sun., November 2nd & 3rd, 2019

9am-2pm Both Days!

104 Longwater Drive

Norwell, MA

★ Hassle-free parking at 100 Longwater Circle and 700 Longwater Drive ★



ART-CRAFTS-RAFFLES

- ⇒ SHOP LOCAL
- ⇒ EXPLORE ART AND CRAFTERS
- ⇒ START HOLIDAY SHOPPING
- ⇒ NETWORK WITH CREATIVE PEOPLE
- ⇒ SUPPORT OUR PUBLIC SCHOOL



Artists & Vendors, please reach out for a Vendor Registration Form if you're interested in participating! 8x10 spaces for a \$35 donation. Most spaces do not have access to an outlet.
Email Heidi Aylward (SSCPS Parent Association) at Summer_Skies@msn.com



Student Board presents:

SSCPS Homecoming Dance

Friday, October 25th

Time: 7:00-10:00 pm

Where: Emerald Hall

30 Central Street - Abington, MA

Cost: \$15.00 per person

Open to students in grades 9-12

Tickets on sale starting Oct 15th during lunch.

Wednesday	10/16	Governance Committee at 100	6:30pm
Thursday	10/17	Title I Parent Meeting at 100	8:30am
Thursday	10/17	National Honor Society Induction Ceremony at 700	6:00pm
Friday	10/18	Parents Association Meeting in the Library at 100	8:20am
Friday	10/18	High School Theatre Workshop to host "Murder Mystery"	5-6:30pm

Important Links

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

- **October and November** [Breakfast and Lunch Menus and Order Forms](#)
- [Back-to-School Information](#)
- Visit our new online option to [purchase](#) SSCPS apparel
- [Community Service Opportunity for an SSCPS Family](#)

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

[2019-2020 Calendar](#)

[Student and Family Handbook](#)

[SSCPS By-Laws](#)

[Pick-up Procedures](#)



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