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## Weekly Update | October 23, 2019

Vol. 10, Issue 4

### A Message from Angie



At Kindergarten All Pod yesterday where students discussed the success of the food drive they sponsored as part of their study of the book, [Last Stop on Market Street](#).

Kindergarten students collected more than 150 nonperishable food items for donation to the [Friends of the Homeless of the South Shore](#)!

Next week marks the conclusion of the first quarter of the school year. The quarter officially closes on Thursday, October 31st and families of students in grades 5-12 can expect report cards to be sent home on Friday, November 8th. Students in grades K-4 are on a trimester schedule. Families can expect report cards for our youngest students to go home prior to the Thanksgiving break.



As we reach these milestones, we enter a critical point in the year for assessing student progress, planning for interventions, and making curricular adjustments. This requires data. One data point is the results of last spring's [MCAS](#) exams. Families with children who were in grades 3-10 last spring should have received MCAS results in the mail last week. These scores reflect the third year of the state's transition to the new, more rigorous, Next-Generation system of MCAS exams. Please take some time to review these results. While the exam does not give a full picture of student performance, it does provide a piece. If you're curious about the questions asked on the test, the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education has released some test items from last spring's exams [here](#). You can see your child's responses to the questions on the key included in the [score report](#). The DESE has also posted some [resources for parents and guardians](#) to help families understand this information. A slide show about the transition to Next-Gen MCAS, the scoring of the test, and the interpretation of results that is more specific to our school is available [here](#).

The MCAS is only a snapshot in time and one data point, and results from these exams should be considered as part of a much larger picture. Teachers are continuously assessing student progress through traditional tests and quizzes as well as written assignments, projects, and performance tasks. Next week, teachers of students in grades 3-12 will begin administering formative assessments. Formative assessments are common among classrooms by grade level and subject, allowing us to see how all students are doing toward mastering [content standards](#). Teams of teachers will spend time on the November 6th professional development half day working with the results from those assessments as well as with other data from their classrooms to determine how to reteach concepts that students are struggling with, provide additional support for students with gaps, and accelerate the curriculum in areas where students are exceeding expectations. This can mean adjustments to the whole group curriculum, targeted instruction for small groups, and individual interventions like tutoring. The flexibility of our Focused Instructional Time (FIT) schedule allows us to plan for much of this intervention during the school day. Student FIT schedules will change as we move into the second quarter, and eventually the second trimester, to allow our faculty to meet the determined

Last Wednesday before setting off for an expected long weekend, students in grade 9 took the [PSAT 8/9](#) and students in grade 11 took the [PSAT/NMSQT](#). Like the MCAS and our internal assessments, the PSAT provides our teachers with important data to guide instruction. The PSAT also gives students important practice with test taking. Standardized testing may not be the most glamorous or engaging aspect of education, but the vast majority of colleges still weigh the results of these exams when making admissions decisions. Some consider those scores as a small part of a bigger picture, while others weigh them more heavily. The experience of taking the PSAT is a crucial one for our students who are gaining exposure to both the content of the test and to the experience of taking a demanding, timed exam. The good news is that the Next-Generation MCAS aligns more closely with the [SAT](#) and [ACT](#) exams than the legacy MCAS exams did. Results from the PSAT will be available to our teachers and to families in December. Students in grades 8 and 10 will take the PSAT in the spring while all of our 11th grades will take an official SAT exam during a school day in April at no cost to families.

On an entirely different note, yesterday teachers distributed car tags to students in grades K-8. The purpose of the tags is to help facilitate the dismissal process at 100 Longwater Circle, a process we are always working to improve. Please display the tag on your windshield when you enter the dismissal line. This will help our dismissal staff get children into cars efficiently. Any questions or requests for additional car tags can be emailed to [SSCPScartags@gmail.com](mailto:SSCPScartags@gmail.com). I'd like to thank Level I parent Andrea Poudrier for her effort with this initiative.

As always, please do not hesitate to contact me with your questions or concerns.

Angie Pepin

Principal, South Shore Charter Public School

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*From the Foundation...*

**The South Shore Charter Public School  
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**

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## Come to Murder Mystery at Charter on Thursday, October 24th!

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](mailto: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](http://www.originalworks.com/parents)

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

The poster features a drawing of a backpack, a 'Creativity!' certificate, an order form, and a t-shirt with a child's drawing of a dog. The 'Original Works' logo is at the bottom right.

### 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](mailto: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 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup>, 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](mailto: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.



## Literacy Night is coming!

Thursday, November 7, from 6 to 7 p.m.

Families of grades K-4 students, please join us for Literacy Night! Your children will hear stories read or told aloud to them in English and other languages by teachers and volunteers.

*Pajamas and slippers are appropriate dress!*

If you would like to volunteer to be a reader (especially to read in your home language), please contact:

Sheina Prince-Eugene ([sprince@sscps.org](mailto:sprince@sscps.org)) 781-982-4202, x 367

or

Bev Bruce ([bbruce@sscps.org](mailto:bbruce@sscps.org)) 781-982-4202 x336

Thursday	10/24	Title I Parent Meeting at 100	8:30am
Thursday	10/24	High School Theatre Workshop to host "Murder Mystery" at 700	5-6:30pm
Thursday	10/24	Class of 2020 Trip to Canada Meeting at 700	5-6:00pm
Thursday	10/24	Senior Class Financial Aid Night at 700	6-7:30pm
Friday	10/25	High School Homecoming Dance at Emerald Hall, Abington	7-10pm
Monday	10/28	10 <sup>th</sup> Grade Field Trip to Salem, MA	
Tuesday	10/29	National Honor Society Induction Ceremony at 700	6:00pm
Tuesday	10/29	Sophomore Parent Night at 700	6:30pm
Upcoming Events!			
Saturday & Sunday	11/02 & 11/03	Parent Association Hosting Art & Craft Fair at the SSCPS Gym	9am-2pm Both Days

### ***Important Links***

**Weekly Updates are emailed and posted to our website [www.sscps.org](http://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](#)**
- Community Interest: Click here for information on [Team IMPACT](#)

### ***School Documents***

**[2019-2020 Calendar](#)**

**[Student and Family Handbook](#)**

**[SSCPS By-Laws](#)**

**[Pick-up Procedures](#)**

**Here are links to upcoming events and other items of interest. Please contact Pam Algera at [palgera@sscps.org](mailto:palgera@sscps.org) to submit SSCPS items for publication.**



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**Our website address is:**

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

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