



## Weekly Update | April 14, 2021

Vol. 4, Issue 2

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### A Message from Angie

We are at the point of the school year when we are actively working to plan and prepare for next school year. Last week the [School Council](#) met to vote on our [2021-2022 School Improvement Plan \(SIP\)](#). Creating and monitoring the plan is the central work of the group and is critically important to the ongoing cycle of continuous improvement. The School Council considered the current needs of our community, initiatives that were delayed due to COVID, and the steps that we need to take collectively to heal once the COVID-19 crisis is behind us as they developed the goals and benchmarks. I'd like to thank the parents, students, and teachers who have volunteered their time to sit on our School Council and offer their perspectives. Their input is invaluable. The Board of Trustees will vote on this plan at the July meeting and it will guide our work in the new school year.

At the high school level teachers are in the process of working with students to select courses for 2021-2022. In many cases students must take the next course in the sequence for the subject area in order to meet state requirements and the expectations for college admission. In others, students have choice. Our 2021-2022 High School Course Descriptions can be found [here](#). Students who are interested in taking an Advanced Placement course next year must complete their [Advanced Placement Contract](#) this week. The AP program at SSCPS provides students with exposure to rigorous, college-level academics in a high school setting. AP courses aim to improve not only a student's knowledge of the relevant subject matter, but their time management skills, study habits, and close reading skills in preparation for the demands of a college curriculum. For more information about AP visit the [Advanced Placement page](#) on our website and access the slidedeck from our AP meeting [here](#). We will send course placement letters home to families in early May.

While we may be thinking ahead to next year, it is clear in our buildings that our students are focused on next week. There is a great deal of excitement with the shift in the weather and the anticipation of the upcoming vacation. I hope that students and families take advantage of the opportunity to unplug during this final break before the home stretch of

this challenging school year. While we may have many students back in our buildings full time in person and are increasingly optimistic about vaccination efforts, the pressure on our children is far from gone. Recently, the stress from the ongoing pandemic and the precautions and protocols that come with it has only been compounded by the difficult news coming from Minnesota. There is a great deal that our young people are processing. Taking a break is critical to stress management. Next week, students should get outside, read a book for fun, and spend time with family and friends away from screens. Everyone needs the time away.

Thank you for your continued support of our school. Please do not hesitate to reach out with questions or concerns. I hope that everyone has a restful and rejuvenating spring break!

Angie Pepin

Principal, South Shore Charter Public School

### Community Service at SSCPS!



Students from the National Honor Society participated in a beach clean up last Friday, April 9.



Thank you to the O'Brien family who picked up and delivered rich compost for our garden beds last weekend!

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## From the SSCPS Health Office

The Health Office is now running 2 separate COVID testing programs. Both of these tests are voluntary. In order to participate in each program you will need to sign up for them separately.

The BinaxNow Rapid Test is for students/staff that develop COVID-like symptoms while at school. This test can be administered at school and results are available in fifteen (15) minutes. Students/staff will still be required to leave school, even with a negative test result. Positive results are presumed positives and students will be required to isolate.

Register your student for Symptomatic Rapid COVID testing with the following link:

<https://app.beacontesting.com/register/with-code?code=EKMBEX>

Pool Testing is a weekly COVID test for students and staff. Students will be tested on the weeks they are in person learning. This program is not available to remote students. Pool testing is when a number (usually 5-10) swabs are put in the same tube and a PCR test is done on the batch/pool.

If the pool comes back negative, it is presumed all individuals in this pool are negative.

If the pool comes back positive, each student is individually tested using the BinaxNow Rapid test done at school. Any positive students will be sent home to

isolate and contact tracing will be done. If all students come back negative with the rapid testing, each student will then have an individual PCR test to be sent out from school. All students will be asked to quarantine until the PCR results come back.

When you sign consent for pool testing, you are consenting for all 3 types of testing to be done at school (pool testing, rapid antigen and individual PCR testing).

Register your student for weekly pool testing with the following link:

<https://app.beacontesting.com/register/with-code?code=WPWCQJ>

Please see the [Health Office](#) page on the SSCPS website for more information on rapid and pooled testing, along with other COVID-19 information.

If you have any additional questions or need any additional information please do not hesitate to reach out to the nursing staff.

**K - 8: 781-982-4202 x 104**

**High School: 781-982-4202 x 182**

**Darcie Edwards, RN**

**Susan Dupras, RN**

**Jaime Kjelgaard, RN**

**Barbara Folan, RN**

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## Learning Model Planning Timeline

- September 2020-June 2021: K-1 Students full in-person
- March 1, 2021: Grade 2 Students full in-person
- March 3, 2021: SSCPS Board of Trustees, Executive Committee Meeting review of DESE intent to return to full in-person learning for students in grades K-5
- March 4 - 17, 2021: Building and learning spaces capacity review.
- March 5, 2021: Faculty and staff review and planning for DESE intent to return to full in-person learning
- March 8, 2021: Communication to SSCPS families for COVID-19 Pooled Testing
- March 15 - 19, 2021: Family surveys for additional data collection
- March 15, 2021: Implementation of the COVID-19 Pooled Testing Program
- March 24 - 30, 2021: Family information sessions for guidance on new learning models
- April 5, 2021: Implement in-person return for students in grades 3-5
- April 7, 2021: SSCPS Board of Trustees Executive Committee Meeting
- April 15, 2021: SSCPS Board of Trustees Meeting
- April 28, 2021: Implement in-person learning return for students in grades 6-8
- April 2021: DESE issues guidance for high school in-person learning return

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## From Food Services

To all families:

Please be aware that all students enrolled at SSCPS qualify for Free Breakfast and Lunch for the 2020-2021 academic year. Please click on this link [FamilyID Online Registration](#) and register for meals.

If you have any questions, contact me at [csalamone@sscps.org](mailto:csalamone@sscps.org) or at 781-982-4202 x156.

Charlene Salamone  
Food Services Coordinator

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# Travel Advisory

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We would like to remind families of the health and safety guidelines put forward by Governor Baker and the Massachusetts Department of Public Health in the recently updated [COVID-19 Travel Advisory](#). The South Shore Charter Public School has enacted a strict travel protocol which requires that students who return from traveling to high risk states or countries, or students who have been on a plane, must quarantine for ten (10) days. Students in grades 2-12 are expected to learn remotely during the 10-day quarantine period. Students in grades K-1 are expected to utilize their learning bins.

Our school policy regarding voluntary travel is stricter than the Massachusetts Travel Advisory. There is no exemption from quarantine if your child tests negative **prior** to returning to Massachusetts. Because of the nature of COVID-19 transmission, and the chance of exposure within the 72-hour period prior to returning to Massachusetts, the school does not consider the described testing measure to be adequately preventative. A 10-day quarantine is required by our school's [Health Office](#).

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

# Housing Help

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Paying rent or a mortgage can be especially challenging during a pandemic. The Massachusetts Department of Housing and Community Development has

centralized information about resources for families struggling to make rent or mortgage payments due to COVID-19. If you or another family you know needs assistance, please go to [www.mass.gov/covidhousinghelp](http://www.mass.gov/covidhousinghelp) for more information.

## WiFi Assistance

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Please use the buttons below for information regarding low cost internet services in your area.

[Low Cost Internet Services](#)

[NDIA Free and Low Cost Internet Plans](#)

[Lifeline Cell Phone Service Provider](#)

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### FROM THE YEARBOOK COMMITTEE

The 2021 yearbook is now in progress and all the memories of the 2021 school year will be published forever in print.

To order online go to [www.coffeepond.com](http://www.coffeepond.com), to login use school password: bluejaguar.

Parents may submit a special personalized page that will appear in the back of the book for their senior at these rates: Full page \$150, 1/2 pg. \$75, 1/4 pg. \$50. Due date is March 30, 2021. Please email Christine at [cbodnar@sscps.org](mailto:cbodnar@sscps.org) with any questions.

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### FROM THE PARENTS ASSOCIATION



**The PA is facilitating personal notes of encouragement and congratulations for each of the 75 Charter student in the Class of 2021!**

**Please complete the [form here](#) to receive the name of a senior if you're interested in and can commit to writing a note, a card, making a piece of artwork, or offering some other kind of well wish.**

**Drop-Off at either Building with your Senior's name listed.**

**Due Date: Friday, May 14th**

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# DINING FOR DOLLARS



**Mambo's**  
Kitchen & Bar



INVITES YOU TO A FUNDRAISER  
TO BENEFIT THE  
SOUTH SHORE CHARTER PUBLIC SCHOOL



**TUESDAY, APRIL 28, 2021**  
**11AM - 9PM**  
**269 NANTASKET AVE, HULL**

ENJOY A BREAK FROM COOKING & JOIN US  
FOR A MEAL! MAMBO'S WILL DONATE 10% OF  
THEIR PROCEEDS WHEN YOU MENTION SSCPS.  
NO FLYER NEEDED.

**TAKE OUT AVAILABLE ONLINE AT  
MAMBOSHULL.COM OR CALL (781) 474-0000**



**From South Shore Charter Educational Foundation**





February 2021

Dear Friends and Families of SSCPS,

We hope this letter finds you well. As we kick off 2021, we want to extend our well wishes to you and your family during these unprecedented times. We thank you for your unwavering support of our faculty and staff as we strive to inspire every student to excel in academics, service, and life in a safe and supportive environment.

Clearly the challenges of COVID- 19 have significantly impacted our community and we've had to adapt. Who knew we would expend so many resources on cleaning products, plexi-glass dividers, tents, Chromebooks, and so much more? Since the start of the pandemic last March, our community has worked together to ensure our kids receive the highest level of academics possible in these unprecedented times. While many schools were not prepared for the sudden shift to remote learning, SSCPS "hit the ground running" on March 16th and we continue to pursue all viable options for high level learning. We are proud to say we remain consistent with the quality education we deliver to all of our students. Unfortunately, many of the changes required to provide the hybrid model we offer are expensive. We are grateful to many of you who have generously donated to the SSCEF Annual Fund, but we need contributions now more than ever.

*As someone who has been at Charter for 13 years and a part of the fraternity of 13, I have learned to embrace Charter life. There is a huge sense of community at the school which is developed from a young age through our service projects and sports. Charter helps prepare young kids for life through the internships we do with our amazing guidance counselors. The EOMs we start in kindergarten have been a huge asset to me in life as learning public speaking at such a young age has proven invaluable in my adult life.*

*-Delaney Alden, Class of 2021*

The cost of COVID - 19 was clearly unexpected and like everything else has impacted our fundraising abilities as well.

*I have been a student at SSCPS since kindergarten and I will be in the fraternity of 13 when I graduate in June 2021. One thing I love about our school is that I have been on the cross country and track and field teams since I was in 6th grade. I have had the same coach and have been teammates with the same group of athletes. We have encouraged and watched each other progress over the years.*

*- Caroline Boyle, Class of 2021*

In support of our community, we hope you will consider giving a minimum of \$10 per year for each year your family has been enrolled with us, but we appreciate whatever donation you can make. We hope you will check with your employer to see if they will match your donation. When giving you can write your check to SSCEF, or you may go online at [www.sscps.org/giving](http://www.sscps.org/giving). Thank you for your continued support and we look forward to better days when we can all gather as one community again.

[CLICK HERE](#) to make your gift online. Or please mail a check to SSCEF, P.O. Box 512, Accord, MA 02018.

Warm and healthy wishes,

Laurie Dannison and Leslie Alden  
Development Officer Trustee

*I have had many positive experiences in my thirteen years at SSCPS. I have never felt like I have not been able to reach out to a teacher for help. I know that when I was struggling last year with my AP Chemistry class my teacher would let me stay after or during FIT time to help me. In a bigger town school, that type of thing would not be possible and I am able to get the help I need in my classes in order to succeed.*

*-Ryan Benjamin, Class of 2021*

Thursday	04/15	Board of Trustees via <a href="#">Zoom</a>	7:30pm
		Governance Committee via <a href="#">Zoom</a>	6:30pm
Friday	04/16	Professional Development Early Release	12:00pm
Mon-Fri	04/19 – 4/23	Spring Break – No School	
Mon-Tues	04/26 & 4/27	Grades K-5 – All In Person	
		Grades 6-12 – Team A In-person; Team B Remote	
Weds-Thurs	04/28 & 4/29	Grades K-8 – All In Person	
		Grades 9-12 – Team A In-Person; Team B Remote	
Friday	04/30	Professional Development Early Release	12:00pm

## ***Important Links***

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

- [Food Service](#)
- [Health Office](#)
- [Massachusetts Department of Transitional Assistance](#)
- **Visit the [Parents Association Website](#)**
- **Visit our new online option to [purchase](#) SSCPS apparel**

**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.**

## ***School Documents***

[2020-21 School Calendar](#)

[2021-22 School Calendar](#)

[Student and Family Handbook](#)

[SSCPS By-Laws](#)



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**Our website address is:**

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

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