



Weekly Update | April 28, 2021

Vol. 4, Issue 3

A Message from Food Services



Dear SSCPS Families,

Starting the day with a nutritious meal is important for every student—no matter their family’s income level—but for children who don’t eat breakfast at home, school breakfast is especially important. Children who eat a healthy breakfast are more likely to retain what they learn in class, behave better, and experience better health outcomes.

As students start to return to in-person learning, I wanted to remind you that we offer **FREE school breakfast and lunch for ALL SSCPS** students whether your student is in-person or remote. Families must register your child in FamilyID. Please visit the [SSCPS FamilyId Programs webpage](#) to register and to order breakfast and lunch. To learn more about registration, please watch this [video](#). If you need assistance with registration, please call FamilyId at 781-205-2800 or email support@familyid.com. In order for you child to receive free meals daily, you must place an order for your child using this online platform. All orders must be placed in advance and are due by 3:00pm Tuesday the week before.

On April 20, 2021 we received wonderful news that the USDA extended free breakfast and lunch for all students next academic year. The American Rescue Plan Act also

provides for nutrition assistance to address hardships caused by the pandemic, which include:

- Extending a 15% percent increase in SNAP benefits. SNAP lifts families out of poverty, reduces food insecurity, improves health and improves academic attendance and achievements. #StartWithSNAP today by heading over to [StartWithSNAP.org](https://www.startwithsnap.org) or call 1-800-645-8333 to apply.
- Extending and expanding P-EBT-a program that served over 8.4 million families with children during COVID. To learn more about P-EBT click [here](#).
- Additional supports for Women, Infants, & Children through WIC. To learn more about WIC, click [here](#).

No matter what you're going through, we know that food is a must. If you or someone you know needs help paying for food, Project Bread's FoodSource Hotline (1-800-645-8333) is there to help. They can connect you to programs that will help you afford groceries and put food on the table. Calling is always free and confidential and information they can provide information in 180 languages.

Call 1-800-645-8333 or visit www.projectbread.org/gethelp to learn more and connect with resources.

If you have questions on how to order meals for your child, please contact Charlene Salamone at csalamone@sscps.org or 781-982-4202 x156.

Have a great week!

Kristine Bingham, Director of Finance & HR
Charlene Salamone, Food Services Coordinator

**Congratulations to the winners of the Emerald Necklace
Conservancy Children's Drawing Contest!**



"I Like Rainbows" by
Naya Nganga, Kindergarten



"Branching Leaf" by
Owen O'Hearn, Grade 3

Welcome Back!

Today we welcomed all students in grades 6-8 who chose full in person learning. **We are excited to welcome all high school students to full in-person learning on Monday, May 3, 2021.** Full remote learning remains an option for all students and families.

As more students return to campus, please be aware of the COVID-19 testing programs we have in place that are free and voluntary for all students learning in person. We strongly encourage families to register for the testing programs here at school to help us keep the school environment as safe as possible and to limit learning disruptions. Included below is a message from the Health Office which provides two important updates to the testing programs as well as sign up links.

From the SSCPS Health Office

With the warmer weather out comes lots of bugs, including ticks. The students are outside more often this year, including for PE class. Please remember to check your student daily for ticks. The school is not allowed to apply bug spray or sunscreen to any student, so please apply at home, at your discretion.

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

- 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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Travel Advisory

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

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 for more information.

WiFi Assistance

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](#)

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, 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 with any questions.

FROM THE PARENTS ASSOCIATION

The next meeting of the Parents Association is tonight,
Wednesday, April 28, 2021 at 6:30pm.

[April Meeting Agenda](#)
[March Meeting Draft Minutes](#)

Join us via [Zoom!](#)

PA Nominations for 2021-2022

Self-nominating closes Friday (5/7)

It's that time of year! While every parent is automatically a member of the Parents Association (PA), we have a few positions that require a vote! We are opening up nominations for the 2021-2022 school year and invite you to consider YOURSELF!

Are you interested in being more involved? Care to hang out with a group of SSCPS parents and guardians once a month to make our school better? Want to be part of keeping families and school connected?

Well....joining PA might be for you! We're an integral part of engaging families to support our school.

All positions are up for nomination!

We're kicking off the election process by inviting you to self-nominate for a position. Nominations will be accepted until 5/7/21. Please consider nominating yourself.

Once nominations have been collected, we will send another email with a survey link for you to vote for all of your PA officers, committee chairs and level/grade representatives.

We plan to close the voting by 5/21/21 and announce in the 5/26/21 weekly

If you are interested in running for a position, we invite you to self-nominate here:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/PANominations2021-2022>

Thank you for your continued support of our children and their school. Questions can be sent to sscpspaelection@gmail.com, or you can contact any member of the PA.



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

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. 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

Weds-Thurs	04/28 & 4/29	Grades K-8 – All In Person Grades 9-12 – Team A In-Person; Team B Remote	
Wednesday	04/28	Parents Association Meeting via Zoom	6:30pm
Friday	04/30	Professional Development Early Release	12:00pm
Monday	05/03	Grades K-12 – All In-Person	
Monday	05/03	AP US Government and Politics	8:00am
Tuesday	05/04	AP Calculus AB	8:00am
		AP Calculus BC	8:00am
Wednesday	05/05	Executive Committee Meeting via Zoom	8:00am

Wednesday	05/05	AP English Literature and Composition	8:00am
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Important Links

Weekly Updates are emailed and posted to our website 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 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
