



Weekly Update | December 16, 2020

Vol. 12, Issue 3

A Message from the Health Office

The nursing team here at the South Shore Charter Public School Health Office has compiled this COVID-19 FAQ sheet to provide families with information pertaining to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and school-wide procedures.

What are the symptoms of COVID-19?

- Fever (100.0° Fahrenheit or higher), chills, or shaking chills
- Cough (not due to other know cause, such as chronic cough)
- Difficulty breathing or shortness of breath
- New loss of taste or smell
- Sore throat
- Headache, when in combination with other symptoms
- Muscle aches or body aches
- Nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea
- Fatigue, when in combination with other symptoms
- Nasal congestion or runny nose (not due to other known causes, such as allergies) when in combination with other symptoms

What should I do every morning before my child goes to school?

Perform a wellness check every morning before your student arrives at school. Please check temperatures and check to see if your student has any of the above mentioned symptoms. Please fill out the questionnaire on the School Pass app before sending your child to school.

What happens if my student is sent home from school with COVID-like symptoms?

If your child develops COVID-like symptoms at school they will be sent to the CARE room. They will be sent home and will not be able to return to school until they have a negative PCR COVID-19 test, a medical note clearing them to return, or your student will need to remain home for 10 days. Symptoms need to be resolved and students will need to be fever free for 24 hours without fever reducing medication before they can return.

What is the CARE room?

The CARE room is a separate room where students with any COVID-like symptoms are brought until they are picked up from school. The CARE room is a separate room from the health office. The students will remain in the CARE room with a nurse until they leave school.

If my child is sent home from school with COVID-like symptoms can their siblings be at school?

No, if a student is sent home with COVID-like symptoms all siblings and household members will also be sent home and cannot return until the symptomatic child is cleared to return to school.

My child has COVID-like symptoms and I am keeping them home, can I send my other children to school?

No, all siblings and household members will need to remain out of school until the child with symptoms is cleared to return to school by a negative PCR COVID-19 test, a medical note clearing them to return, or all household members will need to stay home for 10 days.

My child has COVID-like symptoms and I took them for a rapid antigen COVID-19 test that was negative, can they return to school?

No, a rapid negative antigen COVID test is not accepted as a substitute for the PCR test due to a higher rate of incorrect test results. The student may not return to school until they have a negative PCR test.

A household member has COVID-like symptoms, may my children go to school?

No, the student must remain out of school until the household member has a negative PCR COVID-19 test or is medically cleared by a doctor stating that the symptoms are not due to COVID-19. No student can return to school if a household member has a pending COVID-19 test due to having COVID-like symptoms.

Where can my child or household member get COVID-19 PCR testing?

[Massachusetts COVID-19 Testing Sites](#)

[Mass.gov | Stop the Spread](#)

What should I do if my student is positive for COVID-19?

Please keep your student home and contact the school's Health Office immediately. The student will need to isolate for 14 days. The student will need to be cleared by the school Health Office before returning to in-person school and the student will need to have had a negative PCR COVID-19 test, or a doctor's note

clearing them to return. They will also need to have resolved/improved symptoms and be fever free for 24 hours without fever reducing medication.

[Mass.gov | COVID-19 Isolation and Quarantine Information](#)

Do I report my COVID-19 test results?

Yes, both negative and positive test results should be reported to the appropriate Health Office.

Do I need to report a positive COVID-19 test if my student is fully remote?

Yes, the school is required to report all positive cases to DESE, even fully remote students.

How do I contact the school if my student will be absent from school?

Please use the email: attendance@sspcs.org or contact the appropriate school health office. If your student has any COVID-like symptoms, please speak to the nurse directly.

HS: 781-982-4202 X 182 or email: sdupras@sscps.org or bfolan@sscps.org

K-8: 781-982-4202 x104 or email: dedwards@sscps.org or jkjelgaard@sscps.org

Why is it important for me to call my student's school nurse when they are home sick?

Keeping communication with your child's school nurse about your student's illness allows for the nurses to track illnesses in the school community and to maximize the health and safety of all students and staff.

What is a close contact?

Per the CDC, a close contact is someone who has been within 6 feet of a person positive for COVID-19 for a total of 15 minutes in the previous 48 hours of the onset of symptoms or from a positive COVID-19 result of an asymptomatic person.

What should I do if my student is a close contact to a person positive for COVID-19?

If your student is a close contact to a positive person they will need to quarantine for 14 days from the date of exposure. It is recommended that they have a PCR COVID-19 test on day 5 of being exposed. Regardless of the results they will need to remain in quarantine for a full 14 days from the exposure.

What should we do if a household member is a close contact?

If a household member is a close contact to a person positive with COVID-19 and asymptomatic the student may remain in school. If the household member is symptomatic the student will need to remain home until the close contact has a negative PCR COVID-19 test. If the household member is positive, the student will need to quarantine for 14 days from the date of exposure or 48 hours prior from the date of the test if the person is asymptomatic.

Can my student do remote learning if they are not able to be in person due to quarantining or having COVID-like symptoms?

Yes, students are expected to continue remote learning while in quarantine or are unable to be in school due to the student or family members having COVID-like symptoms. Please reach out to your child's administrators and teachers.

We are traveling to a high risk (red) state. Can my student return to in-person school if they have a negative COVID-19 test?

No, our school policy is that all students who have traveled to a state that Massachusetts has deemed as non low risk need to quarantine for 14 days starting the day after they return from traveling.

[Mass.gov | COVID-19 Travel Order](https://www.mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-travel-order)

What supplies does my child need from home for school?

- Water bottle with straw
- 2 face masks
- Chromebook
- School bin (can stay at school for the week)
- Change of seasonal clothing (kids go outside for most weather for recess, mask breaks, snack and specialist classes)
- Warm clothing (students go outside for snack, mask breaks, lunch at the high school and specialist classes)

Should my student bring warm clothing (jacket/hat/gloves) in the cold weather?

Yes, students at the high school have lunch outside in all weather conditions. Specialist classes and snack breaks are also held outside. Windows at 100 will be kept open to improve air ventilation. Students should bring warm clothing.

Why does my child have to wear a face mask?

Face masks are an important measure to take to reduce the spread of COVID-19. Face masks help reduce the spread by containing the infected person's respiratory droplets from traveling to other people.

What type of mask should my student wear to school?

All students and staff are required to wear a mask at school. Appropriate masks are two-ply face masks that stay up around the nose. Masks should be washed daily and students should have an extra mask in their bag. There are disposable masks available if one becomes dirty or breaks while at school. Gaiters, and bandanas, and masks with a valve are not acceptable for school.

What if my student is having difficulty wearing a mask at school?

Masks are required at school for all students and staff. Students will be given mask breaks during the day. If a student is not wearing their mask appropriately at the middle and high school students will be given a warning and a phone call home for the first offense. The second offense will result in the student being sent home.

How do I contact the school if I have questions about COVID-19 or need to report a positive case?

Should your child test positive for COVID-19, have symptoms, or if you have any questions, please contact the appropriate school health office and speak to one of our nurses directly.

High School: 781-982-4202 X 182 or email:

Susan Dupras, sdupras@sscps.org or Barbara Folan, bfolan@sscps.org

K-8: 781-982-4202 x104 or email:

Darcie Edwards, dedwards@sscps.org or Jaime Kjelgaard, jkjelgaard@sscps.org

Thank you for your ongoing support and for your assistance keeping our school community safe.

Susan Dupras, RN

Darcie Edwards, RN

Barbara Folan, RN

Jaime Kjelgaard, RN

IMPORTANT

Weekly COVID-19 Health Report

Released on Thursday

The [Massachusetts Department of Public Health Weekly COVID-19 Report](#), including the city/town data and map, will be posted on Thursday evening. The last report was on December 10, 2020. The next report is scheduled for tomorrow, December 17, 2020.

The weekly report provides the count and rate of confirmed COVID-19 cases and tests, including the daily incidence rate in Massachusetts cities and towns. We use this data as one way to determine if our school needs to transition learning models. If over 25 percent of our student population municipalities turn red for **three consecutive weeks**, the school will transition to full remote learning.

Our sending district student populations are as follows:

Weymouth 26%

Randolph 21%

Brockton 11%

Rockland 9%

Hanover 3%

These calculations mean the following:

Weymouth red = Full Remote Learning
Randolph + Rockland red = Full Remote Learning
Brockton + Randolph red = Full Remote Learning

Last's week's report was not good news. The report on December 10 placed thirteen of our sending districts in the red category: Abington, Brockton, East Bridgewater, Hanover, Hanson, Marshfield, Pembroke, Plymouth, Quincy, Randolph, Rockland, Weymouth, and Whitman. All other districts are yellow, green, or grey. Last week's report was the second week where over 25% of our sending districts were categorized as red. Consequently, hybrid instruction continued for students in grades 2-12 and in-person instruction for K-1 students. Data from tomorrow's report may indicate escalating COVID-19 rates in our sending districts which will result in building closures at both 100 and 700 Longwater.

We are asking all families to prepare for multiple learning scenarios, including full remote learning should we have to close the buildings following tomorrow's report. We will be sending email notification to all families on Friday with updates regarding the current COVID-19 district metrics, anticipated building closures, and expected dates of building reopening. Please be sure your contact information has been updated with the school by completing your emergency contact information.

Thank you for your ongoing patience and support.



Level III students in math class secure a meter stick to measure the first major snowstorm of the year!

FROM THE GUIDANCE OFFICE

Guidance Office Winter Break Policy

Please be aware that the Guidance Office will be closed on Wednesday, December 23rd at noon for winter break. The Guidance Office will reopen on Monday, January 4, 2021. The Guidance Office will not be sending any materials to colleges during the break.

Please see Mary Carter this week if you would like to add any schools to Naviance.

FROM THE SSCPS NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY

SSCPS Homeless Shelter Outreach

As we all know, because of COVID-19 times have been hard. If you would like to help others this winter check out the charities listed below.

*only accepts new items

Items needed:

- Winter gear (coats, hats, gloves, blankets, socks, scarfs...)
- Hygiene products (toiletries, feminine products...)
- Clothing (adult & childrens)
- Water/Food items
- Baby products
- Kitchen supplies
- Masks
- Books/Children's toys
- Monetary donations



Shelters and Organizations:

- *Carolina Hill Shelter: 728 Main St, Marshfield
 - (781) 837-1377
 - <http://www.carolinahill.org/donate.html>
- Father Bill's & MainSpring: 38 Broad St, Quincy/54 N Main St, Brockton
 - (617) 770-3314; <https://helpfbms.org/donate/>
- Conway House Shelter: 14 East Grove Street, Middleboro
 - (508) 946-8505; Mondays-Fridays 8am-5pm
- Rosie's Place: 889 Harrison Ave, Boston
 - (617) 442-9322; <http://rosiesplace.org/give>
- Dorchester Community Fridge: 1471 Dorchester Ave, Dorchester
 - Accepting all food donations, will take homemade meals as long as they're labeled with ingredients and date made
 - Instagram: @dotcommunityfridge
- Catie's Closet: 63 Sprague Street, Boston
 - <https://www.catiescloset.org/donate-items>

In order to keep track of all items donated from those a part of the SSCPS community, please send an email to dominique_childs@student.sscps.org or jhought101@student.sscps.org stating that you donated and which organization you donated to.

If you have any questions or would like more information please email either email listed above, Thank you!

Holiday Travel Advisory

With the Thanksgiving holiday in the rear view mirror, and the remaining holiday season approaching, 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 Order](#). The South Shore Charter Public School has enacted a strict travel protocol which requires that all students who return from traveling to high risk states or countries, or students who have been on a plane, must quarantine for fourteen (14) days. Students in grades 2-12 are expected to learn remotely during the 14-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 Order. 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 14-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 Health Office

If your child has received the flu vaccine or other vaccines, please send a copy to the appropriate health office. Governor Baker has issued a flu shot mandate for all Massachusetts schoolchildren. Forms can be mailed, faxed or emailed to the appropriate nurse.

High school: sdupras@sscps.org or bfolan@sscps.org

K-8 school: dedwards@sscps.org or jkelgaard@sscps.org

Fax # 781-982-4201

SSCPS has an email address to use when your child will be absent. This email address should be used for both In-Person and Remote students. The email is sent to the Health Office as well as both Front Desks.

Email: Attendance@sscps.org

Please include the following information:

- Your student's name and grade
- Reason for Absence
- Contact phone number

If the absence is due to illness the nurse will call you back and ask you questions about symptoms.

COVID-19 Check

Please remember to check your child for COVID-19 symptoms including temperature before arriving at school or getting on the bus. Wellness checks should be completed on School Pass. If your child is absent with symptoms or has been tested, even if negative you must **notify the health office** before your child returns to school. Please use the **attendance email** that is found on the SSCPS website to report a student absence even if your child is not ill but will be working remotely that day. If it is not reported you will receive a phone call from the school regarding the your child's absence.

Thank you,

Susan Dupras, RN x182
Darcie Edwards, RN x104
Barbara Folan, RN x104
Jaime Kjelgaard, RN x104

Visit the school's [Health Office](#) page for additional information.

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. **Early ordering at discount price of 37.00 by Dec. 31st.** 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 SSCPS Board of Trustees

Call for Applications or Nominations to Serve on the Board of Trustees

This June the terms of several members of the Board of Trustees will end. The Governance Sub-committee anticipates that there will be several openings for the three-year terms that will begin on July 1, 2021.

The Board is the governing body for SSCPS: it sets policy, creates committees, and acts as fiduciaries. As the governing body of the school, trustees play an important role in advancing the school and helping its administrators and teachers achieve the goals for our students.

Why apply (or nominate someone) to serve on the Board and what are the Board's needs and expectations? We are looking for candidates who

- are collaborative, active listeners, and problem-solvers
- are willing to contribute their time and share their expertise to help SSCPS achieve its academic, social, and emotional goals for all students and to secure adequate funding to accomplish them
- will work with other members of the BOT and the school to foster stronger ties with parents, businesses, non-profit foundations, and sending communities

How do I apply (or nominate someone)?

Application materials are available on the [SSCPS website](#).

Questions regarding application materials

Please contact Prue Goodale, Chair of the Governance Sub-committee at pgoodale@board.sscps.org if you have questions or need additional information

Submit materials by email to pgoodale@board.sscps.org




NHS

ZOOM TUTORING

Need extra help with your classes this year?

EMAIL HONORA_SULLIVAN@STUDENT.SSCPS.ORG

all grades, K-12



Happy Holidays

NHS is donating to Toys For Tots this upcoming holiday, and here's how you can contribute!




Here's how to donate:

- 1: Head over to the Toys for Tots website at: toysfortots.org
- 2: Scroll down on the website until you come across the option: **Virtual Toybox: Donate a Toy.**
- 3: Put as many toys as you want in your Virtual Toybox and proceed to checkout.

In order to keep track of all donations please send the amount of toys and the total of your purchase to the following email: oogagan101@student.sscps.org

(for any questions or concerns, please contact the previously mentioned email.)

The Toys For Tots Campaign ends on **December 22, 2020**. Please try and get donations in before then.



From the Parents Association

The Parents Association will be meeting tonight Wednesday, December 16 at 6:30pm via [Zoom](#).

[Click here for the agenda.](#)

School Spirit Sign are in and available to order! SSCPS Magnets and Stickers also available for purchase. Your continued support is greatly appreciated.

[Purchase your School Spirit Signs HERE!](#)



HALF DAY/CRAFT DAY!!!!
For Levels I and Level II

We are going to have a pandemic friendly half day/craft day this year and keep the tradition alive!!

*** Pick up for crafts not already sent home - will be from Monday and Tuesday - Dec 21 & 22 ***

The plan....


- Half Day/Craft Day will be Wednesday, Dec 23 – the day before school break for the holidays. It is a remote day of ALL students.
- Levels I & II (including K)
- Parents have donated individually packaged crafts for the total number of children in class.
- On 12/23 – children in same pod will log on and complete same crafts together virtually.

* Any questions, please direct to Your Level Rep and not the teachers— we do not want to give them any extra work.

* If you have donated a craft, it would be great if you could make an appearance on craft day (virtually) to your child's class to explain the craft

Thank you!
Your PA

South Shore Charter Educational Foundation Raffle Calendar from 11/16-12/15
 Raffle ticket fee 1 for \$10
 3 for \$25
 7 for \$50
 We appreciate your support!



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	16 Fruit Center \$50 Gift Card	17 Boston Bowl Party for 12 \$300	18 Buffalo Wild Wings Bucket with Gift Card	19 Weymouth Club One Month Family Membership & One Hour Massage	20 2 One-Day Passes to the Cape Codder Water Park and Tree Top Adventures Pass	21 Johnny Cupcakes Swag \$250 Value
22 The Cheesecake Factory \$100 Gift Card	23 Local Pottery handcrafted bowl with \$50 Gift Card	24 Dave and Busters \$25 Gift Card and Target \$25 Gift Card	25 Edaville Family Park Basket \$220 Value	26 South Coastal Animal Hospital \$100 Gift Card	27 5 South Main Street \$50 Gift Card	28 Two Night Cape Cod Getaway \$350
29 The Scarlet Oak \$50 Gift Card	30 Anne Balducci Cosmetics \$200 Gift Card	1 Apple Air Pods	2 Marathon Sports \$75 Gift Card	3 Starland Two Day Passes and Four Day Passes to Central Rock Gym	4 One pair of Oofos Sandals or Clogs \$79 Value	5 Nora Vasconcellos Autographed Skateboard with \$50 Gift Card to Technical Skate
6 The Juice Station \$50 Gift Card and One Hour Massage	7 Jersey Mike's Catering Box \$70 Value	8 Cardinal Cushing Pool Party \$250 Value	9 The Toy Box Basket of fun along with a \$50 Gift Card	10 The Company Theater \$75 Gift Card	11 The Black Tie \$50 Gift Card	12 Kings Bowling Party for 6 Adults \$250
13 Gourmet Garden \$60 Gift Card	14 Daddy's Beach Club Restaurant \$25 Gift Card and The Fresh Feast \$25 Gift Card	15 YMCA 3-Month Family Membership \$519	Please support and thank the local businesses that have generously donated over \$5000 worth of items to our school. Thank you for your generosity!			
Winners will be announced daily on our Facebook page and will be contacted Via email or cell. We will be shipping items to our winners. The more you buy the better your chances of winning multiple times!						
Inspiring every student to excel in academics, service, and life.						

NOV-DEC 2020

Thank you to the 135 folks that have participated in our [30 Day Fundraiser Calendar](#) to benefit our school. The calendar was a big success raising \$7000 so thank you. We are leaving the link open if you still would like to make a donation to our school.

Congratulations to the following winners for the month - Michelle Harris, Kerry Benjamin, Kristine Bingham, Joshua Hoch, Joyce Dandrow, Susan Habchy, Jen Byrne, Erica Hogan-Ziemba, Krysta Hendrix, Andrea Poudrier, Colleen Leonard, Laura Mahn, Jessica Strong, Chris Prudente, Diane Maccarrone, Dan Vasconcellos, Karen Boyle, Amy Farrell, Noel Fernandez, Christine Bodnar, Carolyn Mustin, John Snee, Mary Oxner, Jessica Strong, Fawzia Islam, Kristen Mullin-Connolly, Derik Nolan, Danielle Payne, Ellen Gray, Carol Whalen, and Patty Foley.
 Prizes will be mailed to you.

Thank you to the many folks that participated in Giving Tuesday. We raised a total of \$2525 and many of our donations will be matched by your employers so we appreciate your generosity. Please check this [link](#) to see if your contributions will be matched. As always, thank you for your ongoing support.

Enjoy your holiday break and we look forward to a fresh start with 2021!

Happy Hanukkah to all celebrating this week.



Wednesday	12/16	Parents Association Meeting – Meeting Agenda https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89473487794?pwd=NW5ySTgIREEwMzhyLy9SNDhXWHc5dz09 Meeting ID: 894 7348 7794 Passcode: 775173	6:30pm
Thursday	12/17	Remote Learning for All Students Due to inclement weather.	8:15a-3:00p
Thursday	12/17	Virtual High School Open House - Register Here!	2:00pm
Friday	12/18	Remote Learning for All Students	8:15a-12:05p
Mon-Tues	12/21-12/22	Team B In-Person; Team A Remote Learning	
Wednesday	12/23	Remote Learning for All Students	8:15a-12:05p
December 24-January 1		Holiday Vacation Break – No Classes	
Monday	01/04	Classes Resume	

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

School Documents

[2020-21 School Calendar](#)

[Student and Family Handbook](#)

[SSCPS By-Laws](#)

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.



Copyright © 2020 South Shore Charter Public School, All rights reserved.

Our website address is:

www.sscps.org

This email was sent to palgera@sscps.org
[why did I get this?](#) [unsubscribe from this list](#) [update subscription preferences](#)
South Shore Charter Public School · 100 Longwater Cir · Norwell, MA 02061 · USA