



## **Weekly Update | December 9, 2020**

**Vol. 12, Issue 2**

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### **A Message from Matt ...**

Some of my favorite events at South Shore Charter Public School are the annual open houses. I love to discuss with potential incoming families what makes SSCPS special and unique and why I have chosen to call the charter school my home for the past 10 years. When asked what makes the charter school a special place the first thing that comes to my mind is the diversity. You would be hard pressed to find a school on the south shore that is more diverse than SSCPS. There are many areas in which the SSCPS community is diverse but one area that always impresses me is the linguistic diversity. SSCPS families speak 37 different languages! That translates into 46% of our SSCPS community having a language other than English spoken at home. There are so many amazing benefits of students being exposed to more than one language, it improves memory, critical thinking and problem solving skills, and enhances their listening skills. In a student's first few years of education, while all these wonderful benefits are taking place, they may need some support to acquire English language proficiency.

One of the most under publicized departments at SSCPS is the English Language Learner (ELL) department. The department is very small. Only four staff members make up this amazing team. Laurie Hogan is the Title III Coordinator and teacher, Sam Kiesel teaches at the lower levels and Marissa Ricci teaches at the upper levels, Karen Boyle is the administrative assistant for the EL department. This department is responsible for about 265 students that either receive or previously received EL support.



Laurie Hogan



Sam Kiesel



Marissa Ricci



Karen Boyle

**What is EL support and how do you know what students are entitled to the support?**

The EL team provides support to students that require ELL support in two different ways. At SSCPS the EL teachers may go into the classrooms to assist the classroom teacher in supporting EL students or a FIT block may be created to provide more intensive language support. Additionally, the EL program has expanded over the last few years to offer after school tutoring and a 4 week summer school program. All EL students at SSCPS have access to all educational program opportunities and instructional programs. Their level of English proficiency does not change their class placement or remove them from any general education classes. Currently SSCPS has 97 students that receive EL support.

At the time of enrollment parents fill out a home language survey. This survey indicates whether or not another language is spoken at home or if another language is the first language that the student learned. The State of Massachusetts defines an English Language Learner as a student not born in the United States or whose native language is a language other than English, or a student who comes from a home where a language other than English has an impact on the student's level of English language proficiency. It is important for families to understand that your child doesn't have to speak another language in order to receive EL support. If a student is exposed to a language other than English in the home they may qualify for EL supports.

After the EL team determines through the home language survey that a child may qualify for EL support, the child will be screened in the areas of writing, reading, speaking, and listening. These screenings will give the EL team the information they need to recommend EL support. The EL team will reach out to families to let them know that EL support is being recommended. The EL team will monitor the student and provide the recommended support based on their screening scores.

Each year in January and February, all students that are identified as EL will take the ACCESS for ELLs test. The ACCESS for ELLs test is based on the WIDA English Language Development standards. It is a standards-based, criterion-referenced English language proficiency test designed to measure ELs' social and academic proficiency in English. It assesses social and instructional English used within the school context as well as the language associated with language arts, mathematics, science, and social studies across the four language domains; reading, writing, listening, and speaking. The scores produced by ACCESS for ELLs will identify which proficiency level an EL has achieved at the time of the assessment in each of domains of speaking, listening, reading, and writing and the composite areas of literacy, oral language and overall. The EL team receives the results of those tests in June and reviews them to determine the level of support a student will need for the next school year. On the 2019 WIDA ACCESS test more than half of SSCPS' EL students obtained proficiency.

If a student is able to obtain proficiency then the EL team will reclassify the student as a former English learner (FEL). Once the student becomes a FEL student, the EL department will monitor that student for the next four years to make sure that they are able to maintain their proficiency. If at any time a FEL student requires support the EL team is able to recommend more support. Currently SSCPS has 145 students that are former English learners.

South Shore Charter Public School, along with the rest of the United States education system, has looked very different for our students over the last 10 months. The way we have taught has been challenged and teachers have had to become creative to provide the support we typically would provide. The EL team has worked tirelessly to continue to provide the necessary support given the pandemic and give our students the language support they need to reach proficiency. While we will not be able to participate in some of the wonderful events co-hosted by our EL team, like Cultural Heritage Night, we look forward to the upcoming ACCESS for ELs test so our students can show how their English language proficiency has improved over this past year.

Most families that require translation of this Mailchimp have it already in their browser. However, if you would like to translate this or any other information sent by SSCPS, click the extension button on the top right of this browser and select translation. It will then allow you to choose the language you would like it translated to.

Sincerely,

Matthew Tondorf  
Director of Learning Services





Level I students enjoying the snow in the outside classroom.

## Holiday Travel Advisory

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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.

# IMPORTANT

## Weekly COVID-19 Health Report

### Released on Thursday

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

District student percentage must add up to 25% or more to activate the transition to full remote learning. Last week five of our sending districts remained red as determined by the Massachusetts Department of Public Health.

The school has transitioned back to hybrid and in-person learning. We will be sending email notification to all families on Friday with updates regarding the current COVID-19 district metrics. 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.

# 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 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](mailto:sdupras@sscps.org) or [bfolan@sscps.org](mailto:bfolan@sscps.org)  
K-8 school: [dedwards@sscps.org](mailto:dedwards@sscps.org) or [jkelgaard@sscps.org](mailto:jkelgaard@sscps.org)  
Fax # 781-982-4201

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SSCPS now has an email for 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](mailto: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.

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### 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.

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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. **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](mailto:cbodnar@sscps.org) with any questions.

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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](mailto:pgoodale@board.sscps.org) if you have questions or need additional information

**Submit materials by email to [pgoodale@board.sscps.org](mailto:pgoodale@board.sscps.org)**

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NHS

# ZOOM TUTORING

Need extra help with your classes this year?

**EMAIL [HONORA\\_SULLIVAN@STUDENT.SSCPS.ORG](mailto: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](https://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.


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

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](mailto:oogagan101@student.sscps.org)

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



**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!



**NOV-DEC 2020**

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.						

## From the South Shore Charter Educational Foundation

Thank you to the 135 folks that have participated in our [30 Day Fundraiser Calendar](#) to benefit our school. We still have eight days left in our raffle calendar so please share our link! Our calendar has raised nearly \$7000 so let's keep it going! Congratulations to the following winners;

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, and Mary Oxner. Prizes will be mailed to you.

Thank you to the many folks that participated in Giving Tuesday. We raised a total of \$2425 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.

## From the Parents Association

Please join us at the Braintree Five Below on Friday, December 18th & Saturday, December 19th.  
 10% of purchases will be donated backed to SSCPS!!  
 Must print and bring flyer with you. Share with Friends & Family.

The next meeting of the Parents Association will be held on  
Wednesday, December 16 at 6:30pm via [Zoom](#).

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!! As most know, the kids really love this day each year and I'm happy we have figured out a way to do something on a smaller scale to keep this going in 2020.

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

\* Contactless pick up for remote only students- will be from 12/16-12/22 during school hours (avoiding drop-off and pickup times)

Thank you!  
Your PA

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<b>Mon-Thurs</b>	<b>12/07-12/10</b>	<b>Team B In-Person; Team A Remote Learning</b>	
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>12/10</b>	<b>Personnel</b> <a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83552690593?pwd=cWcyOU5qYk9nNzRMdTJ6M3lOYzNBZz09">https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83552690593? pwd=cWcyOU5qYk9nNzRMdTJ6M3lOYzNBZz09</a> Meeting ID: 835 5269 0593 Passcode: 319819	<b>5:30pm</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>12/10</b>	<b>Development</b> <a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82667335582?pwd=cVRBT0dRSzgtTzN3VitjanFoVDBQQT09">https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82667335582? pwd=cVRBT0dRSzgtTzN3VitjanFoVDBQQT09</a> Meeting ID: 826 6733 5582 Passcode: 837725	<b>6:00pm</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>12/10</b>	<b>Governance</b> <a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86561730310?">https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86561730310?</a>	<b>6:30pm</b>

		<a href="#">pwd=LzIxZ0kxRUEvbGlXUEhCTTBSVjpxdz09</a> Meeting ID: 865 6173 0310 Passcode: 973125	
Thursday	12/10	<b>Finance</b> <a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88914479168?pwd=UmFiZjQvcFZrSUFYm2FaaUc5TUh4Zz09">https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88914479168?</a> <a href="#">pwd=UmFiZjQvcFZrSUFYm2FaaUc5TUh4Zz09</a> Meeting ID: 889 1447 9168 Passcode: 398119	7:00pm
Thursday	12/10	<b>Board of Trustees</b> <a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89727925457?pwd=T2kzVFZiNHhNYWxtRGptSWxEcnhKQT09">https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89727925457?</a> <a href="#">pwd=T2kzVFZiNHhNYWxtRGptSWxEcnhKQT09</a> Meeting ID: 897 2792 5457 Passcode: 990123	7:30pm
Friday	12/11	<b>Remote Learning for All Students</b>	8:15a-12:05p
Mon-Thurs	12/14-12/17	<b>Team A In-Person; Team B Remote Learning</b>	
Wednesday	12/16	<b>Parents Association Meeting</b> <a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89473487794?pwd=NW5ySTg1REEWmZhyLy9SNDhXWHc5dz09">https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89473487794?</a> <a href="#">pwd=NW5ySTg1REEWmZhyLy9SNDhXWHc5dz09</a> Meeting ID: 894 7348 7794 Passcode: 775173	6:30pm
Thursday	12/17	<b>Virtual High School Open House - <a href="#">Register Here!</a></b>	2:00pm

### ***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

### ***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](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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