

Weekly Update | October 7, 2020

Vol. 10, Issue 1

A Message from Alicia



The new tent at 700 Longwater Drive installed earlier today.

Here we are in the first full week of October and the momentum of the school year continues to be exciting. Throughout SSCPS students are busy learning and moving, all the while diligently following safety parameters and heath guidelines. Over the summer as teams discussed and planned what the new year would look like, it almost seemed impossible to imagine. Yet, working through each guideline and recommendation, it became easier to envision the school's reopening. Now that we are a four weeks into the new year, it is evident that the day to day learning progresses and runs parallel with our need to be flexible. Today we

welcomed a new tent at the high school which will provide an additional area for learning and recreation.



SSCPS students sketching for art class at 100 Longwater.

Your children are doing an excellent job. Their ability to adapt and grow is nothing short of remarkable. Working within learning circumstances that are not optimal your children continue to persevere, both on line and in person. To say that they are making the best of the situation would be an understatement. Thank you for all of your work with your child at home. We know none of this would be possible without your ongoing support.



We remain optimistic that these past four weeks have been ones of growth for our students learning remote, hybrid, and full in person. We know we will be continually revisiting our learning model throughout the year trying to improve on what we have put in place. Now that we have some teaching and learning under our belts, we are able to add some of the coursework essential to the identity of our school. This week high school students were able to enroll in some of their favorite subjects during FIT blocks. Added at the high school were Health, Physical Education, Senior Seminar, Music, and Art.



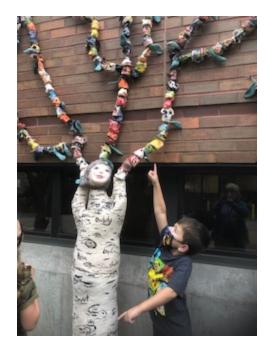
The first week of Art at the high school begins, students with art teacher Marianne Buckley Curran.

Watching students walk to their new Art FIT, or working in a tent in the Art class they have been enjoying since September, the essential role the Arts play in our lives is evident. Last spring as the news became difficult many turned to the Arts as a relief. Drawing, painting, creative writing, and even watching movies took on a new role in our lives. Creative expression is more than an outlet or a way to limit screen time; the Arts speak directly to who students are as individuals and help them make sense of the world.

Much of that is evident in the work being done here at school. Walking across campus it is easy to see how much our students enjoy being outdoors and expressing themselves through art. Tents have become active learning places where students come prepared with sketchbooks and art materials ready to create the next masterpiece.



The SSCPS Friendship Tree Sculpture







Students find the ceramic finger puppet they created in Art with Dan and Pam last winter. Art teacher Pam Golden built the clay tree trunks inscribed with words of peace and creativity in many languages.

Although much has changed this year, we are thrilled to keep our Art program and all of our enrichment education moving forward and running safely. Special thanks to our wonderful Art Department for being so adaptive to this new learning environment and making sure that each student is able to express themselves creatively. SSCPS is fortunate to have such a terrific team.

Alicia Savage
Executive Director

WEEKLY COVID-19 HEALTH REPORT REMINDER

Every Wednesday, the state releases a <u>Weekly COVID-19 Public Health Report</u>. There is another report due out this evening. This 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 will use this data as one way to determine if our school needs to transition to full remote learning.

Key Municipalities: If over 25 percent of our student population municipalities turn red, the school will transition to full remote learning on the Thursday following the Wednesday announcement. The school will transition back to hybrid and in-person learning once the COVID-19 testing positivity rate goes down and the sending district(s) is/are in the yellow, green, or grey the Monday following the release of the calculations.

Our sending district student populations are as follows:

Weymouth 26% Randolph 20% Brockton 11% Rockland 10% Hanover 3%

These calculations mean the following:

Weymouth red = Full Remote Learning

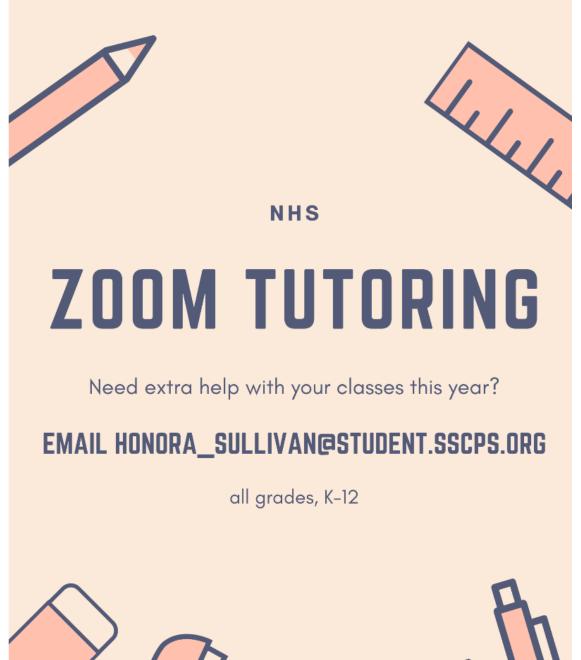
Randolph + Rockland red = Full Remote Learning

Brockton + Randolph red = Full Remote Learning

District student percentage must add up to 25% or more to activate the transition to full remote learning.

Should we need to make the transition to full remote learning, we will notify families through our telephone and email emergency notification system.

Please be sure your contact information has been updated with the school by completing your emergency contact information.





From the Health Office

REMINDER TO ALL 7th GRADE FAMILIES:

All students in grade 7 must submit an current physical including immunizations.

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: <u>Attendance@sscps.org</u>

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. 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 R.N. x182 Darcie Edwards R.N. x104 Barbara Folan R.N. x104

| Monday | 10/12 | No School – Columbus Day Observed | |
|----------|-----------------|---|--------------------------------------|
| Tues-Fri | 10/13- 10/16 | Team B – In-Person; Team A – Remote Learning | |
| Thursday | 10/15 | Finance Committee Personnel Committee Development Committee | 7:30pm 6:30pm 6:00pm 5:45pm |

Important Links

Weekly Updates are emailed and posted to our website www.sscps.org every Wednesday.

- Food Service
- Health Office
- <u>Massachusetts Department of Transitional</u>
 <u>Assistance</u>
- Visit our new online option to <u>purchase</u>
 SSCPS apparel

our

2020-21 School Calendar

School Documents

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