



Weekly Update | September 23, 2020

Vol. 9, Issue 3

A Message from Angie



Walking through our hallways and across our campus it is easy to see that this year is different. There is no question that we are not operating under normal circumstances. Often as adults, we look at these changes and focus on the drawbacks to this new approach to school. When I talk to children, however, their perspective is different. They are happy to be in a routine and are able to look past the challenges. They are excited to be back and eager to interact with their peers and with teachers, even when those connections are virtual. They are focusing on the positives that this new school year brings and finding joy.

One positive change is the increase in use of our outdoor space and more time for children to be outside. Student snack times and breaks are happening on the blacktop. Physical education classes are using the grass. Students are engaged in visual arts classes under the tents. Our youngest students are taking their cushions out for read alouds in the sunshine. Small groups are weeding and watering to keep our organic garden going. The recess space is in use by groups of children all day long.



We are also taking outdoor education beyond our campus through our continued partnership with [Holly Hill Farm](#). While we have worked with Holly Hill for over a decade, this year we have expanded the program to include all of our full in person and hybrid students in grades one and two. Each day a group of students is travelling to the farm and participating in educational programming for the morning and eating lunch before returning to our building. Currently, each of our first grade classes is visiting the farm weekly. Our second grade classes are taking turns participating in the program over the course of the year.

The educational team at Holly Hill is working closely with us to create a program that fits our project-based learning model and incorporates the standards outlined in the [Massachusetts Science Curriculum Framework](#). Over the course of the year students will participate in planting, composting, watering, weeding, and harvesting. They'll learn about seasonal change, life cycles, ecosystems, and sustainability. They will get outside, breathe fresh air, and get their hands dirty. We are excited to be able to provide our youngest students with this opportunity.

Please be sure to send your child in with weather appropriate clothing each school day. Teachers are taking advantage of the outdoor space for mask breaks and outdoor lessons at all grade levels and will continue to do so even as the days grow colder.

Thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,
Angie Pepin
K-12 Principal

WEEKLY COVID-19 HEALTH REPORT REMINDER

Every Wednesday, the state releases a [Weekly COVID-19 Public Health Report](#). 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.

SCHOOL PICTURE DAY

Our second picture day is tomorrow! Like many things, picture day looks different this year. We will be taking pictures by Team so that we are able to maintain social distancing.

- **Team A will have pictures taken on Thursday, September 24th.**
- **Team D (full remote students) will have pictures taken on November 13th. More information will be provided as the date draws closer.**

Please note, we will not be taking any group photos this year.

We strongly encourage all families to order photos online by using the information below to avoid manual contact with paper order forms. Please do not use the links sent out in last week's update as they are no longer accurate. If you need a paper form, please let your child's teacher know.

1. Go to coffeepond.com
2. Click on the large red rectangle towards the bottom left of the page that says "Order School Portraits".
3. Find the town and school in the two drop-down menus on the next page.
4. Place your order.

From the Health Office

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

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

Thursday	09/24	Picture Day for Team A	
Monday	09/29	Yom Kippur – No Classes	
Tues-Fri	09/29-10/02	Team B – In-Person; Team A – Remote Learning	
Wednesday	09/30	Parents Association Meeting via Zoom PA Agenda Join Zoom Meeting Link: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81914589773?pwd=K3RUWk9mK3EvaE9hUWllenZNNmhodz09 Meeting ID: 819 1458 9773 Passcode: 202021	6:30pm

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 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