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## Weekly Update | December 15, 2021

Vol. 12, Issue 3



Our Enrollment Open House is tomorrow, December 16th - see you there!

## A Message from Krista

There is a lot of excitement in the halls of 100 Longwater Circle these days! The weeks between Thanksgiving and the Winter break are always action-packed and go by quickly. While students are busy learning, creating, and collaborating; teachers are sharing student successes at parent teacher conferences. Last Friday teachers K-12 completed the first wave of parent-teacher conferences. We have found that by conducting

conferences virtually we are able to meet with many more families. We will continue with the conferences this Friday.

Another way SSCPS staff and faculty are sharing the success of our school is through the Enrollment Open House. Tomorrow evening, from 5pm-7pm, we will host our Enrollment Open House. Enrollment Open House allows our school to share what we have to offer for prospective students. Student Council volunteers from Levels III and IV will be providing tours and answering questions for our prospective families.

The purpose of Student Council at SSCPS is to establish closer cooperation between the students and the faculty as well as to instruct its members in the principles and responsibilities of a democracy and to promote the general welfare of the school community. The Student Board acts as an umbrella organization for student activities and events. The Board plans activities for the student body with the help of committees for seasonal events (Dances, Spirit Days, fundraisers). After a year and a half hiatus, we are excited to welcome back our Student Council model at the 5th-8th grade levels.



Level III Student Council Officers: (from left to right) Alaina Kelly, Rose Lyons, Stella Veissid, John Kim



 Level III Student Council Pod Representatives: (from left to right)
 Back Row: Mukti Shah, Gloria Olajumoke, Rose Lyons, Makayla Boursiquot, Hassana Agbaje, Stella Veissid, Ellie Dehner
 Middle Row: Emily McKenna, Gavin Estaing, Amyah DuFresne, Sean O'Malley, Eileen Jean-Jules, John Kim, Alaina Kelly
 Front Row: Isabel Sakkis, Zoey Ziegler, Mary Sham, Marissa Kwan \*Not pictured: Julianna Jones-Tandon and Amir Rhadbane

Level III Student Council is guided under the leadership of 5th Grade History teacher, Ashley Hiehiapo. Each Level III cohort has two elected representatives (Pod Reps), who work under four Student Council officers: President Stella Veissid (6th grade), Vice President John Kim (6th grade), and Secretaries Rose Lyons (5th grade) and Alaina Kelly (6th grade). Student Council officers and Pod Reps hold their meetings once a month to go over student issues, concerns and prepare for Town Meeting. Town Meeting is an opportunity for the whole level to get together to share important school announcements and reminders, as well as provide an opportunity for students to give suggestions and feedback to improve our school community.

The December agenda items involve a "Door Decorating Contest" among the cohorts, helping teachers prepare for "Craft Day," and getting new soccer nets for students to use at recess.

The Level IV Student Council has been a hive of activity under the leadership of 8th grade Civics teacher, Nick Kerrigan. Fresh off their electoral victories, the Executive Officers of the Council led by President Gabriel Guzman have been hard at work wrangling support for their initiatives, conducting inquiries, and forming committees. Instrumental to the Council's success has been the efficient support of the 7th and 8th Grade Secretaries, Devyn Bowden and Jasmine Bacha. Additionally, the leadership of Treasurer Emily Walsh and Representative Muna Eze, Chairperson of the Spirit Week Committee, has been critical in helping the gears of the council turn. Hats off to Representative Eze and her team for organizing a successful Spirit Week. Also in the mix, Representative Annmarie Muturi, working in her capacity as Chairperson of the Dance Committee, has been hard at work in the preliminary stages of a spring, outdoor dance.



Level IV Student Council Officers: (from left to right) Jasmine Bacha, Devyn Bowden, Gabriel Guzman, Emily Walsh



Level IV Student Council Pod Representatives: (from left to right) Back Row: Aaron Fordjour, Muna Eze, Emily Walsh, Janessa Horner-Barbosa, Anthony Della Rocca, Jasmine Bacha, Nylah Desrosiers, Chibugo Ejiougu, Siddharth Raj Monagari Front Row: Cole Polefka, Brennan Kelly, Abby Lenihan, Lizzy Glick, Annmarie Muturi, Devyn Bowden, Willow Shinney-Kalafatas, Alexis Mukuha, Gabriel Guzman \*Not pictured: David Anyanwu and Bailey Trask

The South Shore Charter Public School invites you to a viewing of our Virtual Concert. We'll showcase a few selections from the variety of classes and ensembles here at the school. It's a concert you won't want to miss. The students have been working really hard to make this successful. It's sure to be a spectacular show!

The link for the show will be posted on December 22nd in the Update.

Sincerely,

### Krista Cafourek

5-8 Assistant Principal





Last week kicked off the opening games for our Winter sports programs. The Varsity boys and girls basketball teams took on New Heights Charter and Brooke Charter School. The boys team went 2-0 on the week, including an overtime win vs New Heights Charter and a hypertension inducing buzzer beater win against Brooke Charter after trailing 16 points. Please find the video above.

The young Varsity girls team went 0-2 on the week but continue to chip away and make strides towards their first win of the season!

Both teams travel to Foxboro on Wednesday (3:30 Boys/5:00 Girls) and play home games on Thursday at Starland at 3:30. #GoJaguars!



If you'd like to take a lawn sign home to display information about our upcoming Open House and "Talk to us Tuesday" events in your community, feel free to call our front desk at (781) 982-4202!

### News from the Art Department!

**Original Works** orders have been distributed to your child's Pod/Homeroom. Email <u>mbuckleycurran@sscps.org</u> with any questions.

From the Parent Association

The next meeting of the PA will be held tonight, Wednesday, December 15 at 6:30pm via <u>Zoom</u>. Click here for the <u>agenda</u>.





**FY22 School Calendar Modifications** 

On Thursday, November 1, the SSCPS Board of Trustees voted to modify the FY22 School Calendar due to instructional days missed. Changes are as follows:

- January 14, 2022 is a Professional Development Day. Due to the need for 180 days in the school year, that day will now be the following:
  - Grades K-6 Full Day of Classes
  - Grades 7-12 Level and Department Meetings

Unless there is a snow day(s), this leaves one day to make up for students in grades 1 and 2 which is now a half day on June 21, 2022.

There will be no school on June 20, the state holiday Juneteenth.

## **ATTN PARENTS: COVID Test Information for Students**

In order for your student to receive a COVID BinaxNOW test at school, or to participate in the Test and Stay program, **they MUST be pre-registered.** Please take a moment and sign up now. This allows your student to be able to stay in school if the test is negative.

If students are not signed up and are a close contact or develop symptoms at school, they will be required to be picked up immediately. Register with your students' information with the following link:

#### https://pbcovid.cic-health.com/register/with-code?code=KDHEHV

If you are setting up a secondary account, Please put the code: **KDHEHV** under the organization code.

**COVID vaccine**: If your student has or is getting the COVID vaccine, please send in a copy of the vaccine card or proof after receiving the second vaccine. You only need to send a copy after the second dose is given.

With the rise in COVID cases we are asking that you make sure your student comes to school each day with a proper fitting mask that covers both the mouth and nose. Proper fitting masks are crucial in reducing the risk of in school transmission of COVID. They should also have a back up mask in their backpacks in case their mask becomes dirty or ruined throughout the day.

## From the Health Office:

### **NEW – Meningococcal Requirements**

#### 7th GRADERS:

All 7th grade students need a current physical on file. They are required to have the first does of the Meningococcal Vaccine and the Tdap vaccine.

#### 11th GRADERS:

Please send in your 11th graders updated physical as soon as possible. There is a new requirement for the Meningococcal vaccine.

#### SPECIFICS:

2 doses; second dose MenACWY (formerly MCV4) must be given on or after the 16th birthday and  $\geq$  8 weeks after the previous dose. 1 dose is acceptable if it was given on or after the 16th birthday.

### Update from the Health Office Regarding Weekly Testing

COVID-19 cases are rising within the state and within our school community. If your student is sick please have them remain home. If they are experiencing COVID symptoms they will need a negative PCR test or Molecular NAAT test to return to school. Please contact the health office if your student is home from school due to illness. COVID symptoms are very similar to common cold symptoms and it is important to rule out COVID before your student returns to school. Please keep your student home if there is a positive household member and contact the health office about the next steps.

Your student must stay home if you are waiting for COVID test results, whether they are symptomatic or asymptomatic. Please send a copy of the test results to the appropriate health office.

With the increase of COVID cases throughout Massachusetts, we are going to be starting Weekly Safety COVID testing at school. The tentative start date for this testing is January 4th and the plan is to test weekly on Tuesdays. This is a shallow nasal swab that most students will be able to do by themselves. About 10 swabs are put in the same pool test and a PCR test is run. This takes about 24 hours. You will only be notified if your student is in a positive pool test. If this happens, all individuals will be tested separately using the Rapid BinaxNOW test at school to try to identify the positive individual. If your student is negative, then they can return to class and learn. If your child is positive, then we will ask you to come pick them up and quarantine. Please sign up for COVID testing below.

## SIGN UP NOW

Please enter the student's information when registering. When creating a secondary profile please remember to include the school's organization code: KDHEHV

If you have a student currently signed up for COVID testing and would like to opt out of the Weekly Safety Testing, Please email Jaime at jkjelgaard@sscps.org to opt out in writing or send a note to the health office.

We understand that these are very challenging times for our families. Please remember that the Health Staff at SSCPS is doing it's best to keep everyone in our school system safe so we can continue to have in person learning.

Darcie Edwards, RN (she/her/hers) SSCPS School Nurse 781-982-4202 x104 <u>dedwards@sscps.org</u>

## **Important Notice from DESE:**

Extension of DESE Mask Requirement Through At Least January 15, 2022 **Extension of Mask Requirement:** On Tuesday, October 26, DESE announced that after consulting with medical experts and state health officials, the mask requirement in all K-12 public schools is extended through at least January 15, 2022. <u>Guidance</u> and a <u>press release</u> are available online.

## From the Yearbook Committee:

**The 2022 yearbook is coming** - now is your chance to order yours! The normal yearbook price is \$40, but if you order before January 1st, you can get yours for **\$37**!

Head to the Coffee Pond website and enter the password "bluejaguar".

Parents of seniors can have a personalized page in the yearbook as well.

#### **SENIOR AD PRICING:**

-full page: \$150 -half page: \$75 -1/4 page: \$50

## **Disaster Relief**

## Organizations Providing Aid to Recent Tornado Victims in Kentucky, Tennessee, and Arkansas

*Kentucky International Medical Corps*, an organization that provides emergency medical services, is raising funds to give people shelter and essential items.

### Click here to Donate

*The Salvation Army* is soliciting donations to help tornado victims in Arkansas, Kentucky and Tennessee.

### Click here to Donate

The United Way of Kentucky is asking for donations to provide

support services for families in the state who were affected by the tornadoes.

### Click here to Donate





# **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 click below for more information.

**HOUSING HELP** 

## Food Service - Breakfast and Lunch Program

January Breakfast and Lunch Order Forms are now available!

All students enrolled at SSCPS qualify for Free Breakfast and Lunch for the 2021-2022 academic year. Please click on this link - <u>FamilyID Online Registration</u> - and register for meals. If you have any questions, contact me at <u>csalamone@sscps.org</u> or at 781-982-4202 x156.



The Parents Association is working to ensure teachers can fill their classrooms with the items they need. To help support our teachers and their classrooms, please view the wishlists below. Thank you!

**VIEW WISHLISTS** 



## Sabbatical Clothing Bank and Lions Club Food Pantry!

Sabbatical Clothing Bank will be hosting a distribution day this Saturday 18th from 10 AM to 1 PM, open to anyone who could benefit. They are also hosting a *No Questions Asked Food Pantry*, opened Mondays 10:30 AM to 12 PM and Fridays 4:30 PM to 6 PM.

Location: 136 Summer St, Duxbury MA, please find the link below.

Sabbatical Clothing Bank: https://www.sabbaticalclothingbank.com/

### Lions Club Food Pantry: https://duxburylionsclub.org/about-us

## This Week | Up and Coming

Wednesday	12/15	Parents Association Meeting via Zoom	6:30pm
Thursday	12/16	Enrollment Open House – <u>Register Here!</u>	5-7pm
Friday	12/17	Early Release – Parent/Teacher Conferences by appointment	12:00pm
Thursday	12/23	Early Release	12:00pm
		Holiday Vacation – No school 12/24 – 12/31	
Monday	01/03	Classes Resume	

## **IMPORTANT LINKS**

Weekly Updates are emailed and posted to our website <u>www.sscps.org</u> every Wednesday.

- Back-to-School Information
- Food Service
- <u>COVID-19 Protocols 2021-22</u>
- Health Office
- <u>Massachusetts Department of Transitional</u>
  <u>Assistance</u>
- Visit the Parents Association Website
- Visit our new online option to <u>purchase</u> SSCPS apparel!

School Documents:

2021-22 School Calendar

<u>Student and Family</u> <u>Handbook</u>

<u>Arrival and Dismissal</u> <u>Procedures</u>

SSCPS By-Laws

Here are links to upcoming events and other items of interest. Please contact Pam Algera at <u>palgera@sscps.org</u> to submit SSCPS items for publication.



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