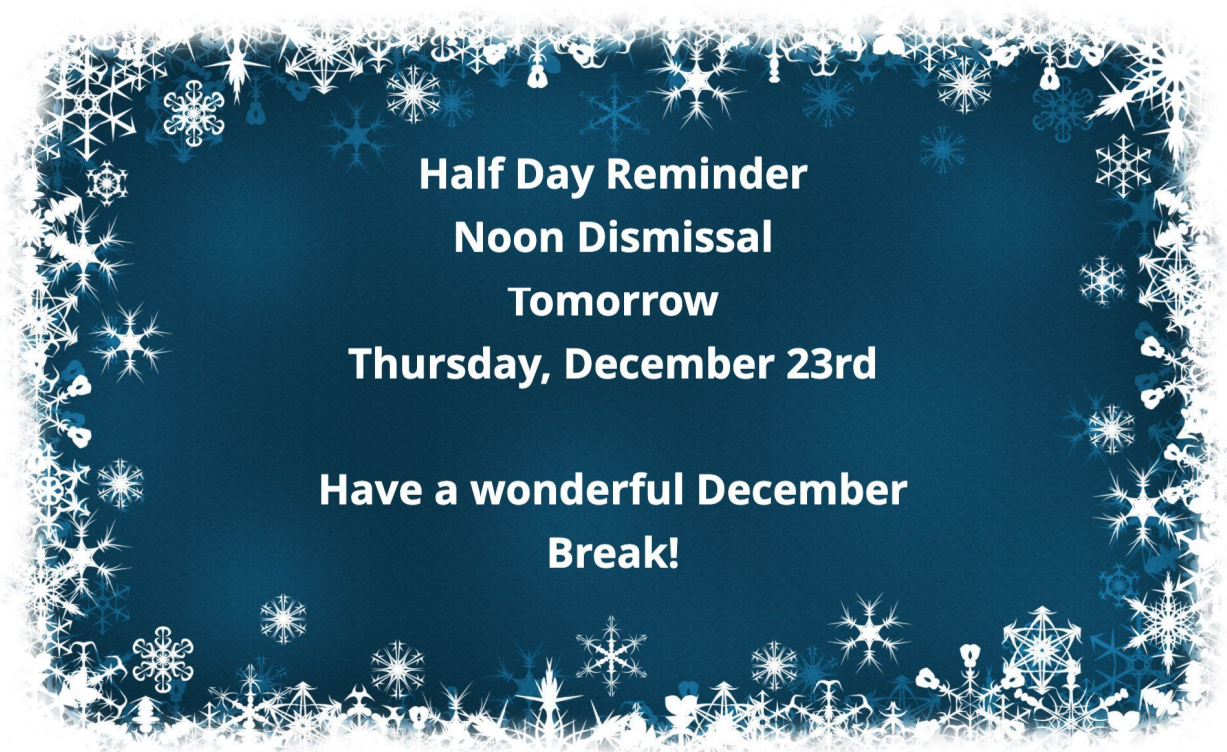


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Weekly Update | December 22, 2021

Vol. 12, Issue 4



A Message from Alicia

Yesterday, the winter solstice marked the shortest day of the year. Having fewer than nine hours of daylight has some advantages, but for many,

shortened daylight has become symbolic of the world events surrounding us. As we navigate the last week of school for 2021, I am reminded that even with shortened daylight, December brings with it profound moments which make the light last.

December adventures are upon us. Despite protocols and restrictions, these past weeks have been filled with events that mark the winter and holiday season in our school's traditional way. Here on campus, students are busy decorating doors, writing and organizing presentations, and preparing for Craft Day. Craft Day is an important SSCPS tradition made possible only through the support of our families. Teachers and students K-6 are looking forward to this day with tremendous anticipation. Family volunteers, loaded down with the crafting supplies and an abundance of patience, remain the essential component to a successful day. We are thrilled to see the return of Craft Day. At home, students have recorded their performance for the virtual Winter Concert and come to school ready to celebrate, learn, and enjoy. We have come a long way since this time last year, and there is much to look back on with a sense of accomplishment.



Door Decorating on Level III

Our students continue to define our mission as a K-12 charter school and the hard work continues. Over the past school year we have witnessed academic achievement, dedication to service and community, and athletic accomplishments that have made us proud. As we actively wait and wish for a return to pre-pandemic life, understanding what it means to look out for one another and to be part of the SSCPS community is evident. We are proud of the work of all of our students K-12, and we are happy to witness their growth during these unprecedented times. Never has it been more important to reaffirm our commitment to inspire every student to excel in academics, service, and life.



Student Art from Level III Advisory

Last Thursday evening, for the first time in two years, SSCPS hosted an Enrollment Open House. Despite pandemic restrictions, we were able to welcome 160 prospective families to our campus. One of the highlights of the evening was our very own student council. Student council representatives gave excellent tours, provided information, answered questions, and were a wonderful representation of our student body. Special thanks to our students, the Instructional Leadership Team, including our Director of Admissions, Pam Algera, and to all who helped bring everyone together. Our next enrollment event will be *Talk to us Tuesday*, in January and February. These walk-in days will provide prospective families with the opportunity to experience classes in session, meet students and teachers, and learn about the South Shore Charter Public School difference.

Thank you for believing in us and supporting our mission. We wish you and your family a restful holiday break and special times with family and

friends.

Sincerely,

Alicia Savage

Executive Director

BOARD OF TRUSTEES UPDATE

On December 9th, the SSCPS Board of Trustees held the December meeting which included two votes on the school calendar for the 2022-2023 school year. The Board voted to approve the calendar with some modifications to accommodate the mid-year exam schedule on the first vote.

A copy of the approved calendar may be found below.

The second calendar vote concerned the name of the October holiday. After reviewing survey results from students, families, teachers, and school staff, the Board discussed the choices presented in the survey. Following review and discussion, the Board approved and voted for the third choice in the school wide survey, “SSCPS will continue to recognize Indigenous Peoples’ Day, celebrate it with Columbus Day, and support student efforts to advocate for two bills currently in the Massachusetts Legislature, H.3191 and S.2027 which are acts to establish an Indigenous Peoples’ Day at the statewide level.” Thank you to all who participated in the survey.

The following information from the December Board of Trustees meeting is linked below.

1. [SSCPS 2023-2024 School Calendar](#)
2. [Executive Director Report December 2021 and Slides](#)

3. October Holiday Family Survey Results

Guidance Office Winter Break Policy

Please be aware that the Guidance Office will be closed on **Thursday, December 23rd at noon** for winter break. The Guidance Office will reopen on Monday, January 3, 2022. 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.



SSCPS PARENTS ASSOCIATION

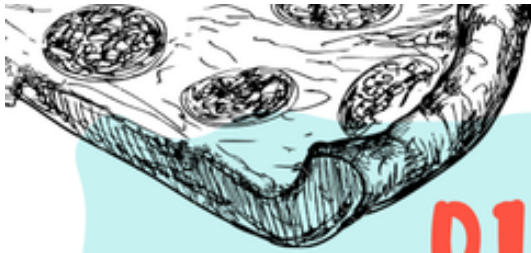
Community Movie Day

Join us during Winter Break
as we watch **SING 2!**

TUESDAY DECEMBER 28TH
10AM
CAMEO MOVIE THEATER
14 COLUMBIAN STREET
SOUTH WEYMOUTH, MA 02190

Tickets: \$8 per person
Students must be accompanied by a parent or guardian!
RSVP Today at www.SSCPS-PA.org

Also on 12/28/21 - Dining for Dollars!
The Cottage Bar & Restaurant (located across the street from the Cameo) will be donating 10% of all sales this day ... No flyer needed!



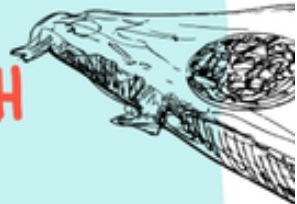
DINING FOR DOLLARS

Don't forget to Register for our Movie Day on the same day!



INVITES YOU TO A FUNDRAISER TO BENEFIT THE SOUTH SHORE CHARTER PUBLIC SCHOOL

**TUESDAY DECEMBER 28TH
26 UNION STREET
WEYMOUTH, MA 02190**



THE THE COTTAGE BAR & RESTAURANT WILL GENEROUSLY DONATE 10% OF ALL THEIR SALES
NO FLYER NEEDED! DINE IN OR TAKE OUT

781-812-2083

WWW.THECOTTAGEWEYMOUTH.COM



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 doses 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 ≥ 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
dedwards@sscps.org

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. [Guidance](#) and a [press release](#) 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

Residential Energy Assistance Program

The Attorney General's Office is pleased to announce the Residential Energy Assistance Grant (REAG) program. The program is designed to provide additional funding to programs that aid Massachusetts families currently receiving heating assistance and to expand assistance to more eligible households.

For full details please review the attached RFP. The grant announcement website, which includes a link to the application portal, can be found here:

<https://www.mass.gov/info-details/fy2022-fy2024-residential-energy-assistance-grant>

If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to AGOGrants@mass.gov.

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 - [FamilyID Online Registration](#) - and register for meals. If you have any questions, contact me at csalamone@sscps.org or at 781-982-4202 x156.



help our teachers!

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

NEED CLOTHES?

FREE CLOTHING FOR THOSE IN NEED

- DESIGNATED MONTHLY PICKUP OPPORTUNITIES
- CLOTHING FOR ALL AGES
- COVID SAFE PRACTICES
 - GLOVES WORN WHILE PACKING BAGS
 - CURBSIDE PICKUP
 - DESIGNATED PICKUP TIMES

The logo is a circular emblem with a brown background and a dark border. The words "Sabbatical" and "Clothing Bank" are written in a cursive font along the top and bottom inner edges of the circle, respectively. In the center, the letters "SCB" are printed in a bold, sans-serif font.

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

Thursday	12/23	Early Release	12:00pm
		Holiday Vacation – No school 12/24 through 12/31	
Monday	01/03	Classes Resume	
Friday	01/07	Professional Development Early Release	12:00pm

IMPORTANT LINKS

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

- [Back-to-School Information](#)
- [Food Service](#)
- [COVID-19 Protocols 2021-22](#)
- [Health Office](#)
- [Massachusetts Department of Transitional Assistance](#)
- **Visit the [Parents Association Website](#)**
- **Visit our new online option to [purchase SSCPS apparel!](#)**

School Documents:

[2021-22 School Calendar](#)

[Student and Family Handbook](#)

[Arrival and Dismissal Procedures](#)

[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.



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www.sscps.org



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