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Weekly Update | January 12, 2022

Vol. 1, Issue 2

CALENDAR CHANGE REMINDER

THIS FRIDAY, JANUARY 14TH:

- Grades K-6 - Full Day of Classes for Students
- Grades 7-12 - No School for Students | Level and Department Meetings for Faculty and Staff

CALENDAR CHANGE ANNOUNCEMENT

FRIDAY, APRIL 15TH:

There will be a half-day of school on Friday, April 15th to make up for the snow day on January 7th. Religious exemptions will be granted.

A Message from Nora

The Town Library: A Sometimes Overlooked Gift in your Community

As an immigrant to this country, I am in a position to notice things that those of you

who have lived here your whole lives might take for granted—namely, the often small but impressive building in practically every town in this country: the public library.

In 2017, more than 170 million Americans went to their public libraries a total of 1.3 billion times (Institute for Museum of Library Services) and they were not just borrowing books!

“Libraries are the heart of communities. Even at times in the pandemic when physical libraries were closed, libraries loaned e-books and digital movies. More recently, computer labs at public libraries have become a lifeline for people applying for jobs and doing their first Zoom interviews. Some are even [lending out laptops and WiFi devices](#).

As then-American Library Association President Julius C. Jefferson Jr. put it, “Buildings may not have been open, but libraries were never closed.”

Communities that invest in libraries are well prepared for whatever the next chapter brings.”

–The Golden Age of Public Libraries dawns again (The Washington Post. Jan 1, 2022)



In the **Turner Free Library** in Randolph, there is a dedicated teen librarian who coordinates services from homework help to volunteer opportunities to online courses. Beyond that, many libraries have digital media labs, online courses, community calendars and events from puppet shows to public lectures.

We try to instill the importance of libraries in our students. For example, in our Level I curriculum, our 1st graders have an ELA module that celebrates libraries and librarians: **The World of Books**. Here's a selection of the books they read:

Tomas and the Library Lady (Pat Mora and Raul Colon): 1st graders read about the lives that have been changed by simply entering a library and finding an opportunity to discover a different world.

That Book Woman (Heather Henson and David Small): Here, in a beautifully illustrated fictionalized story, 1st graders learn about the packhorse librarians of Kentucky during the 1930s. Formed by the WPA, librarians traveled on pack horses to bring printed resources to rural communities in Kentucky.

My Librarian is a Camel (Margriet Ruurs): Here 1st graders learn about the unique ways books are made available to people in countries all over the world.

For so many years our school library was managed by the wonderful Bev Bruce. This year we have a combination of old and new library volunteers who dedicate time from their busy lives to help teachers give students the opportunity to visit a library and borrow a book at least once a week.

Our amazing library volunteers are:

Jamie Collins, Laura Foley, Deborah Harper-Padula, Krysta Hendrix, Teena Huyhn, Carissa Katzenstein, Brittany Lofstrand, Josefu Oladayiye, Andre Poudrier, Bonnie Royce and Katie Vecchione.

Thank you all for the work you do to promote the habit and love of reading in our students.

Please think about joining your local library.

Joining a library is free and as simple as showing your driver's license and providing evidence that you live in the town. You will be giving your whole family a gift that will last a lifetime.

Sincerely,

Nora Broderick

English Curriculum Coordinator and Teacher



Brrr! Our front door greeters are bundling up in the cold weather at 100 Longwater. Stay warm everyone!

High School Midyear Schedule 2021-2022

	Monday (24th)	Tuesday (25th)	Wednesday (26th)
8:30-10:00	A Block	C Block	E Block
10:00-10:30	Break	Break	Break
10:30-12:00	B Block	D Block	Make-ups
12:00-12:30	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch
12:30-3:00	Study in Advisory	Study in Advisory	Study in Advisory

Level IV Midyear Schedule 2021-2022

	Monday (24th)	Tuesday (25th)	Wednesday (26th)
8:30-10:00	A Block	C Block	E Block
10:00-10:30	Break	Break	Break
10:30-12:00	B Block	D Block	Project Reflection & Make-ups
12:00-12:30	Recess	Recess	Recess
12:30-1:00	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch
1:00-1:20	Recess	Recess	Recess
1:20-3:00	Study in Advisory	Study in Advisory	Study in Advisory

ANIMAL SHELTER DONATIONS

Our Level III Community Service Project is conducting a donation drive for the Scituate Animal Shelter.

Visit their website below to learn how you can help!

SCITUATE ANIMAL SHELTER

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 for Students
 - Grades 7-12 - No School for Students | Level and Department Meetings for Faculty and Staff

On April 15th, there will be a half-day to make up for the snow day on January 7th. Religious exemptions will be granted.

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.

STUDENT MASK REQUIREMENTS

With the rise in COVID cases, we are asking that you make sure your student comes to school each day with a properly fitting mask that covers both the mouth and nose. Properly fitting masks are crucial in reducing the risk of in-school transmission of COVID. Students 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 February 28th, 2022

Extension of Mask Requirement: On Monday, January 10th, 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 February 28, 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! Yearbooks are back to their normal pricing of \$40 each.

To order yours, 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.

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.

amazon



wishlist

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 text "Sabbatical" is written in a cursive font along the top inner edge, and "Clothing Bank" is written along the bottom inner edge. 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 is still open (by appointment only) for donations and for those in need of clothing. Visit their website below for forms and more information.

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

The Lions Club Food Pantry is also still hosting their "No Questions Asked Food Pantry", open on Mondays from 10:30 AM - 12:00 PM and Fridays from 4:30 PM - 6:00 PM.

Lions Club Food Pantry:

<https://duxburylionsclub.org/about-us>

**Both organizations are located at:
136 Summer St, Duxbury MA**

This Week | Up and Coming

Thursday	01/13	School Council via Zoom	4:30pm
Friday	01/14	Full day of classes for students in grades K-6	
Friday	01/14	No classes for students in grades 7-12	
Monday	01/17	Martin Luther King, Jr Day – No School	
Wednesday	01/19	Parents Association Meeting via Zoom	6:30pm
Friday	01/21	2nd Quarter Ends for Grades 5-12	

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:

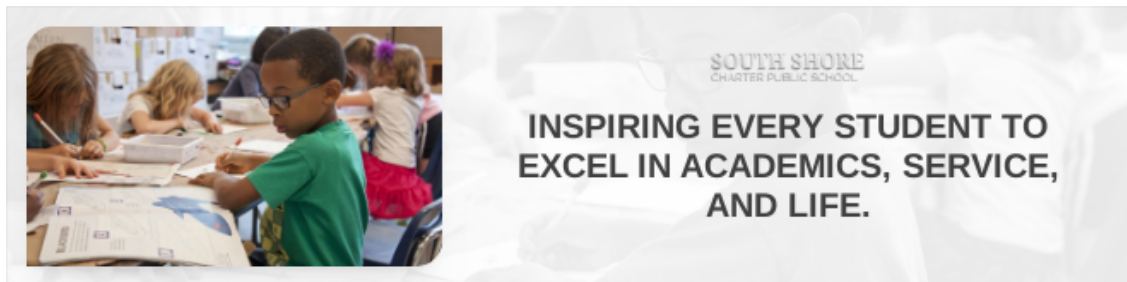
[2021-22 School Calendar](#)

[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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