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Weekly Update | May 31, 2023

Vol. 5. Issue 5

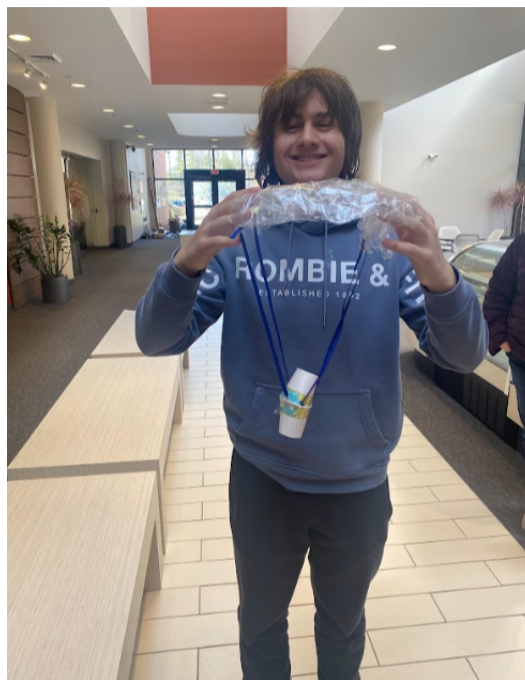


A Message from Jamie

The month of May is a time filled with excitement as we feel the approaching summer vacation through the changing weather. Alongside longer days and warmer temperatures, it brings year-end celebrations and the anticipation and anxiety of assessments like the HS STE MCAS and final exams for our older students. The STE MCAS tests evaluate skills, scientific practices, and subject matter based on the 2016 Massachusetts Science and Technology/Engineering Curriculum Framework. These assessments are administered in grade 5, grade 8, and grade 9/10. Recently, our students in grades 5 and 8 completed their STE MCAS, which is truly an incredible achievement worth celebrating. This year, high school students will also sit for the Introductory Physics MCAS for the first time. Although these assessments can induce feelings of being overwhelmed and anxious in our students,

it is essential to remember that scores do not define them; instead, they provide valuable data on our instruction and their learning and comprehension, which is crucial for instructional planning and curriculum development.

At SSCPS, our science curriculum and instruction create an environment that nurtures students' inquisitive nature. Our dedicated teachers have been working diligently to ensure students meet the standards. It is a challenging task to maintain engaging, inquiry-based, hands-on instruction that fosters real-world connections, preparing our students not only for assessments like the MCAS but also for the next grade level and future success beyond high school.



This year, we successfully implemented the Introductory Physics program for grade 9 and 10 students, while also piloting OpenSciEd in grades 6 and 7. These initiatives provide valuable exposure and experiences, promoting questioning and critical thinking skills while establishing real-world connections. Next year brings us an exciting opportunity as we implement a three-year rollout of OpenSciEd, thanks to a generous grant from the One8 Foundation through the OpenSciEd Equitable Instruction (OEI) Initiative at Boston College. This grant will fund the implementation of OpenSciEd, a middle school applied science curriculum that employs phenomenon-based instruction aligned with the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS).

OpenSciEd, a nonprofit organization, brings together educators, philanthropic organizations, curriculum developers, and professional development providers to enhance science education through the development and implementation of high-quality, freely available science instructional materials. The grant will support professional development opportunities and provide hands-on instructional material kits.



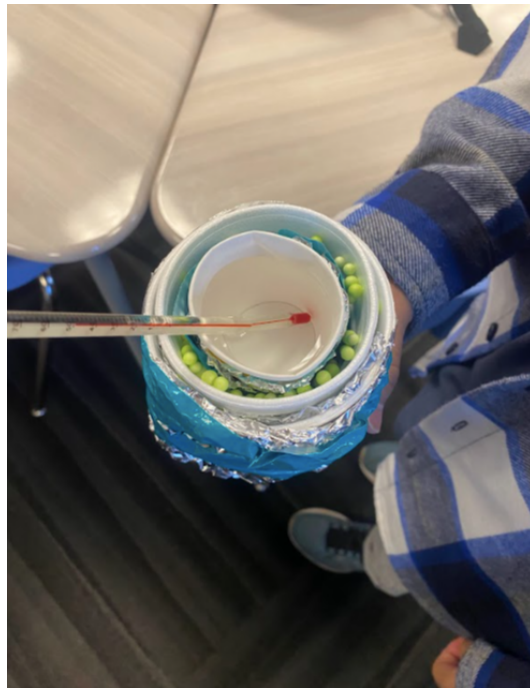


OpenSciEd's science curriculum is designed with equity in mind, ensuring that all students can build upon their previous experiences and develop a deep understanding of the world around them while strengthening their identity as scientists and engineers. Each unit empowers students to ask questions, design investigations, solve problems, and collaborate with their classroom community to make sense of puzzling phenomena. Student engagement and questioning drive their learning. This presents an amazing opportunity for our community!

OpenSciEd aims to increase accessibility and maintain rigorous science learning so that all students are prepared for college, careers, and life in an increasingly STEM-focused world. Through OpenSciEd units, students engage in investigations to make sense of relevant, real-world observable events (phenomena). For instance, units may explore questions such as, "How can a sound make something move?" and "How can containers keep things from warming up or cooling down?" Furthermore, students interact with these phenomena and problems by employing science practices like planning and conducting investigations, as well as developing and utilizing models. This instructional model helps students build a deep understanding of important science concepts while establishing personal connections to science learning in an engaging and meaningful way.

The units included in OpenSciEd are designed to support students in building science ideas over time. They encourage collaboration, foster curiosity, and inspire students to question and explore the world we live in, ultimately refining and communicating their explanations. Teachers play a crucial role in developing a classroom culture centered around collaboration, empowering students to take ownership.

As summer approaches, inspire your child to observe the world around them and explore the wonders of science in their daily life. The key to engaging students in science lies in their observation of the natural world and nurturing their innate curiosity and inclination to question. Seek out books and resources from local libraries or online articles that relate science to current events, allowing for a broader understanding. Encourage hands-on investigation by conducting experiments in the kitchen, cultivating a garden, or embracing engineering with



LEGO or by constructing elaborate sandcastles on the beach. By tapping into your child's inherent curiosity, be amazed as they ask questions, acquire problem-solving skills, and draw conclusions. Recognize that science is intertwined with our everyday experiences, and we live out the scientific process continuously, even within the classroom.

I encourage you to share your scientific explorations and email any ideas or images to jallen@sscps.org.

--

Jamie Allen

Science Curriculum Coordinator and Teacher

**CULTURAL MONTH
CELEBRATIONS AT SSCPS**

Dress Your Heritage Day!









Cultural Music Day Celebration at the High School





ASIAN AMERICAN AND PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE MONTH

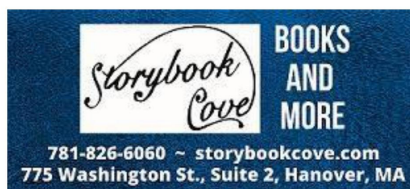


Our very own teachers, Rowena Samuels and Shalini Shweta were speakers at AAPI Month presentation.



Cultural Diversity Workshop field trip to the movie theater to see *The Little Mermaid*.

UPCOMING SCHOOL EVENTS



SOUTH SHORE CHARTER PUBLIC SCHOOL SUMMER READING FUND RAISER VIRTUAL BOOK FAIR

- ▶ SSCPS and Storybook Cove are hosting an online Summer Reading Book Fair.
- ▶ **SSCPS Families receive a 10% discount on books purchased, SSCPS receives 10% of each sale, and there will be NO sales tax.**
- ▶ The online Fair will run from MAY 22 through JUNE 23, 2022.
- ▶ Use the below LINK to access the VIRTUAL BOOKFAIR:
<https://www.storybookcove.com/sscps-summer-reading-2023>

or click on this logo



on the home page of www.storybookcove.com

- ▶ **ALL PURCHASES ARE TO BE MADE THROUGH www.storybookcove.com.**
- ▶ **When you purchase books from these book fair lists prior to June 8th, the books will be delivered to SSCPS. Kindergarten students must place orders by May 30th in order to have books dropped off at the school by June 7th. All other students must place orders by June 8th in order to have books dropped off at school by June 14th. Any orders after June 8th through June 23, you will be able to choose "In Store Pick-Up Hanover MA" OR "USPS Media Rate".**

If you choose In-Store Pick-Up, you will be contacted when your order is ready for pick-up at Storybook Cove, 775 Washington Street, Suite 2, Hanover, MA (Route 53) across from Brothers Grill. Enter the car lot of Dave Delaney's Columbia Motors through the white rail fence. Green building is at the end of lot.)

- ▶ **CHECK-OUT TIPS—PLEASE FOLLOW THESE STEPS.**
You need to complete **ONLY** the following sections:
 - **ENTER CUSTOMER INFORMATION/EMAIL**
 - **COUPON DISCOUNT (ENTER THIS CODE: SSCPS)**
 - **TAX-EXEMPT INFORMATION** [click check box and then type **SSCPS** for entity name and **Book Fair** for tax exempt number. Do not fill in rest of section.]
 - **DELIVERY INFORMATION (NEEDED EVEN IF PICKING UP at SCHOOL)**
 - **CLICK ON CALCULATE SHIPPING COSTS AND THEN CHOOSE BEFORE JUNE 9TH: SSCPS BOOK FAIR. AFTER JUNE 9TH, CHOOSE EITHER: USPS Media Rate (2 to 10 days; no insurance) or In Store Pick-Up Hanover MA. We'll contact you when order is ready.**
 - **CHOOSE PAYMENT METHOD**
 - **CONTACT/BILLING INFORMATION**
 - **REVIEW; and**
 - **SUBMIT.**

We are excited to team up with Storybook Cove for another virtual summer reading book fair! Families will get 10% off their purchases, and Storybook Cove will donate 10% of the sales to SSCPS. **The book fair will run from May 22nd - June 23rd.**

If Kindergarten students order by May 30th they will have the option to have them delivered to SSCPS. If 1st - 8th grade students order their books by June 8th they will have the option to have them delivered to SSCPS. All orders can also be picked up at Storybook Cove or families can pay for shipping.

SAVE THE DATE:

K-12 SPRING ART SHOW

JUNE 8, 2023 | 3:30 - 7:00 PM

700 Longwater Drive, Norwell MA

Student artwork will be accepted until June 1st. Submissions can be given to one of your art teachers:
Dan Vasconcellos (dvasconcellos@sscps.org)
Sarah Gavin (sgavin@sscps.org)
Pam Golden (pgolden@sscps.org)



LET'S BOWL!



**RSVP by May 21st to
SEPAC@SSCPS.ORG**

SSCPS SEPAC PRESENTS

Different Children Different Needs

Presented by
**Jeanine
Fitzgerald**

Tufts library
Weymouth

**MONDAY
JUNE 5th
6:30-8:30 PM**



DIFFERENT CHILDREN, DIFFERENT NEEDS

Children are not things to be molded, but people to be unfolded. This session is designed to reveal the essence of every child and what nurtures their greatness. Understanding the seven major influences on behavior and development is critical to ensuring that every child we relate to and interact with is visible, valued and supported in their own way. Together, we will discover the layers of possibilities waiting to unfold and the strengths each child brings to this world. These will be revealed through a research-based model of temperament that honors the differences among us.



ALL ARE WELCOME

RSVP SEPAC@SSCPS.ORG

Tufts Library 46 Broad St. Weymouth
Room 138





SSCPS Summer Reading Kindergarten - 4th Grade Book Swap

WHO: Kindergarten - 4th grade students

WHAT: Please have your child bring in any gently used summer reading books or any other book appropriate for Kindergarten -4th grade students that you would like to donate.

WHEN: Students should bring in books by Friday, June 2nd. Each student will pick a book to take home with them on June 5th or June 6th.

Questions? Contact Kristen Gale: kgale@sscps.org

Our goal is to provide one book to each student in Kindergarten - 4th grade. All donations are greatly appreciated!





During the remainder of the school year, we will be raising funds to help invest in Outdoor Education at SSCPS. Outdoor learning spaces have been an instrumental part of our school's educational framework for many years, and they have given our students a new environment to learn and grow within. We pride ourselves on our experiential learning processes at SSCPS, and our various outdoor learning spaces are a positive reminder of how students can flourish through hands-on learning. Now, it's time to invest in and expand on those outdoor spaces to give our students even more opportunities to learn and thrive!

MAKE A DONATION!

COMMUNITY INTEREST



YMCA TRAINING, INC. IS NOW ENROLLING FOR:

MEDICAL ADMIN CREDENTIAL EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM

TRAINING INCLUDES:

- Online Sessions
- Microsoft Office 365 & Zoom
- Resume Writing, Interview Practice, Job Search & Mentoring
- Internships at Greater Boston hospitals
- Exam for Medical Administrative Assistant Certification

WHAT WE COVER:

- Medical Office Administrative Duties
- Health Insurance
- Billing and Claims
- Introduction to Medical Coding
- Medical Terminology

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

- High School Diploma or HiSET (GED)
- Schedule Commitment (Monday-Friday, 9am-1:30pm)
- Seeking Full-Time Employment
- Work Authorization
- Must be up to date with immunizations/vaccinations

DID YOU KNOW?

- Laptops and internet access is available
- You'll receive a one year YMCA of Greater Boston family membership upon enrollment

For More Information :
 Alice McNeill
 Medical Admin. Program Coordinator
 857.302.1019
 amcneill@ymcaboston.org



SOUTH SHORE YMCA



**FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY**

SOUTH SHORE YMCA AFTERSCHOOL

The South Shore YMCA offers a quality Afterschool Program that takes place in a safe, supportive environment that fosters the physical, cognitive, social, and emotional growth of each child. We strive to support the family unit and provide developmentally appropriate enrichment programs that encourage not just learning, but also the love of learning.

- **Monday through Friday from school dismissal until 6pm**
- **Afterschool options, 1-5 days per week**
- **Grades K-8**
- **Early Release programs from school dismissal until 6pm**
- **Homework assistance**
- **Freedom to explore materials, games, and equipment**
- **Engage in daily indoor/outdoor physical activities**
- **Enhance social skills through positive interactions with peers and YMCA staff**
- **USDA approved healthy daily snacks**

We believe in positive methods of child guidance/discipline. Our staff establishes age-appropriate, reasonable yet consistent limits to help children function in their world. We strive to strengthen each child's own cultural identity while reinforcing respect and celebrating differences through play and positive interactions.



Financial assistance is available thanks to the charitable donations made possible through the South Shore YMCA's Annual Campaign. Monies secured ensure that all are welcome to participate. Applications are available at the Emilson Branch and online at ssymca.org. Please consider donating your time, talent and treasure to this year's campaign!

To inquire about our Afterschool Program please contact:

Shirley Carrier
scarrier@ssymca.org
Phone: 781-826-7900 x 5241

Liam McSweeney
lmcsweeney@ssymca.org
Phone: 781-826-7900 x 5240

MASSHEALTH REDETERMINATIONS

Attention MassHealth Members

You need to renew your coverage this year.



Take three steps to renew coverage this year:

- 1 **Update your info**
- 2 **Check your mail**
- 3 **Respond to MassHealth**

1. Update your personal information: Inform MassHealth of any changes to your information (address, phone number, email and income).

2. Check your mail from MassHealth: If you get a blue envelope in the mail, you will need to take action to stay covered.

3. Respond to MassHealth: Respond promptly with any requested information from MassHealth. All MassHealth renewals and requests for information will have a due date.

▶ **Submit your renewal form before the deadline, even if your personal information has not changed.**

Need Help?

Online:
www.masshealthrenew.org

By phone:
Call MassHealth Customer Service at 800-841-2900 or (TTY: 711) Monday to Friday between 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
• Learn what documents MassHealth needs from you and your renewal's due date.

In person:
Scan this code or go to www.masshealthrenew.org to make an appointment with a MassHealth representative or get help near you.



Update your contact information (address, phone number, email) so MassHealth can contact you when it is time for your renewal. If MassHealth cannot reach you, you could lose your health coverage.

If you think you may no longer be eligible for MassHealth, other health coverage options are available, such as an affordable plan through the MA Health Connector.

Members can visit www.masshealthrenew.org or call customer service at 1-877-MA ENROLL (1-877-623-7773) to learn more or enroll in a plan.





Starting April 1, 2023, MassHealth will begin the eligibility redetermination process, renewing all 2.3M members over the following 12 months. This will generally be the first-time members are at risk of losing their coverage since February 2020. In preparation for this effort, MassHealth has increased staffing significantly to handle a greater volume of calls and applications, improved our systems to automatically renew as many members' coverage as possible, and is working in close collaboration with health plans, providers, and other stakeholders. Even with this preparation, we understand that this may be difficult for members.

FROM THE PARENTS ASSOCIATION



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!

amazon



wishlist

help our teachers!

VIEW WISHLISTS

PA Meeting Schedule | 2022-2023 School Year

Below you will find the meeting dates for the 2022-2023 school year:

- September 21, 2022
- October 19, 2022
- November 16, 2022
- December 21, 2022
- January 18, 2023
- February 15, 2023
- March 15, 2023
- April 26, 2023
- **May 31, 2023 (Rescheduled from May 17)**
- June 14, 2023 (Transition Meeting)

Be on the lookout for upcoming volunteer opportunities. Information on the Back to School Picnic will be coming soon as well.

If you have any questions please feel free to reach out. Our website can be found [here](#).

Cindy Lyons
Parent Council Chair
Cindylyons1337@gmail.com

FROM THE HEALTH OFFICE

With spring upon us the health office wanted to send out some reminders.

- Caffeinated beverages are not allowed in the K through 8 building. This includes coffee, energy drinks and soda.
- Please make sure to check your students for ticks daily, although students are not allowed in the woods, ticks can travel.
- Sunscreen and bug spray can not be applied at school. Please apply bug spray or sunscreen before sending your student to school in the morning.
- Please send your students to school daily with a reusable water bottle.
- Level I students should have a complete change of clothes in their backpacks.

Please keep your students home if they have any off the following symptoms/illness

- Fever greater than 100.0
- Vomiting/diarrhea in last 24 hours
- Not able to manage cough/nasal congestion
- Test positive for COVID

When can my student return to school

- Fever free for 24 hours without medication (if you give Tylenol or Motrin in the morning, please keep student home from school)
- No vomiting/diarrhea for 24 hours
- Well enough to stay at school for the day

You can now access the 2023-2024 school calendar [here](#) and down below

under School Documents.

THIS WEEK | UP AND COMING

Tues-Fri	05/30- 06/02	Grade 2 EOM Presentations	
Wednesday	05/31	Level III Theater Presentation in the PE Space	4:30pm
Wednesday	05/31	Parents Association Meeting via Zoom	6:30pm
Friday	06/02	Professional Development Early Release	12:00pm
Friday	06/02	Class of 2023 Graduation Ceremony at 700 Longwater Drive	6:00pm
Monday	06/05	Move Up Monday	8:30am
Tuesday	06/06	High School Science MCAS	
Wednesday	06/07	High School Science MCAS	
Wednesday	06/07	Last Day for Kindergarten	

IMPORTANT LINKS

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

- [Back-to-School Information](#)
- [Food Services](#)
- [Health Office](#)
- [Massachusetts Department of Transitional Assistance](#)
- [Community Service](#)
- **Visit the [Parents Association Website](#)**

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.

School Documents:

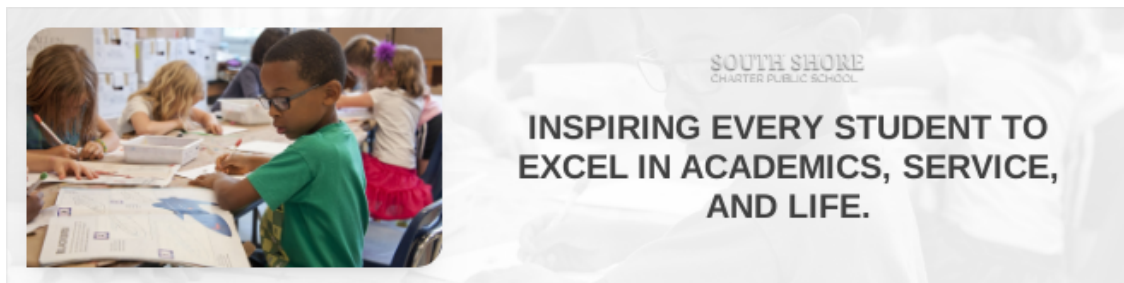
[2022-23 School Calendar](#)

[2023-2024 School Calendar](#)

[Student and Family Handbook](#)

[Arrival and Dismissal Procedures](#)

[SSCPS By-Laws](#)



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