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Weekly Update | November 30, 2022

Vol. 11. Issue 5



A Message from Angie

It's hard to believe that the month of November has come to a close and that the busy holiday season is upon us. We have had a wonderful fall complete with the return of many of our pre pandemic traditions. Earlier this week Storybook Cove delivered over 200 orders from our fall book fair. Kristen Gale, Reading Teacher and Literacy Coach, with the support of a wonderful team of parent volunteers, raised over \$1300 to support literacy initiatives through this fundraiser. More importantly, students were eager to talk about books and excited to read. We appreciate the strong family support of this year's book fair.

Moving into December we are looking forward to the many events that make the month a busy and joyful one for our students. More information about our [K-6 Craft Day](#), the Winter Concerts, and Student Awareness Day at the high school will be forthcoming. These events are important to building our community and were missed during the pandemic years when they were modified or skipped.

Our experiences during the pandemic really brought to light the importance of the nonacademic aspects of school life. School helps students develop academic skills but it is also vital in supporting the mental health of children and is the key place that social emotional learning takes place. The Collaborative for Academic, Social, and Emotional Learning ([CASEL](#)) defines SEL as "the process through which all young people and adults acquire and apply the knowledge, skills, and attitudes to develop healthy identities, manage emotions and achieve personal and collective goals, feel and show empathy for

others, establish and maintain supportive relationships, and make responsible and caring decisions.” Social and emotional learning (SEL) is an important part of educating the whole child and according to research, pays off in greater academic achievement, improvements in student behavior, and better mental health.



Students in Tracey's Pod participating in a PATHS lesson

While SSCPS has always integrated SEL with academic learning, last year we recognized a need for a new unified curriculum for students in grades K-8 and added the goal of implementing this new curriculum to our [School Improvement Plan](#). Our teachers worked to research the available options based on our needs and ultimately selected the [PATHS/Emozi](#) program. In August all K-8 classroom teachers participated in professional development to support program implementation. We adjusted the schedule across grades to give ample time to the lessons.

The PATHS/Emozi program supports the five distinct categories of social emotional learning:

- **Self Awareness:** the ability to understand and regulate your feelings and to know your personal strengths and weaknesses
- **Self Management:** the ability to control your behavior, to have integrity, and to act in alignment with your values
- **Social Awareness:** the ability to understand others and to have empathy
- **Relationship Management:** the ability to work with and get along well with others
- **Responsible Decision Making:** the ability to make good decisions and to effectively solve problems both alone and with others

The lessons present concepts and strategies within these categories through age-appropriate lessons that use children's literature, role plays, songs, and games. Each PATHS day, a student serves as PATHS Kid of the Day. This child may have some special privileges during the lesson such as starring in the role play, choosing a story, or pointing to the visuals. They also are showered with compliments by their classmates While the presentation of content progresses from grades K through eight, the language and many of

the strategies remain the same providing us with continuity as a school. While still in the early days of implementation, we are finding that our students are engaged in the lessons and are using the presented strategies both in the classroom and on the playground.



Thank you for your continued support as we work together to support both the social emotional and academic learning of all of our students. As always, please do not hesitate to reach out with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Angie Pepin
Principal, K-12

THIS WEEK IN PROJECTS & WORKSHOPS

CRICUT PROJECT

The Cricut Project is setting up a donation box for the American Red Cross in the front lobby at 100. You can donate used clothing and shoes that are in good condition. The donation box will be in the front lobby from 12/2/22 to 12/14/22.

CULTURAL DIVERSITY WORKSHOP

*Cultural Diversity Workshop
Fundraiser*

**HANDMADE
BEADED BRACELET
AND NECKLACES
FROM HAITI**



Bracelets \$5.00

Necklaces \$20.00



When: Tuesdays & Thursdays during Lunch

Where: In Great Room

Come Support the Children of Haiti!

UPCOMING EVENTS

SSCPS presents...

Winter Wonderland

Date: December 8, 2022
 Time: 7-10:30
 Location: Canoe Club Ballroom
 2 South St, West Bridgewater, MA
 02379



SSCPS High School Students
ONLY!!!

Unlimited Drinks | Delicious food | Great Music
 Most importantly... A great time!!!

DJ JUUKES
 insta @dj.juukes

\$40 entry
 Starting sales October 24th
 in the Great Room at lunch



MassHire South Shore Information



Have you ever considered a career in **Carpentry, Culinary and Entrepreneurship, HVAC, or Manufacturing?**

Free Classes Start February 13th!

Monday -Thursday 4-8pm

SOUTH SHORE Technical Institute

476 Webster Street,
Hanover, MA 02339

QUALIFICATIONS:

- Must be 18+ years old
 - Must have HS Diploma or equivalent
 - Unemployed/ Underemployed
 - Be able to commit to completion of program hours
- Actively recruiting Veterans & Military Personnel

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

Michael Santos, Upskilling Navigator
MassHire South Shore
MSantos@Masshires.com



Scan to apply!

Carpentry

This 220 hour introductory course is designed to prepare students for entry-level jobs in Carpentry. Students will have opportunities to learn residential, commercial, and industrial construction. This training will give proper use of hand tools and equipment, framing, small projects on a work site and so much more.

- OSHA 10
- Certified Lead Carpenter Credential

Culinary and Entrepreneurship

This 220 hour introductory course is designed to prepare students for the culinary arts industry with a dash of food truck entrepreneurship. The student will learn the art of culinary in a state of the art industrial kitchen and a new food trailer. This will allow the student to start with the essential skills needed for the culinary industry.

- OSHA 10
- Serve Safe
- Food Allergen Certified
- Food Truck Permitting

HVAC

This 220 hour introductory course is designed to prepare students for entry-level jobs in HVAC. Learn to install and service HVAC and refrigeration systems. After completing this course students will be able to torch, braze, and solder pipes and fittings to install or repair compressors, condensers, chillers, and pumps in a wide range of environments.

- OSHA 10
- EPA - 608

Manufacturing

This 220 hour introductory course is designed to prepare students for entry-level jobs in Manufacturing. The student will learn in a real machine shop environment that will provide essential skills to secure employment in one of the fastest growing industries in Massachusetts.

- OSHA 10
- MACWIC level -1



**Interested in working?
Need help getting started?**

MassHire South Shore Youth Services introduces

BOOST
Building Our Occupational Skills for Tomorrow







Participants receive:

- Individualized assessment & action plan
- Career readiness coaching
- Financial literacy workshop
- Nationally recognized industry credentials
- 80-hour paid internship

*Applicants must be 16-24 years old and meet eligibility requirements.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

Taylor Fry, Youth Career Counselor
MassHire South Shore
1515 Hancock St., Quincy MA
617-657-4973



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!



[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 17, 2023
- 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

COVID-19 tests were sent home the week before Thanksgiving. The Department of Elementary and Secondary Education has provided each student with a total of four COVID-19 tests to bring home. This is free of charge and you can use the tests at your discretion. This will be a onetime program that DESE is offering. You do not have to do anything to participate, but if you would like to opt out please send an email to jkjelgaard@sscps.org.

The health office will begin doing vision and hearing screens on students in 1st through 5th grade and also 7th graders. We will also begin doing height and weight screenings on 1st, 4th, 7th, and 10th graders. If you would like to opt your student out of the screenings please send an email to Jaime Kjelgaard, RN at jkjelgaard@sscps.org for 1st through 8th grade students or Barbara Folan, RN at bfolan@sscps.org for high school students.

All 4th, 7th and 11th graders should have a current physical (within the last 12 months) on file in the appropriate health office. All students playing sports must have a current physical in order to play.

From the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

Please see the [attached letter](#) from the Department of Public Health and the Massachusetts Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics about steps families can take to prevent illness and stay healthy this season.

You can also find the Spanish version [here](#). These letters will also be posted [online](#).



Massachusetts Chapter

INCORPORATED IN MASSACHUSETTS

American Academy of Pediatrics
DEDICATED TO THE HEALTH OF ALL CHILDREN

November 1, 2022

Dear Families,

The Commonwealth, the Northeast and much of the US are seeing increases in respiratory illness in infants and children. Some of these infants and children are requiring hospitalization for support with breathing and hydration. Emergency departments and other acute care health facilities have been managing significant increases in the number of patients requiring care.

Most of these illnesses are caused by respiratory viral infections, including common seasonal viruses like respiratory syncytial virus (RSV), rhinovirus and enterovirus, and influenza. Infants and children may be particularly susceptible to seasonal respiratory viral infections during the 2022-2023 fall and winter because they have had limited previous exposure to these respiratory viruses. We anticipate that there could be more respiratory illnesses as RSV continues to spread and influenza season ramps up.

The Department of Public Health and the Massachusetts Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics want to remind parents and families about steps to take to prevent illness and stay healthy this season:

1. **Vaccinate your children ages 6 months and older against influenza** as soon as possible.
2. **Vaccinate your children ages 6 months and older against COVID-19**; children 5 and older who had their primary series more than 2 months ago should receive an updated COVID-19 booster as soon as possible.
3. **Remember, you can get a COVID-19 vaccine and flu shot at the same time.**
4. **If your infant has been offered treatment with protective antibodies** due to their prematurity or another condition, keep on schedule with their monthly treatments.
5. **Practice hand hygiene** frequently with soap and water or hand sanitizer. **Cover coughs and sneezes** with a tissue, or if a tissue is not available, cover them with an elbow, not a hand.
6. **Clean high touch surfaces** in your home frequently with household disinfectants.
7. **Keep children home from daycare or school** who have fever, especially with a cough, difficulty breathing or shortness of breath, congestion, runny nose, or sore throat, until they are fever-free for 24 hours without medications that reduce fever.
8. **Avoid social gatherings if you or your children are ill.**
9. **Contact your pediatrician or healthcare provider if you believe your child needs medical care.** Your provider can offer advice on whether your child needs to be evaluated in person, tested for COVID or flu, and the best location (doctor's office, urgent care, emergency room) for care.

Thank you for doing all you can to keep you and your family healthy during this fall and winter season.

Dr. Estevan Garcia, Chief Medical Officer
Massachusetts Department of Public Health

Dr. Mary Beth Miotto, President
Massachusetts Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics

This Week | Up and Coming

Thursday	12/08	Board of Trustees	7:30pm
		Personnel	5:30pm
		Governance	6:00pm
		Finance	6:30pm
		Development	7:00pm
All meetings will be held at 700 Longwater Drive and via Zoom			
Friday	12/09	Parent / Teacher Conferences – No Classes for	

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](#)
- **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](#)

[Student and Family Handbook](#)

[Arrival and Dismissal Procedures](#)

[SSCPS By-Laws](#)



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www.sscps.org

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