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Weekly Update | October 19, 2022

Vol. 10. Issue 3

A Message from Angie

Last week we mailed MCAS results out to the families of returning students currently in grades four through eleven. Families that are new to our community can expect us to mail score reports as soon as we receive them from the previous school. In Spring 2022, students returned to taking a full MCAS in English Language Arts (ELA) and Math for grades 3-8 and 10 and in Science for grades 5, 8 and grade 9, after taking a modified MCAS in 2021 due to the pandemic.

Considering the impact of the pandemic on schools and student attendance, the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) correctly predicted there would be a state-wide impact on achievement levels due to the impact of the pandemic and the dramatic dip in student attendance. Our results as a school were similar to last year with areas of academic strength as well as areas for improvement. Our performance rates are similar to performance rates statewide. Taking a look at [Average Scaled Score](#), our school was slightly below the state in Mathematics grades 3 - 8 and 10, Science and Tech/Eng Grade 10, and in ELA Grade 10. SSCPS had a higher Average Scaled Score than the state for ELA Grades 3 - 8 and Science, Tech, and Engineering, Grades 5 and 8.

For each MCAS exam your child took in the spring you will see a score and an achievement level. Beginning in grade four, you will also find a Student Growth Percentile (SGP). The scaled score shows how much the student has achieved compared to the state's grade-level learning standards. The SGP shows how much the student grew compared to students with a similar assessment history using a percentile ranking. Last year the state used a different formula to measure growth due to the lack of MCAS data from the spring of 2020. This year's calculations use the traditional calculation and are true

percentiles. For example, a growth percentile of 53 means that the student scored higher than 53% of the students in the state with similar scores over the past two years. Because of the anomaly that was last year’s formula, this year’s growth scores cannot be compared to last year’s.

While the achievement score provides a snapshot compared to standards, the growth score allows us to evaluate the progress of students. It is particularly important as we work to recover learning loss resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic. The chart below provides a general guideline as you interpret your child’s Student Growth Percentile.

Student Growth Percentile (SGP) Range	Description
1-39	Lower Growth
40-60	Moderate Growth
61-99	Higher Growth

Translations of the Parent/Guardian report are available on the [Department of Elementary and Secondary Education](#) website.

I will be hosting a Principal’s Coffee via [Zoom](#) to discuss interpreting MCAS results and our plans to address areas of weakness on Thursday, October 27th at 8:30 am. I hope that many of you are able to attend. We will record the session for those of you who would like to view it at a later date.

The MCAS provides one data point as we look at student achievement. Other assessments such as DIBELS 8, the PSAT, iXL benchmark tests, shared formative assessments, and individual summative assessments provide additional data that teachers use to adjust the curriculum and to plan for both remediation and enrichment. Teachers are currently reviewing data to determine Focused Instructional Time (FIT) groups for quarter two and to create rosters for our tutoring programs.

In other testing news, students in grade 11 took the PSAT exam last Wednesday. In the spring our eighth, ninth, and tenth grade students will take the PSAT exam. This exam is excellent practice for

the SAT, the exam most students take prior to college entrance. The PSAT is in a similar format to the SAT and assesses the same reading, math, and writing skills. Students who take the PSAT score on average 189 points higher on the SAT than students who do not. In reporting test results, The College Board provides students with feedback on strengths, data on weaknesses, and targeted advice for improvement. An interactive score report with tools to help students explore majors and careers is available online to test takers. These tools can help students begin to compile a starter list of colleges and the PSAT opens the door to that conversation.

In grade 11 participation in the PSAT also enters students in the National Merit Scholarship Competition. This year the National Merit Scholarship Corporation has named one of our students a Commended Scholar based on his performance on the 2021 PSAT. This honor was only granted to approximately 34,000 of the over two million juniors who took the PSAT last fall. Commended Scholars fall within approximately the top two percent of test takers. I'd like to recognize **Tadhg Sullivan** for earning this distinction. Congratulations! While commended scholars do not go on in the National Merit competition, they do become candidates for scholarships awarded by corporations and private businesses. Tadhg, his family, and his teachers have a great deal to be proud of.

I look forward to meeting with families at next week's MCAS Coffee. As always, please do not hesitate to reach out with any questions or concerns.

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Angie Pepin
Principal, K-12



As we continue to celebrate and uplift all voices we want to celebrate LGBTQ History Month! I thought I'd share some [influential moments from LGBTQIA+ History](#) with our SSCPS community.

Throughout this celebration I hope we can collectively learn more about some fascinating and significant people and events. With this new found knowledge we hope to create action steps we can take as a community to provide continued support for all LGBTQIA+ members of our community.

We will always be stronger together.

Sheina Prince-Eugene (she/her/hers)
Reading Teacher & Civil Rights Coordinator

HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

September 15 - October 15



Hispanic Heritage Month 2 - Meet Digna

Greetings SSCPS Community,

As we come to the end of Hispanic Heritage Month, I've been reflecting on what this celebration has taught me. I have found that it has taught me about togetherness and recognition, and ultimately the potential of what we can do together when we take time to learn about each other and celebrate and uplift every voice.

We all have unique cultures and values- based on our country of origin, color of our skin, native language, religion, and so many other factors-however when we can celebrate all in one community we bring together what is different, celebrate it and follow a thread of inclusion for all.

Sheina Prince-Eugene (she/her/hers)
Reading Teacher & Civil Rights Coordinator

This Week in Projects and Workshops

Photography Workshop

The High School Photography Workshop experiments with different photographic techniques throughout the year. This past week we worked on forced perspective which is a technique that employs optical illusion to make an object appear farther away, closer, larger or smaller than it actually is.





"Doing the forced perspective project helped me learn more about the settings on a camera, especially about how the shutter speed works and how you can change it. I also feel like I learned about the importance of the placement of objects in a photo and how properly placing something and getting the right angle can completely change how a photo looks." - **Tyler MacDonald**

"What I learned from the forced perspective is that it's hard to get the right positioning. I expected it to be a lot easier than it actually was." - **Hannah Kallman**

SSCPS ATHLETICS

VOLLEYBALL

The girl's volleyball team won their game on October 12 against Boston Prep! Captains Raeven Charles and Aditi Suryawanshi are showing great leadership within their team. On

Monday, the team faced Foxborough and although they didn't come away with the win, they displayed tremendous progress from the last time we faced them at the beginning of the season.

One more chance to watch the volleyball team in actions before playoffs next week, TODAY at The Wolfe's Den (340 Oak St, Pembroke) vs. Codman. Match starts at 3:30.



SOCCER

The girl's soccer team won on October 13 against New Heights. It was a 4-0 game with goal scorers being Misha Attardo with a header and a regular shot, Followed by both captains Sarah Paul and Adanna Eze with one goal each. These goals were assisted by Ava Mathews and Adanna Eze.

The next day, the girls varsity soccer team won another game on October 14 against Brooke Charter School! It was a blowout! The score was 11-0 and goal scorers were: Ava Mathews with a hat trick, Leannedra Ellerbee with a hat trick, Muna Eze with two goals, and Misha Attardo, Sadie Grissom, and Paige Fama with one goal each.

On October 13, the boys soccer team brought home a win as well. It was a 2-1 game with goals being a penalty shot by captain JJ Facey, a goal from Amogh Athimamula with an assist by Tadhg Sullivan.

Great work, Jaguars!



IMPORTANT REMINDER

FRIDAY, OCT. 21ST

**EARLY DISMISSAL: 12PM
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

**FROM THE
PARENTS
ASSOCIATION**



Dear SSCPS Families,

The Special Election for your remaining open 2022-2023 Parents Association Officials is complete. Thank you to the 2 parents who decided to volunteer to run for a position. As always, results have been reviewed by a parent who was not running for a PA role.

We hope that we will see all of you at PA meetings and participating on one or more of next years committees.

SSCPS PARENTS ASSOCIATION ELECTION 2022-2023

The SSCPS Parent Association Election for 2022-2023 was held via electronic survey to fill all open positions. A total of 30 votes were cast.

Level I Representative (Grades 1 & 2): Jennifer Lawrence

The Grade 12 position is still open.

2022-2023 Parent Association

PARENT NAME	PARENT ASSOCIATION POSITION
Cindy Lyons	Chair
Alisha Uhlenbrock-Furst	Vice Chair
Katie Vecchione	Treasurer
Jennifer Lawrence	Secretary
Liz Sweeney	Kindergarten Rep
Jennifer Lawrence	Level I Rep (Grades 1 & 2)
Stephanie Innis	Level II Rep (Grades 3 & 4)
Andrea Poudrier	Level III Rep (Grades 5 & 6)
Katie Goldrick	Level IV Rep (Grades 7 & 8)
Jessica Barbour	Grade 9 Rep (Class of 2026)
Alisha Uhlenbrock-Furst	Grade 10 Rep (Class of 2025)
Eileen Lefsky	Grade 11 Rep (Class of 2024)
Vacant	Grade 12 Rep (Class of 2023)
Liz Sweeney	Community Building Chairperson
Mary Binda	Fundraising Chairperson
Patrick Angland	Technology Chairperson
Vanessa Fuentes	Diversity & Inclusion

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 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

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.

With the colder weather coming there has been an increase in illnesses at school. Please keep your child home if they are not feeling well. Students must stay home if they have a fever, vomiting/diarrhea, uncontrollable cough or runny nose or just not feeling well enough to stay at school for a full day.

Make sure you have emergency contacts listed (other than a parent). If your child needs to go home sick, please make sure to have a plan to have yourself or someone else pick them up within 30 minutes.

As a reminder, the students go outside in all kinds of weather unless below 20 degrees or heavy rain. It is important to have a change of clothes at school and come dressed in appropriate clothing for all weather.

This Week | Up and Coming

Wednesday	10/19	National Honor Society Induction Ceremony	6:00pm
Wednesday	10/19	Parents Association Meeting at 100 Longwater Circle and via Zoom	6:30pm
Thursday	10/20	Volunteer Training via Zoom	8:30am

Thursday	10/20	School Council Meeting via Zoom	4:30pm
Friday	10/21	Professional Development Early Release	12:00pm
Wednesday	10/26	Freshman Field Trip to Tree Top Adventures	
Thursday	10/27	Principal's MCAS Meeting via Zoom	8:30am

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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