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Weekly Update | September 28th, 2022

Vol. 9. Issue 4



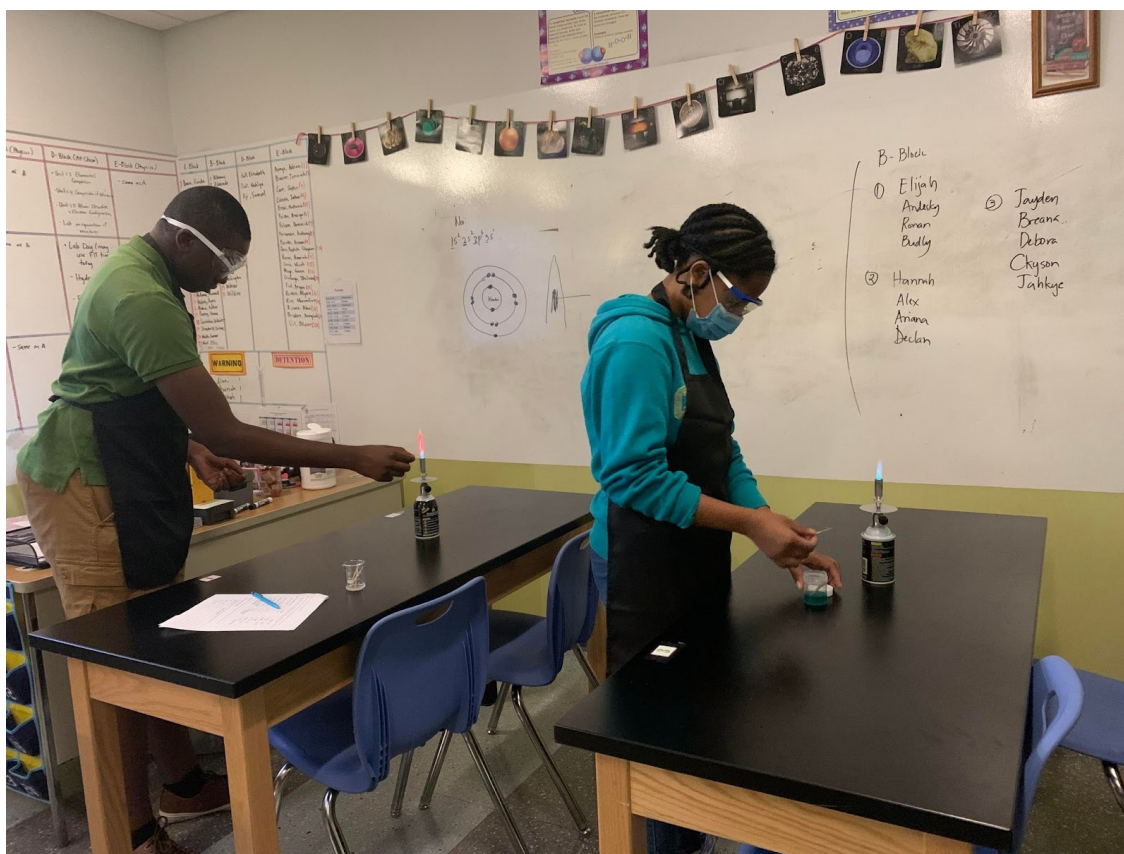
A Message from Jamie

A Focus on STEM

As we welcome a year of education free of the restrictions due to COVID, we have many exciting new happenings within our science department at SSCPS. Teachers have eagerly welcomed our students and have been preparing a new year of science curriculum enriched with opportunities to be

fully immersed in STEM. There are exciting new course happenings, additional FIT and Workshop opportunities, as well as changes to our high school scope and sequence.

The students in K-4 continue with teacher-developed lessons supplemented with hands-on activities and open and go lessons like that from Mystery Science. Our youngest students of the school on Level I continue to partake in the Farm Project. In middle school, we are piloting OpenSciEd. After this pilot year, we anticipate to be in a full roll out for grades 6-8. The mission of OpenSciEd is to support and power students to get excited and curious about the world around them and confident in their ability to figure it out through questioning, investigating, and solving problems. This aligns with the [MA Frameworks](#), as well as with the focus of our science department's instruction.



AP Chemistry students observe the behavior of electrons with a flame test.

Our science curriculum here at SSCPS fosters an environment in which we let our students tap into their inquisitive nature. Our goal is to provide opportunities for our students to grow and develop as young scientists, as well as to practice the fundamental skills that are essential to STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math). To adult supporters of students in the 6th and 7th

grade: please check out this [handout](#) containing information about supporting your student while they embark on the OpenSciEd journey.



Introductory Physics students get acquainted with designing their own experiment and making calculations using dimensional analysis by completing a lab to find not only the most absorbent brand, but the best value brand.

STEM education goes beyond the school subjects and what happens in the classroom. It fosters the development of a skill set that goes beyond our learning, and it governs the way we think and behave. STEM education, which encompasses science, technology, engineering, and mathematics, helps us to problem solve. STEM is not only important to our everyday lives, but it is also important for the future of our children in that the skills they will master along the way will make them more college and career ready. These experiences and skills are not just necessary in their education, but also in making them more prepared to face the problems of the world today.



Students carrying out a challenge in Level III STEAM FIT.

Each component of STEM is important to a well-rounded education and it brings certain value with it. Science provides us with an understanding of the world around us. It teaches us to be better at problem solving, research and critical thinking. Technology exposes us to innovations. Engineering enhances problem solving skills while also teaching us how to apply them. Math teaches us to analyze information, to deter from error, and to construct well-thought out solutions. STEM is our future as we look to solve the world's problems and transform society with innovation and creative solutions.



Level IV students working hard at testing their knowledge on forces by testing what will break an object.

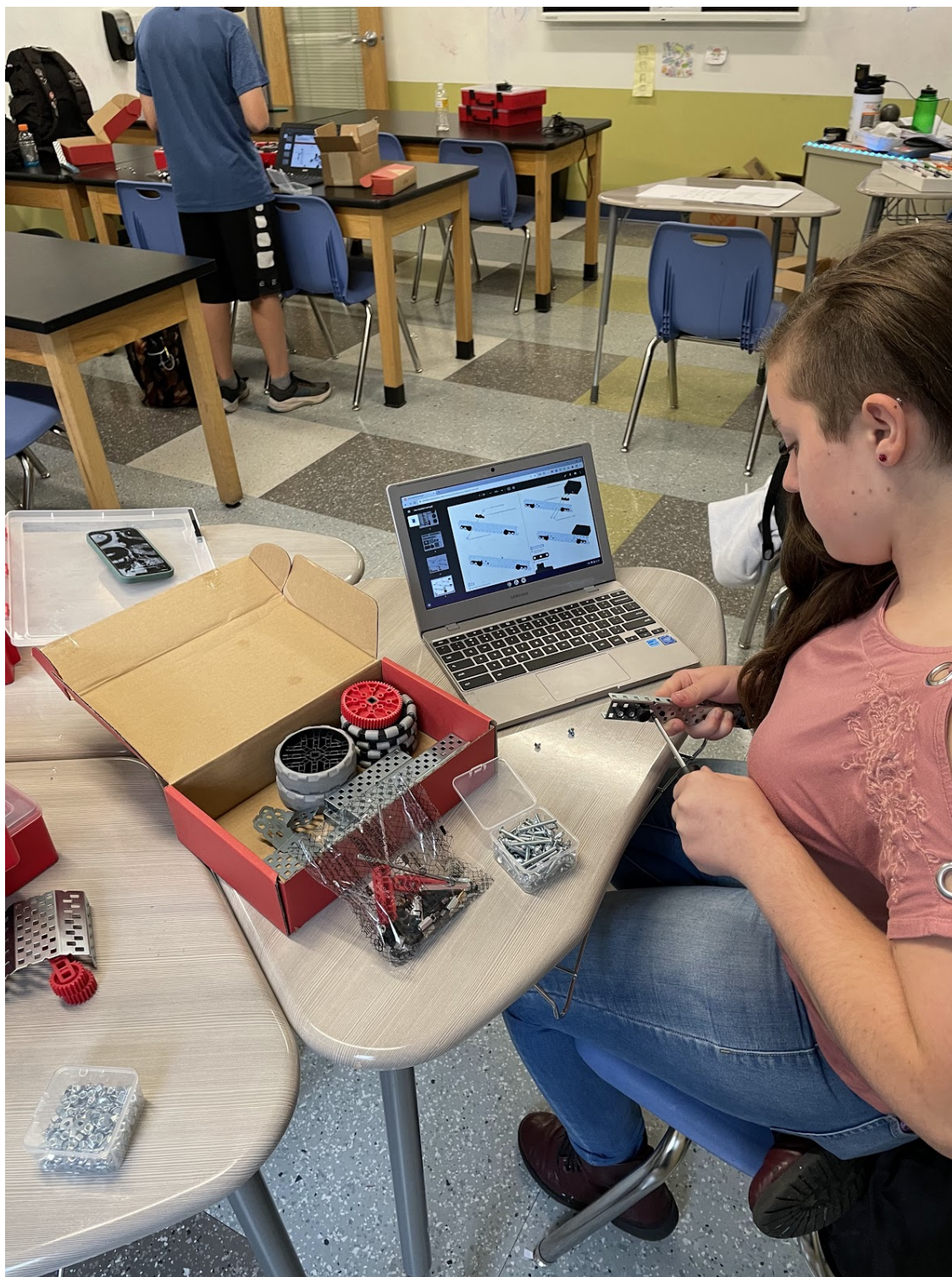
Encompassing the importance of STEM education, the students in the middle school will have the opportunity to explore many offerings during FIT and Project. We will continue to run Engineering and Coding FIT, as well as adding a new Naturalist FIT this year. Students will still have the opportunity to exercise their engineering skills and creativity with bridge building. New this

year on Level IV is a Coding Project. There are two 3-D printers on Levels III and IV and we can anticipate seeing student designed artifacts.



Physics in action! An outdoor lab investigating displacement, velocity and acceleration.

At the high school, we are “all in” for our Introductory Physics roll out. Our 9th and 10th grade students are all enrolled this year in an Introductory Physics course, and our teachers are collaboratively working to provide engaging lessons. In addition, we are using the new SAVVAS Experience Physics, which piggybacks on the student questioning that drives learning with OpenSciEd. Experience Physics allows students to learn and engage in physics through the understanding of phenomena. We have 28 students taking advantage of the MA DESE and VHS Learning STEM AP Access Expansion Opportunity. This grant is allowing our students to partake in VHS STEM AP courses that are not currently offered at our school for in person instruction. We have students enrolled in AP Physics 1, AP Computer Science Principles, and AP Environmental Science. The grant funds the VHS instruction, as well as provides needed lab kits and pays for the AP exam.



STEM in action as students assemble their Robots in the new Robotics Workshop.

Robots are here! Finally, one of the most exciting happenings as seen by the engagement of our students and their eagerness to continue working, is the new addition of the Robotics Workshop led by Karl and David. The new Robotics Workshop has received 10 VEX robotic kits. The students have formed small teams and have started building and coding their robots. Teams serve to accomplish three phases of robotics: construction, programming and

competition.

Each phase is geared towards the final competition. The competition consists of having robots complete a series of tasks autonomously (hands-off, robots follow the coded program) and piloted (controllers maneuver a playfield). The wonderful part about robotics is that it requires many skills, like programming, working on a team, solving complex problems, creative thinking, and active learning. These highly sought after skills are being used in many leading industries, like manufacturing, agriculture, healthcare, nuclear energy, and the military, just to name a few. The Robotics Workshop is giving our students a foot in the door for many exciting opportunities!



Robots! Assembly of the new VEX robots in the Robotic Workshop.

STEM Happenings

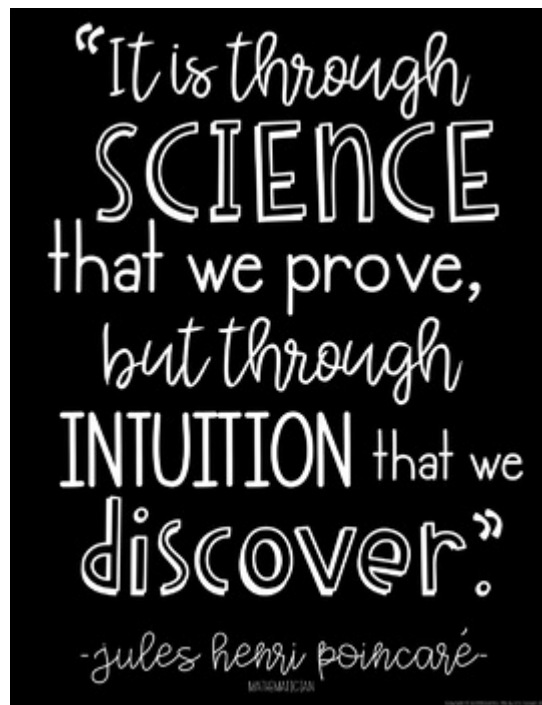
- This past Monday, Jupiter appeared the biggest and brightest it has been in 59 years.
- NASA is shoving an asteroid to [test planetary defense](#).
- Celebrate Computer Science by joining the Hour of Code (December 5-11).

- Check out [this](#) parent how-to page.
- Looking for engaging, science articles for all age groups? Check out [ScienceDaily](#).

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Jamie Allen

Science Curriculum Coordinator & HS Science Teacher



SSCPS HARVEST RUN 5K

COUNTDOWN

DAYS

3

HARVEST **RUN 5K**

REGISTER

@SSCHARTERPS

Only THREE more days until the 2022 Harvest Run!

Join us on Saturday, October 1st at Wompatuck State Park as we celebrate the return of our annual **Harvest Run 5K!** The Back to School Picnic, organized by the Parents Association, will also be held at the same time as the Harvest Run.

100% of the proceeds from the Harvest Run 5K will go toward the South Shore Charter Educational Foundation.

Click the image or the button below to register for the Harvest Run today!

REGISTER FOR THE HARVEST RUN

SENIOR TRIP | CAMP BURGESS



On Friday, September 23rd, the senior class participated in the annual Senior Trip to Camp Burgess.





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.

ATHLETIC UPDATES

Varsity Girls Volleyball

Gabby Louis was named "Player of the Game" by the APR coach with 23 serves and 12 aces. Co-Captain Raeven Charles was a powerhouse all over

the court and had an excellent serve delivering more than 10 points for the Jaguars. Senior Aimee Brennan had her season debut and made strong defensive plays in the back row. Both Amira Hamam and Jalysa Facey each had a kill in a pivotal moment of play. Lana Rockwell showed off her consistent serve and net skills during her time on the court.

The scores were as follows:

Set 1: 25-18 SSCPS

Set 2: 25-10 SSCPS

Set 3: 25-19 SSCPS

Tomorrow's home match, on Thursday the 29th, starts at 3:00 at The U Sports Complex in Hanover (637 Washington Street). Matches are typically an hour and half long. We hope to see you there!



UPCOMING EVENTS

Best Buddies | MA & RI

For the first time, Best Buddies MA & RI is partnering with organizations around the Greater Boston area to offer a series of resource fairs geared toward students and families of students approaching transition age. This is the perfect opportunity to explore all of the programs and resources offered through Best Buddies and other members of this wonderful community including PLAN, Special Olympics, Northeast Arc, and Cardinal Cushing Centers. We will be hosting one more resource fair, check out the details below.

South Shore Resource Fair:

When: Wednesday October 5, 4:00pm-6:00pm

Where: Cardinal Cushing Centers Café, [120 Columbia Road, Hanover, MA](#)

You will find more information about the event and can **RSVP here:**
[Greater Boston Resource Fairs - Best Buddies International](#)

Please do not hesitate to reach out with any questions about this event, and feel free to share this information with a friend. We hope to see you there!

**FROM THE
PARENTS
ASSOCIATION**



JOIN US!

SSCPS

Back-to-School

Family Day & 5K

Saturday, October 1st

Wompatuck State Park 9:00- 10:30am

5K Race

Tie-Dye a SSCPS shirt: \$10

School Spirit Signs: \$20

Face Painting

Snacks: \$1

And more!

Don't forget to bring cash!

VOLUNTEER AT THE HARVEST RUN



FROM THE PARENTS ASSOCIATION

**PA Nominations for 2022-2023
Self-nominating closes this Saturday 10/1**

We have a couple open positions on the PA – Level I Rep and Grade 12 Rep

If you are interested in running for a position, we invite you to self-nominate here:
https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/SSCPS_PA_Level-I_Special_Election

Thank you for your continued support of our children and their school. Questions can be sent to sscpspaelection@gmail.com, or you can contact any member of the PA.

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

This Week | Up and Coming

Wednesday	09/28	Junior Parent Night via Zoom	6:00-7:00pm
Thursday	09/29	Grade 8 (Optional) DC Trip Information Session	5:30-6:00pm
Thursday	09/29	Level III and Level IV Parent Back-to-School Night	6:00-7:30pm
Saturday	10/01	SSCPS Harvest Run 5K and Family Picnic at Wompatuck State Park, Hingham	9:00-10:30am
Monday	10/03	High School Parent Back-to-School Night	6:00-7:30pm

Monday	10/03	High School (Optional) DC Trip Information Session	7:30-8:00pm
Tuesday	10/04	Executive Committee Meeting	8:00am
Wednesday	10/05	Yom Kipper Observed – No School	

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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