

Weekly Update | January 17, 2024

Vol. 1 Issue 3

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A Message from Nora

"The aim of poetry and the poet is finally to be of service, to ply the effort of the individual into the larger work of the community as a whole" - Seamus Heaney

When mentioning poetry and the poet, Seamus Heaney also speaks of writing and the writer. Every student in our school is a writer so every student needs to be guided toward being the best writer they can be. With this in mind, today's update will focus on how we are employing our professional development time to build our student's writing potential.

Our teachers are sociable. They love to collaborate, to meet and go over goals, to discuss students, to share what is and isn't working in their classrooms, to ask questions, and offer solutions. But they're so busy every day they don't get as much time for this as they would like. Professional development is an opportunity to do just that: to learn, engage, practice, and share. This year, as the ELA Coordinator, I have been able to offer year long professional development on The Collins Writing Program to ELA and History teachers. The following is what we have been able to do and what we will continue working on until June:

Enhanced Teaching Skills

The Collins Writing Program focuses on providing educators with practical strategies to teach writing effectively. Professional development workshops offer faculty the opportunity to refine their teaching skills, incorporating research-based methods and best practices. This can lead to more engaging and impactful lessons. John Collins, the founder of the program, came to our school in December to teach model lessons in our classrooms. Teachers saw Collins Writing being taught by an expert. The model lessons were followed by a debrief that extended the learning for teachers.

Alignment with Educational Standards

The Collins Writing program is designed to align our educational standards, ensuring that teachers are equipped with the knowledge and tools necessary to meet curriculum requirements. Collins Writing helped faculty understand and implement these standards, contributing to a more cohesive and structured educational experience for our students with a shared vocabulary for writing instruction and practice.

Improved Student Writing Skills

As our faculty become more proficient in the Collins Writing program, they can better nurture and develop their students' writing skills. This can lead to improved writing proficiency across grade levels, positively impacting students' academic performance and preparing them for future educational, professional, and social challenges.

Consistent Instructional Practices

The Collins Writing Program promotes consistency in instructional practices among faculty members. When teachers across the school implement similar teaching strategies, it creates a unified learning experience for students. Consistency is key in reinforcing writing skills.

Individualized Instruction

The Collins Writing Program emphasizes differentiating instruction to meet the diverse needs of students. Through this professional development, teachers are learning how to tailor their writing instruction to address individual learning styles and abilities, fostering a more inclusive and supportive learning environment.

Data-Driven Decision Making

Teachers are learning how to assess student writing performance and use this data to tailor their teaching strategies, ensuring that they address specific areas of improvement for individual students and the class as a whole.

Increased Teacher Collaboration

Collins Writing encourages collaborative learning environments. The professional development sessions provide opportunities for teachers to collaborate, share insights, and brainstorm effective instructional approaches. This collaboration will lead to a more supportive and collegial faculty community.

Boosted Confidence and Job Satisfaction

We all need to feel we are being successful-teachers especially. As teachers chatted, collaborated and learned together during the professional development, I saw increased confidence in their ability to teach writing effectively. This boost in confidence can lead to higher job satisfaction, as educators see tangible improvements in their students' writing skills and overall academic success.

Positive Impact on School Culture

Students who can express ideas, concerns, attitudes, and troubles in writing are empowered. While our professional development focuses on teaching writing skills, the discernible influence it can have on our school culture should not be underestimated. Students with a sense of pride and accomplishment will always bring positive feelings to our school community.

Finally, as we work our way through this professional development we are providing our faculty with valuable tools and strategies to enhance their teaching skills, improve student outcomes, and contribute to a positive and dynamic learning environment. Allied to these goals is the important opportunity it gives our teachers to take a breath, learn new skills and enjoy the company of their colleagues.

Sincerely,

Nora Broderick

English Language Arts Coordinator, 5-12

Annual Family Survey

The SSCPS Annual Family Survey is a pivotal tool for strategic planning. Over the past four years we have experienced strong family participation in the survey, and we hope to achieve and surpass the high level of engagement this year. We are asking each SSCPS family to participate in the survey by reflecting on the first half of the academic year, as well as your overall SSCPS experience, to give us more insight during the strategic planning process.

Your feedback is invaluable as we strive for continuous improvement and work to provide the best possible educational experience for our students. Your input contributes significantly to maintaining a positive school culture and enriching student life, which are top priorities for our school. In addition to the strategic plan, data collected will be reviewed by the SSCPS Board of Trustees during the July meeting. During this meeting, the Board will assess key measures defining student achievement, institutional strength, and areas of growth. It is in this way that survey data collected will not only inform day-to-day enhancements, but will also play a crucial role in institutional planning for the future.

To ensure we capture diverse perspectives, we request the participation of every SSCPS family by Friday, March 1, 2024. Below please find links to the SSCPS 2024 Annual Family Survey. The survey should take approximately 15 minutes. We greatly appreciate your participation and commitment to the South Shore Charter Public School.

SSCPS 2024 Annual Family Survey

Fashion Show 2024



Congratulations to all of our student fashion designers and models for another terrific fashion show. This year's ensembles reflected months of hard work and creativity. Special thanks to MC Drew Farrar, and our judges Marianne Buckley Curran, Christine Bodnar, Jody Regan, and Frisk Lacorazza '23, the students in Patrizio Trivellini's Music Production Workshop who developed the soundtrack, and of course, congratulations to Sarah Gavin, Dan Vasconcellos, and all of our Art Workshop students for their outstanding work.















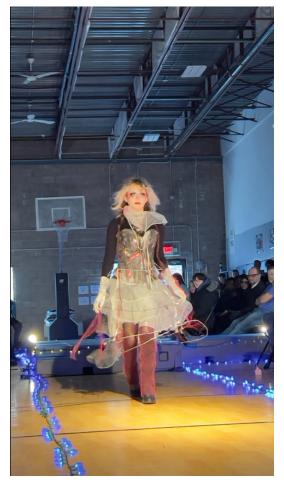






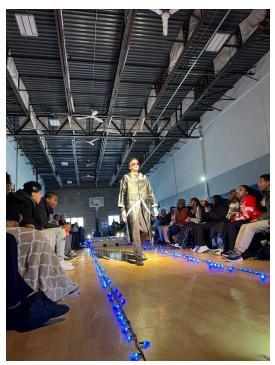






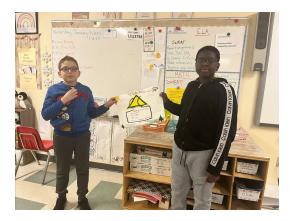






On the Levels

Level II





Students brainstormed and came up with a business. Using a business model, they designed a business and advertisement and then "pitched" their business!





Athletics and Extracurricular Activities

Come cheer on the Jaguars at their upcoming games:

Wednesday | January 17, 2024

Varsity Girls Basketball v. Argosy Charter (Away) 3:30 - 5:00 pm Argosy Collegiate High School

Varsity Boys Basketball v. Argosy Charter (Away) 5:00 - 6:30 pm Argosy Collegiate High School

Thursday | January 18, 2024

JV Boys Basketball v. Grace Baptist Academy (Away) 4:30 - 6:00 pm @Mass Premier Courts



Afterschool Enrichment Program - Session II is here!

Levels II and III

SSCPS AFTERSCHOOL ENRICHMENT PROGRAM



SESSION 2 JANUARY 22 – MARCH 8, 2024

GRADES 3-6 MONDAY AND WEDNESDAY TIME: 3:15 - 4: 15 PM

MONDAY

- SPORTS AND PLAYTIME CLUB
- CRAFTY CHEMISTS CLUB
- . CLAY AND MIXED-MEDIA
- SCRAPBOOKING
- THEATRE CLUB
- · CULTURA Y MÚSICA -

SPANISH LANGUAGE ENRICHMENT THROUGH CU

WEDNESDAY

- COMICS CLUB
- THEATRE CLUB
- WEB WARRIORS: CODING AND LOGIC GAMES CLUB
- SPORTS AND PLAYTIME CLUB
- PAINTING PIONEERS CLUB
- CHEMICAL CREATIONS CLUB
- CREATIVE CHRONICLES BOOK CLUB



CONTACT NADEEN SULLIVAN PHONE: 781-982-4202 EXT. 356 EMAIL: NSULLIVAN@SSCPS.ORG

Dear Families,

We are pleased to announce that registration for Session II of our Afterschool Enrichment Program is now open. Please review our Club Descriptions here and complete the Registration form here. Registration closes on January 12th. We look forward to another great session of learning, adventure and fun! Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Warm regards,

Nadeen Sullivan

Afterschool Enrichment Program Coordinator

What's New in Projects and Workshops

High School: School Store Workshop

Check out the School Apparel website, created by the High School School Store Workshop!

SSCPS SCHOOL APPAREL

Community Service

Attention Students and Families

Got some community service hours done?

Use the links below to submit your community service hours!

LEVEL I COMMUNITY SERVICE LEVEL II COMMUNITY SERVICE

LEVEL III COMMUNITY SERVICE LEVEL IV COMMUNITY SERVICE

HIGH SCHOOL COMMUNITY SERVICE

Upcoming Events



We're thrilled to introduce the English
Learner Parent Advisory Committee
(ELPAC) at SSCPS, an essential
platform for your active engagement in
shaping our English learner students'
educational experiences.

Purpose: The ELPAC serves as an advisory body, offering crucial insights and perspectives to enhance programs and strategies for our English learner students.

JOIN US

Jan. 23, 2024 | 11:30 am

Zoom

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

Sprince@sscps.org

Mtondorf@sscps.org

Strategic Planning Family Focus Groups Save the Date!

Location	Date
Brockton Public Library Main Street	February 6, 2024 6:00 pm
Brockton Library West Library	February 15, 2024 6:00 pm
Tufts Library Weymouth	February 27, 2024 6:00 pm
Randolph Library	February 28, 2024 6:00 pm
Thomas Crane Public Library Quincy	February 29, 2024 6:00 pm
Zoom (2)	February 26, 2024 6:30 pm March 1, 2024 12:30 pm
South Shore Charter Public School 700 Longwater Drive, Norwell	January 30, 2024 8:30 am February 1, 2024 6:00 pm

Do you know someone who should register for Talk To Us Tuesday?

Share with a friend who wants to become a part of the SSCPS community by taking part in our campus tours starting next month.

Visit us for our upcoming "Talk To Us Tuesday" tours to explore the Norwell campus, meet students and teachers, and learn about our unique educational model!

Tours will be 15 minutes long in time slots from 9:00-10:00am, and will be held on the following dates:

- Tuesday, January 9
- Tuesday, January 16
- Tuesday, February 6
- Tuesday, February 13

Click the registration links below to sign up!

K-8 SIGN-UP

9-12 SIGN-UP

Parents Association and SEPAC

Lost & Found

Last year we donated over 15 industrial sized trash bags full of Lost & Found items. We know that both students and parents alike spent far too many hours searching for those items before accepting they were gone for good.

We are going to try something slightly different this year. As in past years Lost & Found items will be folded, displayed in hallways at 100 Longwater, and photos will be posted in two parent-run Facebook groups including the **SSCPS Parent/Guardian Information** site.

The major change this year is we will follow a schedule for display/donations:

February

Week of 2/5 - Fold/pic

2/13 - Donate

April

Week of 4/1 - Fold/pic

4/9 - Donate

May/June

Week of 5/28 - Fold/pic (if needed)

6/4 - Donate

Help your students (and your wallets!)

LOST & FOUND

LABEL everything that comes to school. We check all clothing for names before donating and 95% of the time there is no name.

OFFER encouragement to your children to keep track of their items.

SAVE your sanity.

TEACH your child/ren that while it is great to donate their used coats, they may want to hold onto it for at least one season.

FOLLOW the FB sites to see pics of lost items.

UNDERSTAND the program is run by volunteers and dates are subject to change.

From the Health Office

Flu Season

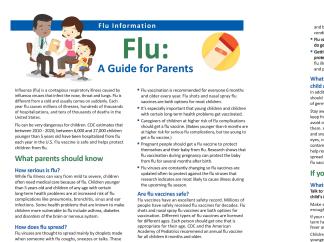
Dear Families,

This flu season is shaping up to be challenging. Like many schools, we are seeing an increased number of cases.

Below are a few reminders about our policies regarding viruses. Please follow these guidelines to help limit the transmission of illness.

- Students must stay home with any vomiting or diarrhea. They may return to school once symptom-free for 24 hours.
- Students must stay home if they have a fever >100. They may return to school
 when fever free for 24 hours without fever reducing medication like
 Tylenol/ibuprofen.
- Students should stay home with severe cold symptoms/cough.

Below please find some information from the <u>Centers for Disease Control regarding the flu virus</u>. Please reach out to either of the nurses with questions. Thank you for your help in keeping everyone in our building healthy!



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In January the health office will be starting required screenings. The health office will be doing height and weight screenings and hearing and vision screenings depending on the students grade level. If you would like to opt out of any of these screenings please send

What are flu symptoms?
Flu symptoms can include fever, cough, sore throat, runny or stuffy nose, body aches, headache, chills, feeling tired and sometimes vomiting and diarrhea (more common in children than adults). Some people with flu will not have a

Protect your child

How can I protect my child from flu?

The first and best way to protect against flu is to yearly flu vaccine for yourself and your child.

and email to **jkjelgaard@sscps.org** (K-8th) or **Bfolan@sscps.org** (high school). If you have any questions please do not hesitate to reach out.

Students on Level I should have a spare set of clothes being left at school. Students go outside in almost all weather. Please make sure your students clothing is weather appropriate.

If your student is sick we ask that you keep them home from school. Absences with a doctor's note will be excused absences. Your student is required to stay home in the following situations:

- **Fever**. Students may return to school once fever has resolved for 24 hours without any medications.
- **Vomiting or diarrhea**. Students may return to school once vomiting or diarrhea has resolved for 24 hours.
- Contagious illnesses (such as strep or conjunctivitis). Students may return after starting antibiotics for 24 hours and remain fever free for 24 hours.
- Positive for COVID-19. Please contact your school nurse to determine when your student can return.

Students who develop any of these symptoms during the school day will need to be picked up promptly.

Special Announcements



Holly Hill Farm - Winter 2024 Educational Enrichment Sessions

Ages 3-12





School Picture Orders

Don't Forget to Order This Year's School Pictures

ENJOY 10% OFF your order!

CODE: F2023100FF

EXPIRES: May 1, 2024

Redeem Now

To order, log in to your account on <u>mylifetouch.com</u> or create an account using your student's school ID number. Don't forget to order your FREE Digital SmileSafe card!

More about the Smilesafe program here.

From the Foundation

SUPPORTING SSCPS The Annual Fund



JANUARY FUNDRAISING

PROJECTS & WORKSHOPS

During the month of January, the South Shore Charter Educational Foundation will be raising funds toward the Projects and Workshops at SSCPS. We invite you once again to support our students and staff by investing in our unique educational model. Your contribution, no matter the size, propels us closer to our goal and ensures that these crucial teaching programs continue to flourish at SSCPS.

DONATE TODAY!

Weekly Calendar

Friday 01/19	Level IV Students vs Teachers Dodgeball Community		
	-,-,	Event	
Friday	01/19	High School Technology Workshop Field Trip to Ryan's	
Tuesday	01/23	Quarter 2 Ends for Grades 5-12	
Tuesday	01/23	English Learner Parent Advisory Council via Zoom	11:30am

Wednesday	01/24	Midyear Exams for Grades 7-12	
Wednesday	01/24	High School Mock Trial to Hingham Courthouse	
Thursday	01/25	Midyear Exams for Grades 7-12	
Friday	01/26	Midyear Exams for Grades 7-12	

Important Links

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

- Afterschool Enrichment Program
- DESE Student Attendance Letter Translated:
 <u>Arabic</u>, <u>Cape Verdean Creole</u>, <u>Chinese</u>, <u>Haitian</u>
 <u>Creole</u>, <u>Portuguese</u>, <u>Spanish</u>, <u>Vietnamese</u>
- 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:

2023-2024 School
Calendar
Student and Family
Handbook
Arrival and Dismissal
Procedures
SSCPS By-Laws



SOUTH SHORE

INSPIRING EVERY STUDENT TO EXCEL IN ACADEMICS, SERVICE, AND LIFE.











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