



**Weekly Update | June 5, 2024**

**Vol. 6 Issue 1**



### **Celebrating Pride Month at South Shore Charter Public School**

June is Pride Month, a time to celebrate individuality, diversity, and the LGBTQ+ community. At South Shore Charter Public School, we are committed to creating an inclusive and welcoming environment for all students, staff, and families. Throughout the month, we will be honoring the contributions and history of the LGBTQ+ community. Join us in celebrating the values of acceptance, understanding, and unity. Let's continue to foster a school culture where everyone feels seen, valued and heard. Happy Pride Month!

**Sheina Prince-Eugene**  
**Reading Teacher & Civil Rights Coordinator**

[View this email in your browser](#)

## Table of Contents:

- [A Message from Angie](#)
- [Fraternity of 13](#)
- [Important Save the Date! High School Commencement and Elementary/Middle School Awards Ceremonies](#)
- [From the Health Office](#)
- [On the Levels](#)
- [From the Counseling Department](#)
- [Athletics and Extracurricular Activities](#)
- [What's New in Projects and Workshops](#)
- [Upcoming Events](#)
- [Community Service](#)
- [From the Foundation](#)
- [Parents Association, ELPAC, SEPAC](#)
- [Special Announcements](#)
- [Weekly Calendar](#)
- [Community Events](#)
- [Important Links](#)

## A Message from Angie

We are eager to celebrate our newest class of graduates at the 29th Commencement Exercises of the South Shore Charter Public School this Friday night. Graduation at South Shore Charter Public School truly is a celebration of our entire community and it is the culmination of many years of hard work on the part of students, families, and teachers. The end of the year is full of exciting events and milestones for our students but commencement is what all of us, K-12, are ultimately working toward. I would like to congratulate our soon to be graduates, their families, and all of the teachers who have supported them throughout their K-12 academic careers. Space is limited so only registered guests will be admitted. The event will be livestreamed so everyone will be able to watch through a YouTube stream that can be accessed [here](#).

For the first time, this year's graduation will take place away from our campus in the ballroom of the Campus Center at UMass Boston. The move to this location is a year in the making as members of the Class of 2024 began to research possible venues last June. The impetus to move graduation indoors was strong for these students as many were

instrumental in the cleanup efforts last year, wiping rainwater off of chairs when a powerful thunderstorm cut the ceremony short. This week we are able to concentrate on the many ways we are celebrating our Seniors and are not religiously following Friday's weather forecast.

The students in this class are motivated, driven, and they get things done. They didn't just talk about moving graduation, they researched venues, priced out options, and set up meetings. This was their approach to their entire high school experience and thanks to the efforts of our Senior class many new events and initiatives have become part of the fabric of our community. This class approached academics with the same level of commitment and has an impressive list of college acceptances to prove it. We are incredibly proud of every member of the class of 2024; they left an indelible mark on our school and have set the bar high for students to come. We anxiously await news of their future successes and they begin the next stage of their lives.

Today is a packed day for our Seniors. This morning they began their day with Senior Breakfast. They then donned their caps and gowns for our annual Grad Walk, beginning at the high school where they were cheered on by the underclassman and then walking across the street to walk through our K-8 student body. The Grad Walk is much anticipated by twelfth graders and K-8 students alike. For the students at 100 the event provides a visual reminder of what they are working towards and for our Seniors it is a recognition of how far they have come.

Our Seniors then returned to the high school for graduation rehearsal followed by a showcase of their Senior Projects. The showcase provided them with the opportunity to share the internship experiences with the faculty and to show underclassmen what the possibilities are as they think ahead to their own internships. Finally, tonight, we will celebrate the Class of 2024 at our first Senior Dinner since 2019. This pandemic put this long standing SSCPS tradition on hiatus as we experimented with different formats. We are eager for the return of this opportunity to showcase the many accomplishments of the graduating class.

Seniors are not the only ones on the move. In a few short days we will say goodbye to this school year and transition to summer. I hope that you take this opportunity to unwind, create lasting memories, and embrace the joys of quality time with your loved ones. It is our hope that this season provides a chance for everyone to recharge and replenish their spirits. Thank you for your support of our students and our school this year.

Sincerely,

**Angie Pepin**

Principal, K-12

## Fraternity of 13



In keeping with our school tradition, at graduation we will be acknowledging the students who have attended South Shore Charter Public School starting in kindergarten through grade twelve by inducting them into the Fraternity of 13 at graduation. Thank you for your commitment to SSCPS!

**Austin (AJ) Anagnos**

**Brianna Belizaire**

**Fabrice Belizaire**

**Richard Deibel, III**

**Paige Fama**

**Abygale Gorman**

**Chase LaRue**

**Ethan Lee**

**Tyler MacDonald**

**Samuel Oji**

**Mikaylah Pamphile**



**Adria Sunnerberg**

**Olivier Val**



# **IMPORTANT REMINDER**

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**FRIDAY, JUNE 7th**

**EARLY DISMISSAL  
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT DAY**

**Important Save the Date! High School  
Commencement and Elementary/Middle School  
Awards Ceremonies**

Event	Date	Time	Location
Class of 2024 Graduation	Friday, June 7th	6:00 pm	UMass Boston Campus Center Ballroom
Level IV (8th grade) Awards Ceremony	Monday, June 17th	10:00 am	PE Space, 104 Longwater Drive
Level II (4th grade) Awards Ceremony	Thursday, June 13th	Nicole's Pod and Jenn's Pod 9:00 am  Kelsey/Drew's Pod and Mariah's Pod 12:30 pm	PE Space, 104 Longwater Drive

The countdown to graduation, the most important event of the school year, is on. We look forward to celebrating student learning and growth not just at graduation but throughout the building and for all of our students. SSCPS has traditional special events that mark significant student transition points with ceremonies and we encourage families to attend these events to celebrate with us. Please mark your calendars with the dates for the following school celebrations of student achievement. Further details about these events will be forthcoming.

## From the Health Office

### Health Office Update

Medication pick up for grades 1st through 8th grade will be at drop off and dismissal on Thursday, June 13th, Friday, June 14th and Monday, June 17th. If these times do not work for you, please email [jkjelgaard@sscps.org](mailto:jkjelgaard@sscps.org) to arrange another time for pick up. Please remember that an adult needs to pick up the medication and it can not be sent home with students on the bus. Any medication that is not picked up by the end of the school year will be properly disposed of.

If your student is attending a summer program please reach out to the health office.

In compliance with the regulations of the Massachusetts Department of Public Health all students entering Kindergarten, 4th, 7th and 10th grade for the 2024/2025 school year are required to submit a current physical form. A physical form and a copy of immunization records is required for all new students. Any student planning on participating in a sports program must have a current physical (within 13 months of the start of the sport).

Please submit physical forms to:

K-8th Jaime Kjelgaard, RN

[jkjelgaard@sscps.org](mailto:jkjelgaard@sscps.org)

High School- Barbara Folan, RN

[bfolan@sscps.org](mailto:bfolan@sscps.org)

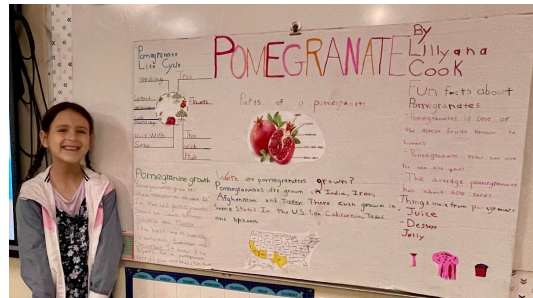
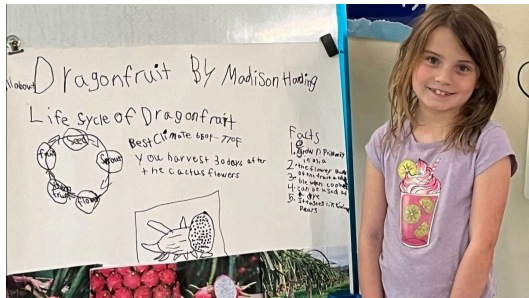
SSCPS Fax number: 781-982-4201

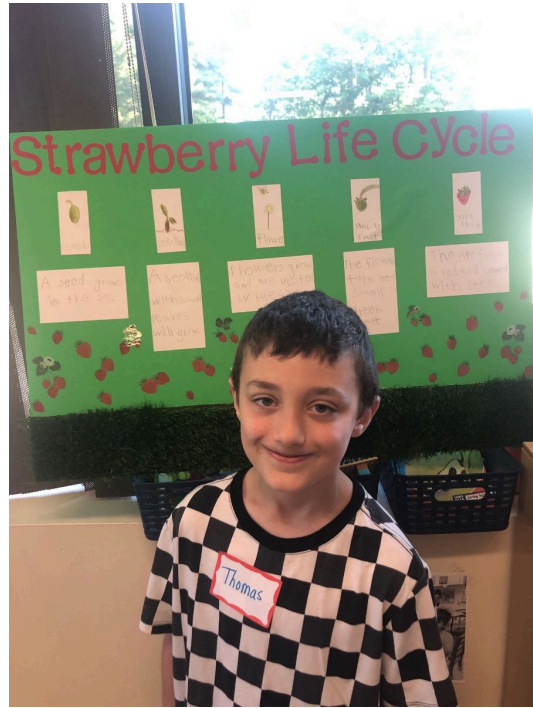
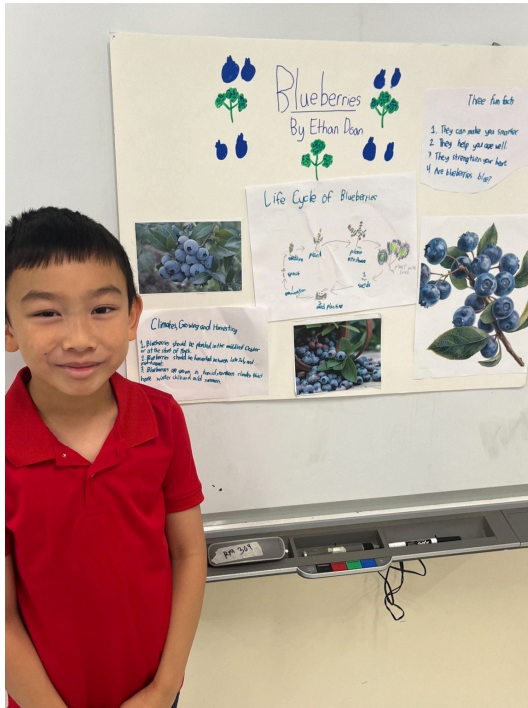
## On the Levels

### Level I

Crystal, Deana, June and Jessica's First Grade Classes presented their Second Exhibition of Mastery. Based on First Grade Science Standards students researched and presented four main components of a chosen fruit or vegetable.

1. The life cycle of the fruit/vegetable
2. Parts of the fruit/vegetable
3. Months and climate in which seeds should be sown and harvested
4. Common food uses





## Best Buddies Outing

## MaxCourage Writing Awards

Our school's award-winning writers: Mukti Shah, Elisha Pierresaint, Holly Newell, and Sylvia Everson ( 6th and 8th graders ) attended a luncheon with their teachers, Katie Curry and Laura Bosse, on May 23rd in Boston to celebrate their writing achievements.

Their essays on personal acts of courage were published in ***The Courage of Children: Boston and Beyond, Volume XXX111***





Our school submitted essays from students on levels III and IV as part of the ELA Department's participation in the MaxCourage curriculum.

Each student, accompanied by their teacher, received a medal and certificate to mark their achievement. We are all immensely proud of our students and the tremendous instruction and guidance they have received from Laura and Katie.

Here is a brief description of the MaxCourage mission:



The mission of MAXCourage is to empower students to discover the value of courage and develop English Language Arts (ELA) proficiency. The program, through its mission, helps students recognize their capacity to address the troubling complexities of their world by exploring the concept of courage in literature, in their own lives, and in the broader community. At the same time, this SEL approach strengthens their literacy skills. MAXCourage's overarching vision is to provide a model ELA curriculum which empowers students to learn about and continue to exhibit courage in their lives, and which inspires others to make bolder and more courageous choices.

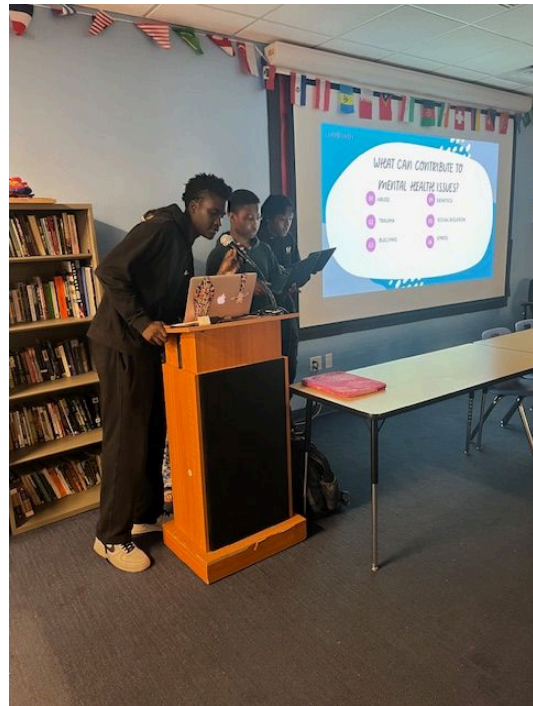
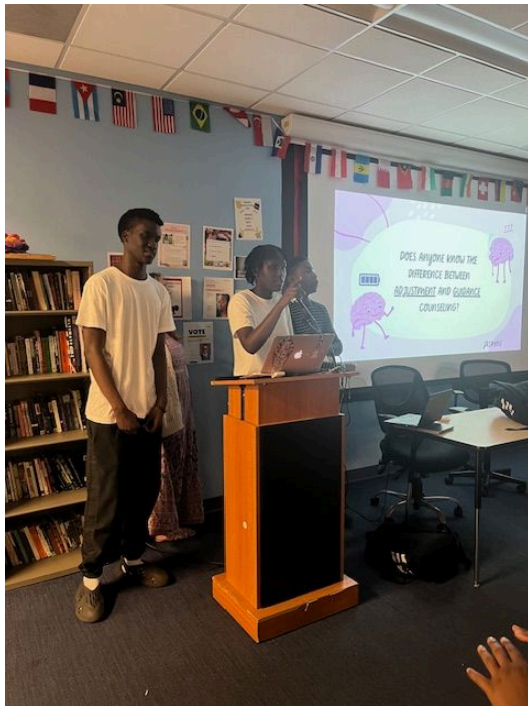
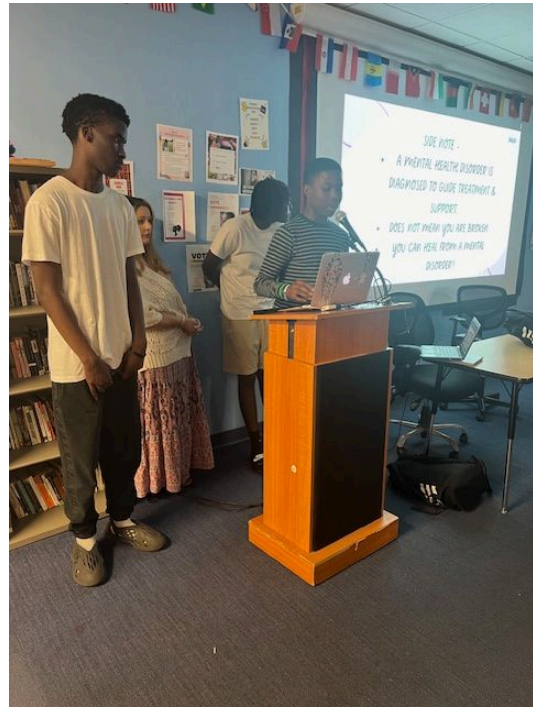
## From the Counseling Department

### Recap of Mental Health Awareness Month Initiative

As we conclude Mental Health Awareness Month, we are excited to share the success of our high school's initiatives aimed at promoting mental health awareness and support. Our collective efforts have made a significant impact, fostering a supportive and informed community.

#### **Student-Led Mental Health Seminars**

One of the highlights of the month was the Student-Led Mental Health Seminars. David Anyanwu (Gr. 9), Jasmine Bacha (Gr. 9), and Karlvin Dorvil (Gr. 10) took the lead in organizing and presenting these seminars, sharing their experiences, and providing valuable insights. These seminars were designed to spread awareness about mental health and to destigmatize seeking support for mental health-related issues. The Mental Health Seminars received an overwhelmingly positive response, with many students expressing that they felt more comfortable discussing mental health openly. The participation and engagement from both students and staff were truly inspiring.



### Green Out Day on May 29th

On May 29th, we hosted a Green Out Day, encouraging all staff and students to wear green in support of mental health awareness. The halls were filled with a vibrant sea of green, symbolizing our commitment to supporting mental health initiatives. This day served as a powerful visual reminder of the importance of mental health and the solidarity within our school community. The enthusiasm and participation were fantastic, making Green Out Day a memorable event.





**Mental Health Bulletin Board**

Our counseling department intern, Margaret Benette, played a crucial role this month by creating a comprehensive Mental Health Bulletin Board. This board provides a wealth of

resources and information about mental health support available in our area. It includes contact details for local mental health services, tips for managing stress, and information on how to seek help. The bulletin board has been well-received, serving as a valuable resource for students and staff alike.

### **Moving Forward**

As we reflect on the past month, it is clear that our initiatives have made a meaningful impact. The success of the Student-Led Mental Health Seminars, the visible support on Green Out Day, and the informative Mental Health Bulletin Board all contribute to a more aware and supportive school environment. We are committed to continuing these efforts and ensuring that mental health remains a priority throughout the year.

Thank you to everyone who participated and supported these initiatives. Together, we are making a difference and fostering a community where mental health is recognized, supported, and valued.

To continue to spread awareness and support for our student body, we have compiled a comprehensive list of local counseling agencies and mental health resources. These organizations offer a wide range of services, including family counseling, individual therapy, crisis intervention, and support groups. We encourage you to reach out to these resources to find additional support tailored to your family's needs.

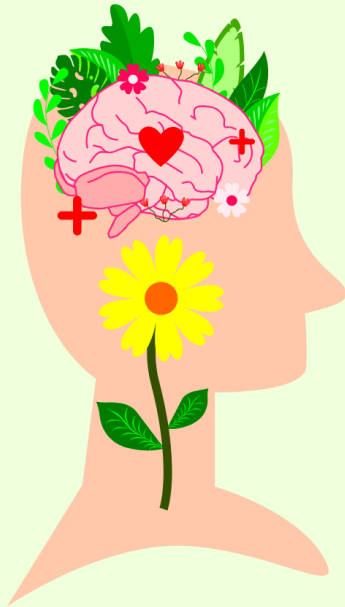
Please find enclosed a flyer detailing these local agencies and resources for mental health support. We hope this information will be valuable as you continue to advocate for your child's mental health.

Stay well,

**SSCPS Counseling Department**

# TAKING CARE OF YOUR CHILD'S MENTAL HEALTH

RESOURCES FOR COUNSELING SERVICES



## LOOKING FOR A THERAPIST?

- Arbour Counseling Services  
**855-575-2273 (CARE)**
- William James Interface  
**888-244-6843**  
[interface.williamjames.edu](http://interface.williamjames.edu)
- South Shore Coalition of Independent Therapists  
**SSCIT.ORG**
- Psychology Today  
[www.psychologytoday.com](http://www.psychologytoday.com)
- Therapy for Black Girls Directory  
[therapyforblackgirls.com](http://therapyforblackgirls.com)
- Bay State Counseling  
**(617) 471-8400**  
[www.baystatecs.org](http://www.baystatecs.org)

## Local Mental Health Resource Centers

National Alliance On Mental Health  
(NAMI)  
617-580-8541  
[INFO@NAMIMASS.ORG](mailto:INFO@NAMIMASS.ORG)

Family Resource Center  
[WWW.FRCMA.ORG](http://WWW.FRCMA.ORG)  
Aspire Health Alliance  
[www.aspirehealthalliance.org](http://www.aspirehealthalliance.org)

## Athletics and Extracurricular Activities

### Afterschool Enrichment Program

Available for students in Levels II, III, IV

Dear Families,



As we come to the conclusion of our afterschool enrichment program, we wish to thank you for your support and commitment to the program. Entrusting us with your students has been a privilege and we've been deeply moved by the enthusiasm and curiosity each participant has brought to the learning spaces. We're thrilled to have seen the growth, creativity and the formation of new friendships that have blossomed throughout the three sessions. We hope to see this program grow for the betterment of all of our students.

Please take some time to complete a short [survey](#) that will inform the development of this program.

Very Best,

**Nadeen Sullivan**  
**Afterschool Enrichment 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](#)

## Upcoming Events



**STRATEGIC PLANNING FAMILY COFFEE**

**06.06.24 • 8:30-9:30 AM**

700 Longwater Drive (Business Office Entrance)

The SSCPS Strategic Planning Committee invites all SSCPS families to a Strategic Planning Family Coffee this **Thursday, June 6th!** We will be reviewing the new SSCPS Strategic Plan and welcome your thoughts about the plan, our next steps, and the future of SSCPS. We look forward to seeing you there!

## Community Service

### Father Bill's Shelter

Jenn's 4th grade class packed lunches for Father Bill's Shelter on Friday 5/31. The students brought in and sorted food donations, made the sandwiches, and packed the lunch bags.





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## Interfaith Social Services

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### 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](#)

### From the Foundation

**We encourage all to participate in our Annual Fund Giving Campaign by donating through the form below. We appreciate your continued support!**

**Donate Here**

## Parents Association, ELPAC, SEPAC



**Voting Closes on Sunday June 9th @Noon Parents Association Election for 2024/2025 School Year!**

Please vote here: [SSCPS PA Elections Spring 2024](#)

The 2024/2025 PA elections ballot is live and ALL PARENTS AND GUARDIANS ARE INVITED TO VOTE. The newly elected officers will be announced at the June 11th PA meeting. Please cast your vote today for all PA elected positions.

As your appointed Election Team, we are committed to ensuring the process is efficient, fair, and accessible to all parents.

- Only one vote per parent/guardian will be accepted,
- You may only vote for a Co-Chair in the level(s) your child(ren) will be attending next year
- Results will ONLY be shared on an aggregate level (e.g. # of total voters, # of votes per nominee, # that chose not to vote for a position, etc.)

The Election Team remains committed and unbiased throughout its work on this process, and we're committed to the integrity of the SSCPS Parent Association.

I am really excited where the PA is heading next year. Thank you for carefully considering the nominees who have stepped up to represent us.

Thank you,

**Alisha Uhlenbrock-Furst**  
**Parent to 5th , 8th , and 11th Graders**

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## 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:

### **May/June**

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

6/4 - Donate

Help your students (and your wallets!)

**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.

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**SEPAC**





**SSCPS SEPAC PRESENTS**

# New IEP Info Session

**IEP**  
Individualized Education Plan

Presented by Director of Learning Services  
Matt Tondorf

 **June 5, 2024**  **6:30pm**

Please join us to discuss the new IEP form. Let's learn how we can better understand and navigate the changes to this important document.

**In Person @ 100 or zoom**  
**Register [SEPAC@SSCPS.ORG](mailto:SEPAC@SSCPS.ORG)**

Tap to REMOVE

## Special Announcements



### 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, May31st. Each student will pick a book to take home with them on June 5th or June 6th.

**Questions?** Contact Kristen Gale: [kgale@sscps.org](mailto:kgale@sscps.org)

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



## Weekly Calendar

### Important School Calendar Update

The SSCPS Board of Trustees has voted to amend the school calendar to include an inclement weather makeup day on Monday, June 17, 2024.

Monday, June 17 will be a half day for all students.

Wednesday	06/05	Senior Dinner at South Shore Country Club	6:00pm
Wednesday	06/05	SSCPS SEPAC Meeting at 100 Longwater & Zoom	6:30pm
Thursday	06/06	Book Swap for Grade K-4	

Thursday	06/06	8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Civics Action Project Showcase at the PE Space	8:30am
Thursday	06/06	Strategic Plan Parent Coffee at 700 Longwater Drive	8:30am
Friday	06/07	Kindergarten Last Day of Classes	
Friday	06/07	Professional Development Early Release	12:00pm
Friday	06/07	Class of 2024 Graduation Ceremony – UMass Boston	6:00pm
Monday	06/10	Level IV Color Games	
Monday	06/10	NHS Community Service Field Trip to Nantasket Beach	
Monday	06/10	SSCEF Meeting via <a href="#">Zoom</a>	5:00pm
Tuesday	06/11	Level II Field Day at Forges Park Plymouth	
Tuesday	06/11	Parent Association Meeting via Zoom	6:15pm
Weds-Fri	06/12-06/14	Level IV Final Exams	

## Community Events

1. [PYD Inclusive Music Program](#)
2. [Holly Hill Farm Spring Programs](#)
3. [Girls Who Code Summer Program](#)

## Important Links

**Weekly Updates are emailed and posted to our website [www.sscps.org](http://www.sscps.org).**

1. [Afterschool Enrichment Program](#)
2. [DESE Student Attendance Letter](#)  
Translated:  
[Arabic](#), [Cape Verdean](#)

## School Documents

[2023-2024 School Calendar](#)  
[2024-2025 School Calendar](#)  
[Student and Family](#)

- [Creole, Chinese, Haitian](#)
  - [Creole, Portuguese, Spanish, Vietnamese](#)
  - 3. [Back-to-School Information](#)
  - 4. [Food Services](#)
  - 5. [Health Office](#)
  - 6. [Massachusetts Department of Transitional Assistance](#)
  - 7. [Community Service](#)
  - 8. Visit the [Parents Association Website](#)
- [Handbook](#)
  - [Arrival and Dismissal Procedures](#)
  - [SSCPS By-Laws](#)



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