



Weekly Update | March 13, 2024

Vol. 3 Issue 2

SSCPS CELEBRATES
WOMEN'S HISTORY
MONTH



We are stronger together



Use the link below to view the Weekly Update in its entirety:

[View this email in your browser](#)

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A Message from Angie

The now longer days combined with this week's appearance of sunshine give us hope that the rainy winter is drawing to a close and that spring is just around the corner. Last week students in grades K-4 closed the second trimester and teachers posted progress reports for students in grades 5-12. We have reached the point of the year when teaching the current curriculum remains at the forefront while the process of planning for next year begins in earnest.

At the high school level course selection is a critical component of this planning process. Last week students in grades nine, ten, and eleven began creating their schedules for the 2024-2025 school year. Students discussed the course selection process, the importance of designing a rigorous schedule aligned to post-secondary goals, and the available course options in Advisory. Following the discussion, students completed a survey to make preliminary selections. While the survey is not binding, it is an important first step as the data helps us determine student interest and tailor offerings to meet needs. We will use the data from the surveys to finalize courses and begin to place students. Those offerings along with descriptions of the courses, information about prerequisites, and general policies can be found in the [2024-2025 Course Descriptions](#) document.

The availability of courses varies by grade; choice increases as students move through high school. The selections available in ninth grade are relatively narrow as students complete the foundational courses they need both for high school success and to meet state and school graduation requirements. Seniors have a wide number of courses available to them as they consider what they need to achieve their postsecondary goals. College admissions have become increasingly focused with many programs requiring students to commit to specific majors before their acceptance; those majors often have high school prerequisites. Our guidance department and curriculum team work with students as they navigate these requirements and make decisions.

Our course offerings for the 2024-2025 school year include a wide selection of Advanced Placement® courses. The AP program at SSCPS provides students with exposure to rigorous, college-level academics in a high school setting. AP courses aim to improve not only a student's knowledge of the relevant subject matter, but their time management skills, study habits, and close reading skills in preparation for the demands of a college curriculum. The availability of these courses is important as we work to prepare students for both competitive college admissions and the rigors of the coursework they will encounter after high school.

While Advanced Placement® has many benefits, it requires commitment and significant work outside of school hours. Students planning on taking an AP course must complete a contract before they enroll. A section of that contract requires students to discuss their AP choices with their parents or guardians. AP contracts are due on Thursday, March 28th. The contract for the 2024-2025 school year can be found [here](#). Students must complete the contract themselves using their school Google account. I will be meeting with all students in grades nine, ten, and eleven during Advisory on Monday to discuss our AP program, explain the enrollment process, and answer any questions. The full list of AP courses available, information about the program, prerequisites, and requirements can all be found on the [Advanced Placement](#) page of our website.

Communication with families is a critical component of the course selection process. Significant consideration on the part of both teachers and students goes into course selection. Teachers and students will finalize those selections in the next few weeks with tentative schedules going home in early May. The selections that go home are not final. There will be time prior to the close of the year for students to make changes. Changes can be made by the appropriate curriculum coordinator in consultation with the [guidance department](#). Please do not hesitate to ask questions as we work to set the stage for a productive 2024-2025 school year.

Sincerely,
Angie Pepin
Principal, K-12

Important School Calendar Notice

Pending Board approval, there will be a change on the school calendar for April 10, 2024. The SSCPS Board of Trustees will be voting on this tomorrow evening. In order to make up for the snow day on February 13, there will be a half day of school for students instead of a full day off on April 10. Families may request an excused absence for religious observance in advance at attendance@sscps.org.



Dear SSCPS Community,

As we welcome the start of Ramadan, I would like to extend heartfelt greetings to all our students, staff, and families observing this holy month. Ramadan, a time of reflection, devotion, and renewal, holds profound significance in the Islamic faith, emphasizing

fasting, prayer, and acts of charity. Our school is enriched by the diversity of cultures, beliefs, and traditions that each of you brings to our community. Recognizing and celebrating these diverse perspectives not only strengthens our collective understanding but also fosters a culture of inclusivity and respect. During this month, we encourage our community to embrace the spirit of empathy and unity that Ramadan embodies. It is an opportunity for all of us, regardless of our backgrounds, to reflect on the values of patience, compassion, and generosity that are at the heart of this sacred time. Here at SSCPS we support our students and staff who are fasting, should you need arrangements to accommodate your child's needs throughout the school day please let us know as soon as possible.

Best,

Sheina Prince-Eugene (she/her/hers)

Reading Teacher & Civil Rights Coordinator

African Diaspora Night



Dear SSCPS Community,

Thank you to all the families who joined us for an unforgettable African Diaspora Night! It was a joy to celebrate the vibrant cultures, traditions, and histories that enrich our South Shore Charter Public School community. We hope you left feeling inspired and connected. We ask that you please take our event survey linked below to give us your feedback!

Please keep an eye out for more events that celebrate our diverse community. Don't miss our International Food Night on Thursday, April 11th, 2024, where we'll continue to explore and enjoy the richness of cultures that make our school so special. See you there!

Sheina Prince-Eugene
Reading Teacher & Civil Rights Coordinator

EVENT SURVEY



We thank Merrimack Valley Credit Union and SSCPS parent Ted Muir for donating age-appropriate books to celebrate Black History Month!

On the Levels

LEVEL II



Last Monday Level II celebrated Read Across America Day by dressing up as our favorite book characters!

LEVEL IV

Spelling Bee Winner - Sakshana Ramkumar!



Our school Spelling Bee winner, Sakshana Ramkumar, has won a place in the MA regional final. She is moving forward with 33 other contestants to the Daily Item Regional Spelling Bee on March 19th at Lynn Memorial Auditorium.

Athletics and Extracurricular Activities

After School Enrichment Program

Levels II, III, IV



SSCPS AFTERSCHOOL ENRICHMENT PROGRAM

SESSION 3
APRIL 1 - MAY 17, 2024

GRADES 3 - 8
MONDAY AND WEDNESDAY
TIME: 3:15 - 4: 15 PM

MONDAY

- **SPORTS AND PLAYTIME CLUB**
- **STEAM EXPLORERS**
- **SCRAPBOOKING**
- **THEATRE CLUB**
- **SPORTS FUSION SQUAD**
- **CHEMICAL CREATIONS CLUB**

WEDNESDAY

- **THEATRE CLUB**
- **ZUMBA KIDS CLUB**
- **STEAM EXPLORERS**
- **NATURAL ARTISTS**
- **WEB WARRIORS: CODING AND LOGIC GAMES CLUB**
- **SPORTS AND PLAYTIME CLUB**
- **PAINTING PIONEERS CLUB**
- **CHEMICAL CREATIONS 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 III of our Afterschool Enrichment Program is now open to students in Grades 3-8. Please review our Club Descriptions and complete the Registration form. Registration closes on March 22nd. 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

[Grades 3-6: Club Descriptions](#)

[Grades 7-8: Club Descriptions](#)

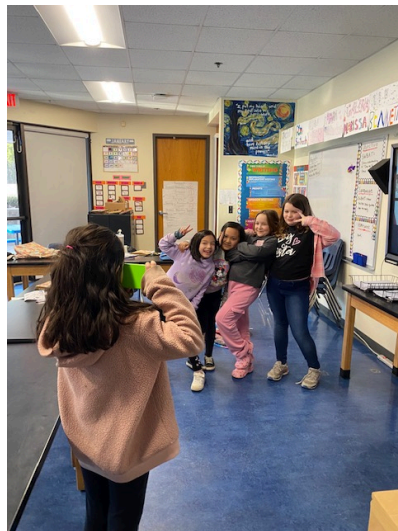
[Grades 3-6: Club Registration Form](#)

[Grades 7-8: Club Registration Form](#)

Painting Pioneers Club



Scrapbooking Club





Chemical Creations Club - Week 6



This week students experimented with oobleck, a fascinating substance formed by blending cornstarch, water, and food coloring. Oobleck behaves like a Newtonian fluid, demonstrating solid-like properties under pressure but transforming into a liquid when left undisturbed. The students thoroughly enjoyed engaging with this unique material, mixing and exploring its properties with enthusiasm.

Moreover, it was a moment of pride as we awarded the students their certificates of completion for their participation in the Chemical Creations Enrichment class. They were delighted to receive their own lab kits to continue their scientific explorations at home.

From the Physical Education Department



The Kids Heart Challenge has almost reached its goal!

In the month of February, the Physical Education department has been partnering with the American Heart Association by hosting the Kids Heart Challenge in grades K-4. Throughout the month, we thoroughly enjoyed teaching lessons on the function of the heart, the importance of heart health and how a healthy lifestyle can positively impact us socially, emotionally, and physically. Students participated in fun heart healthy fitness activities in class and got a chance to reflect on their own health. Every student in K-4 wrote how they kept their hearts healthy. With their efforts, they displayed that SSCPS has heart. We are almost at our goal of raising \$5000, which goes to the American Heart Association and the PE Department. Thank you to all the families and friends of SSCPS that have donated and to the students that have raised money for this great cause. We are currently at 96% of our goal and need a few more donations to get there! It is not too late! Follow this [link](#) to learn more.

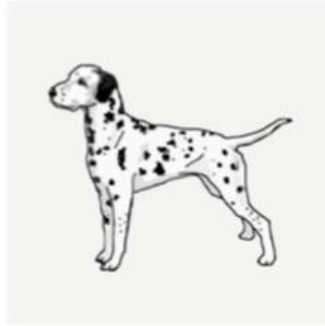
What's New in Projects and Workshops

High School: School Store Workshop

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

SSCPS SCHOOL APPAREL

Community Service



COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECT IS COLLECTING
ANIMAL SHELTER DONATIONS!!
(MARCH 4TH-MARCH 29TH)

- PET FOOD
- TOYS
- TREATS
- HAMSTER WHEELS

- ANIMAL BRUSHES. FOR ANIMALS!!
- LEASHES
- COLLARS
- PAPER TOWELS
- BEDS

DROP OFF DONATIONS IN
BIN AT THE FRONT DOOR.

ALL DONATIONS WILL GO TO QUINCY ANIMAL SHELTER

17th Annual




- Collect pajamas
- Support local children
- Win prizes

Cradles to Crayons
END CLOTHING INSECURITY

February 1 – March 15
SIGN UP TODAY

Cradles to Crayons is kicking off the 17th Annual Bruins PJ Drive, in partnership with the [Boston Bruins](#), the [Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners](#), and [Wonderfund!](#) Their goal is to collect 10,000 pairs of brand-new pajamas between now and March 15 to benefit children in need.

Register to host a PJ Drive using the button below. You can register as a group or as an individual, and we encourage you to engage friends, neighbors, classmates, colleagues, and others to help collect pajamas and increase your impact. If you would like to support

the Bruins PJ Drive by simply donating pajamas directly, you can do so through our [Amazon Wish List](#).

[HOST A PJ DRIVE](#)

[PJ DRIVE WISH LIST](#)

You can register to host a PJ Drive at any point until the program concludes on March 15, at which point prizes will be awarded to the three groups that have collected the most pairs of pajamas!

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



During the month of March, the South Shore Charter Educational Foundation will be holding our first ever **March Magnet Madness** fundraiser!

All donations of \$25 or higher will receive an SSCPS magnet, and funds will be used toward the area of greatest need at SSCPS. Display your magnet on your car, your fridge, your locker at school, or anywhere else you'd like to share your SSCPS pride!

Show your support for the SSCPS community and donate today to get your magnet!

Make a Donation

Parents Association, SEPAC, and ELPAC

SEPAC

Reducing Homework Battles
with Dr. David Murphy
Building Executive Functioning Skills
April 3rd 6:30pm
South Shore Charter Public School 100 Longwater Circle
Norwell and via Zoom
Sponsored by SSCPS SEPAC
Register SEPAC@SSCPS.ORG
Made with PosterMyWall.com

ELPAC

South Shore Charter Public School

ELPAC MEETING

ZOOM MEETING ID: 874 8193 7020
PASSCODE: 983709

**WEDNESDAY
13
MARCH
6:PM**

Join us for an engaging discussion at the English Learner Parent Advisory Committee (ELPAC) meeting. Your participation is crucial in supporting our English Learners' success. We will discuss upcoming events, share valuable information for our multilingual families, and provide a platform for your input.

- ✓ Meet other parents
- ✓ Learn about our mission
- ✓ Discuss important information

For More Information
Contact: Sheina Prince-Eugene or Matt Tondorf



Save the Date!

**Next PA meeting will be held on March 19, 2024 at 6:30pm.
Meeting Location: 700 Longwater Drive and Zoom**

[Zoom Meeting Link](#)

Hello SSPCS Parents/Guardians,

The first Parents Association (PA) meeting of the school year was held on February 12th. The schedule for the remainder of the year is as follows; March 19, April 8, May 14, and June 11th. Meetings will be held in person at 700 and online via Zoom @ 6:30PM (in-

person offering is dependent on attendance). Please join us @6:15PM for attendee introductions so we can start the official PA meeting on time.

February's meeting had a good turnout of 37 parents/guardians; however we need more of you if we are going to officially revive the PA with elections in May and position announcements and first planning meeting for the next school year in June.

Additionally, I have two new items to share:

- [SSCPS Connect](#) – Do you want to contribute to the SSCPS community but not sure how your skills/experience can be utilized beyond a classroom helper? As the Chair of the Development Committee on the Board of Trustees I am building a volunteer network database so SSCPS leaders (Faculty, Staff, Board of Trustees, Parents Association officers, etc.) can find you. Please complete this [form](#) to tell us more about the opportunities or skills you are interested in offering the school.
- [SSCPS Volunteering](#) – Have you volunteered in any way for the SSCPS community? First of all, thank you! Secondly, please log your hours in this [form](#) and let us know how you have contributed.

Thanks,

Alisha Uhlenbrock-Furst

(Parent to 5th, 8th, and 11th Graders)

Meeting Agenda

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:

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.

Upcoming Events



As the end of the year quickly approaches, the school would like to announce the **SSCPS Fair**: a family-friendly event for the entire SSCPS community to enjoy. Hosted by the High School Student Board and various clubs, come support our students and enjoy a fun-filled afternoon on April 27. More information will be coming soon.

From the Health Office

COVID-19 Guidelines for Massachusetts

Although the CDC has lifted the COVID-19 guidelines, Massachusetts DPH has not changed the COVID-19 guidelines and still requires at least 5 days of quarantine following a positive test or from the beginning of symptoms. Please see the link below for further information on COVID-19 and quarantining requirements in Massachusetts.

<https://www.mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-isolation-and-exposure-guidance-for-children-and-staff-in-child-care-k-12-out-of-school-time-ost-and-recreational-camp-program-settings>

The health office will let you know if this policy changes in the future.

Special School Announcements

School Picture Orders

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

**ENJOY 10% OFF
your order!**

CODE: F202310OFF

EXPIRES: May 1, 2024

[Redeem Now](#)

To order, log in to your account on mylifetouch.com 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](#).

Weekly Calendar

Wednesday	03/13	SSCPS ELPAC Meeting via Zoom	6:00pm
Wednesday	03/13	School Council Meeting Via Zoom	6:30pm
Thursday	03/14	Board of Trustees and Committee Meetings Board Meeting	7:30pm
		Board Meeting	7:30pm
		Personnel Meeting	5:30pm
		Governance Meeting	6:00pm
		Finance Meeting	6:30pm
		Development Meeting	7:00pm
All meetings held at 700 Longwater Drive and via Zoom			
Tuesday	03/19	New High School Student Shadow Day	
Tuesday	03/19	Parents Association Meeting at 700 Longwater Drive and Zoom	6:15pm
Wednesday	03/20	New High School Student Shadow Day	
Wednesday	03/20	Junior Parent Night via Zoom	6:00pm
Thursday	03/21	New Kindergarten Open House at 100 Longwater Circle	5:00pm

Community Events

Check the links below for updates on community events!

- [PYD Inclusive Music Program](#)
- [Holly Hill Farm - Spring Programs](#)
- [Girls Who Code Summer Program](#)
- [gbSTEM - Free STEM Courses](#)

Important Links

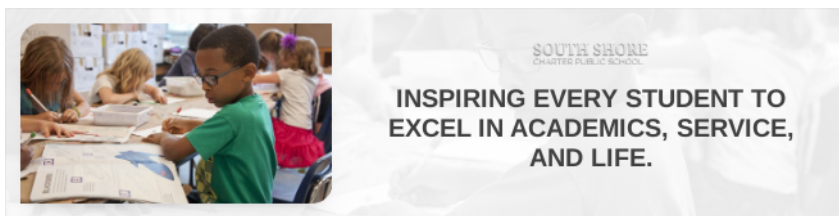
Weekly Updates are emailed and posted to our website www.sscps.org every Wednesday.

- [Afterschool Enrichment Program](#)
- DESE Student Attendance Letter Translated: [Arabic](#), [Cape Verdean Creole](#), [Chinese](#), [Haitian Creole](#), [Portuguese](#), [Spanish](#), [Vietnamese](#)
- [Back-to-School Information](#)
- [Food Services](#)
- [Health Office](#)
- [Massachusetts Department of Transitional Assistance](#)
- [Community Service](#)
- Visit the [Parents Association Website](#)

School Documents:

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

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.



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www.sscps.org

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