



Weekly Update | March 27, 2024

Vol. 3 Issue 4

SSCPS CELEBRATES
WOMEN'S HISTORY
MONTH



We are stronger together



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

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A Message from Angie

Today, students in grade ten completed the second and last session of the English Language Arts MCAS exam. Testing season has officially begun. We have made a small change to the testing calendar that impacts the grade five science exam. Please see the complete schedule below.

2024 MCAS Dates, Grades 3-8

| | English Language Arts | Math | Science (<i>grades 5 & 8 only</i>) |
|------------------------|-------------------------|---------------|------------------------------------------|
| Level II (grades 3-4) | April 2nd & April 9th | May 21st-22nd | |
| Level III (grades 5-6) | April 23rd & April 24th | May 16th-17th | May 20th-May 23rd |
| Level IV (grades 7-8) | April 3rd-April 4th | May 14th-15th | May 8th-May 9th |

2024 MCAS Dates, High School

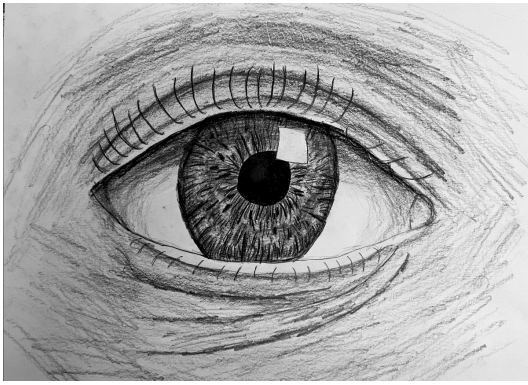
| English Language Arts (grade 10) | Math (grade 10) | Intro Physics (grade 9) |
|----------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------------|
| March 26th - 27th | May 21st-May 22nd | June 4th - June 5th |

While testing is important, it represents only a small part of the activity across our campus during these early spring days. March is Youth Art Month, a month celebrated annually to bring awareness to the importance of visual arts education. This celebration comes at an

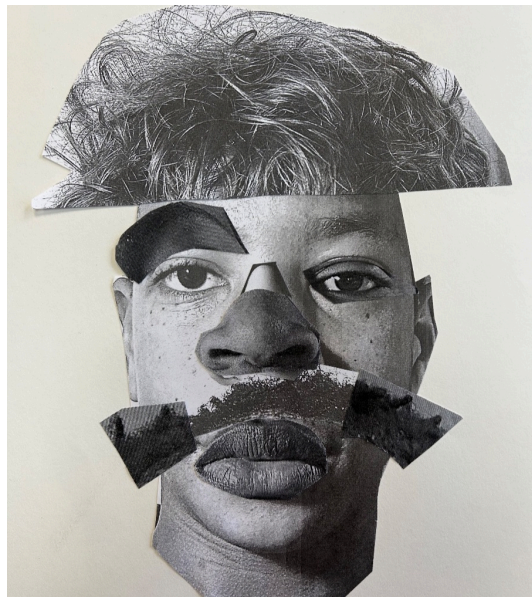
important moment in the calendar as it pushes us to reflect on the critical role that art plays in education and the development of a complete curriculum. We need testing to measure academic progress toward mastering standards. We need art to develop well-rounded students prepared to become citizens of a global society. The visual arts play a vital role in K-12 education by fostering creativity, critical thinking, and emotional expression. The act of creating encourages students to think deeply, problem-solve, and communicate their ideas effectively.



Our highly skilled art teachers, Sarah Gavin, Pam Golden, and Dan Vasconcellos, are working with students on projects that teach the elements of art while allowing for both wide freedom of expression and the creative outlet that students need to balance their efforts in other subjects. All of our students in grades K-8 attend art class weekly, with additional art classes for kindergarten students. Students in grades 5-12 have opportunities to participate in visual arts based Projects and Workshops. At the high school, the shift to semester-length Workshops has allowed a greater number of students to participate in arts-based classes.



The art curriculum provides students with exposure to diverse artistic styles and cultural perspectives while teaching the standards outlined in the Massachusetts Curriculum Framework. Students on Levels I and II recently finished pieces celebrating the Year of the Dragon and are beginning work on doodle-based projects designed to teach the concept of negative space. On Level III, fifth graders are completing the first part of their Elements of Art books, while sixth graders review one point perspective drawing to understand creating the illusion of space in their two dimensional art. Meanwhile, on Level IV, seventh graders are reviewing two point perspective drawing, building on the skills they developed in the previous year. Eighth graders are working with proportion, color, and composition with some classes creating dada collage faces that combine cutout features from black and white photos of themselves and their classmates, while others are digitally editing photos and using color theory to mix custom colors that they are using to paint their interpretations of those digital prints.



Art becomes service learning with the work that the Level III Puppet Project is doing, as they wrap up their sock puppet projects and begin the initial assembly of cutout paper figures in their exploration of marionettes. They will use these experiments to prepare to build the articulated segments of stringed puppets that are able to move. All of this work pushes them toward puppet performances later in the year. At the high school, the Art Workshop has started their service project through participation in the [Memory Project](#). The Memory Project's mission is to provide handmade, heartfelt portraits as special memories to children in orphanages. Each of our Art Workshop students has been paired with an orphan. They are starting this important task by creating value sketches of their young Malaysian subjects.

For our Seniors in the Art Workshop, participation in the visual arts has been a critical component of their high school curriculum with several intending to attend art school next year as they prepare for a career in the arts. They are closing their K-12 art careers by designing and executing a senior project with mediums and themes that vary widely from student to student. The work includes a series of watercolor paintings of scenes from the Game of Thrones series, a mixed-media floral bouquet made from wood shavings and

wire, a series of anime character paintings, and a tree sculpture of twisted wire and beads made from repurposed electrical wire donated by our facilities department.



These examples are only a small sampling of the work students have accomplished over the course of the school year. Our art department and students are eager to share that work with you at our art show in May. We will share the date with the community once it is confirmed. Thank you for your continued support of the arts and of our school. As always, do not hesitate to reach out with any questions or concerns.

Angie Pepin

Principal, K-12



IMPORTANT REMINDER

FRIDAY, MARCH 29th

NO SCHOOL - GOOD FRIDAY

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.

There will be no school for students on Wednesday, April 10, 2024. Monday, June 17 will be a half day for all students.

Families observing Eid al-Adha may request an excused absence for religious observance in advance at attendance@sscps.org.

Counseling Department Newsletter

Season of Change



As we usher in the season of Spring, we not only see the changes and transformations around us, but also within us. Working with high school students, especially Seniors, the students know that change is imminent and that leaving high school is a really big change and transformation for them.

As our students stand at the threshold of your final year in high school, the transition to college looms large on the horizon. Just like David Bowie's iconic song "Changes," this period in your life is filled with both excitement and uncertainty. But fear not, for with preparation and planning, you can navigate this transition with confidence and grace.

Much like the lyrics of Bowie's song, you're about to experience a whirlwind of changes. From adjusting to a new environment to embracing newfound independence, the journey ahead will be transformative.

Here are some insights to help you along the way:

Embrace the Unknown: Just as Bowie sings, "Turn and face the strange," approach the unknown with curiosity rather than fear. College is a blank canvas waiting for you to paint your story upon it. Embrace new experiences, people, and opportunities with an open mind.

Be Flexible: Flexibility is key during times of transition. You may encounter unexpected challenges or detours along the way, but remember that adaptation is a valuable skill. Embrace change as an opportunity for growth and self-discovery.

Seek Support: Transitioning to college can feel overwhelming at times, but you don't have to navigate it alone. Reach out to your support system – whether it's family, friends, teachers, or counselors – for guidance and encouragement. Remember, asking for help is a sign of strength, not weakness.

Stay True to Yourself: As you embark on this new chapter, don't forget who you are and what matters most to you. Stay true to your values, passions, and goals, and let them guide you as you navigate the college experience.

Embrace Growth: Just as Bowie sings, "Ch-ch-ch-ch-changes," embrace change as an opportunity for personal and academic growth. College is a time for exploration, self-

discovery, and transformation. Allow yourself to evolve and grow into the best version of yourself.

Remember, the transition from high school to college is just the beginning of your journey. Embrace the changes, seize the opportunities, and make the most of every moment. And whenever you feel uncertain or overwhelmed, just remember the timeless words of David Bowie: "Time may change me, but I can't trace time."

Mary Carter

Director of Guidance

On the Levels

HIGH SCHOOL

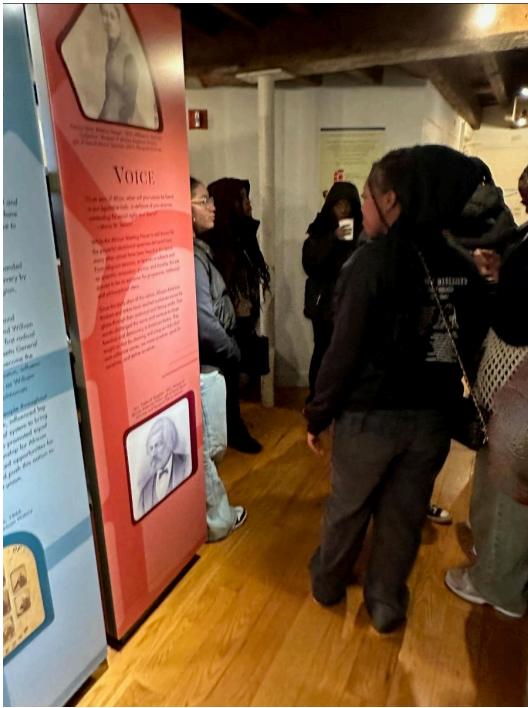




Last Thursday, students from the AP African American Studies Class, the Cultural Diversity Workshop, and the BSU embarked on a meaningful field trip to Boston. During the trip, they visited several significant landmarks including the African American Museum, the MLK Sculpture, the Holocaust Memorial and Faneuil Hall. This excursion provided a unique opportunity for our students to reflect on important themes such as resilience, activism, racial justice and the critical importance of combating prejudice. Each stop along the journey offered profound insights into our history, allowing students to gain a deeper understanding of our shared humanity.







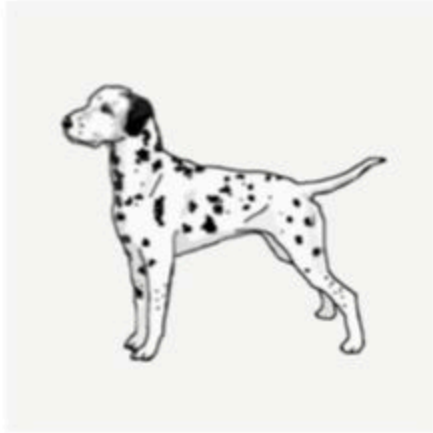
What's New in Projects and Workshops

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

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



This week is the last week to donate toward **March Magnet Madness!**

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

ELPAC



SOUTH SHORE
CHARTER PUBLIC
SCHOOL



ELPAC MEETING

THURSDAY, APRIL 25, 2024 | 06:00 PM VIA ZOOM

ZOOM MEETING ID: 874 8193 7020 PASSCODE: 983709

TOPICS :
BUILDING A STRONGER ELPAC

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.

Contact: Sprince@sscps.org or Mtondorf@sscps.org

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



Dear Parents/Guardians,

Our second Parents Association (PA) meeting of the school year was held on March 19th. The schedule for the remainder of the year is as follows; April 8, May 14, and June 11th. Meetings are held in person at 700 and online via Zoom. Please join us @6:15PM for attendee introductions, and the official meeting to start promptly at 6:30PM.

Below are some initiatives underway to get the PA operational:

- Please complete this [PA Improvement Survey](#) to let us know your ideas for improving the PA.
- Updating the Bylaws of the PA - A parent taskforce is actively working to define what the PA should look like (in the form of elected positions and committees) and how it should operate (responsibilities of the elected positions and committees) moving forward. This taskforce will propose changes to this important stakeholder group for discussion and voting at the PA meeting listed above.
- Please consider stepping up and volunteering to run for an elected position on the PA for the next school year. We are targeting elections in May and the first planning meeting for the next school year in June.

Alisha Uhlenbrock

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

South Shore Charter Public School Presents

March Concert

HIGH SCHOOL MUSIC WORKSHOP



28th March 2024

PE Space | 104 Longwater Drive

6 PM



Bring a Dish!

All food should arrive on time and be ready to serve.

Please bring a list of ingredients in your dish so our friends with food allergies can enjoy the evening and let us know if you need an aluminum pan for a Sterno heating tray.

Become A Volunteer!

If you would like to volunteer to help set up, serve, and/or clean up, or if you have questions, please email Parent Coordinator and SSCPS Trustee, [Natacha Webster Julien](#).

SIGN UP HERE



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

[MA DPH Health Guidelines - Updated](#)

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 | 03/27 | MCAS ELA Grade 10 | |
| Wednesday | 03/27 | Senior Parent Graduation Meeting via Zoom | 6:00pm |
| Thursday | 03/28 | High School Music Workshop Concert at 104 Longwater Drive (PE Space) | 6:00pm |
| Friday | 03/29 | Good Friday Observed – No School | |
| Monday | 04/01 | Governance Committee Meeting via Zoom | 12:00pm |
| Tuesday | 04/02 | MCAS ELA Level II | |

| | | | |
|------------------|--------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|
| Tuesday | 04/02 | Junior Parent Night via Zoom | 6:00pm |
| Wednesday | 04/03 | Quarter 3 ends for grades 5-11 | |
| Wednesday | 04/03 | MCAS ELA Level IV | |
| Wednesday | 04/03 | SSCPS SEPAC Workshop at 100 Longwater Circle and Zoom | 6:30pm |
| Thursday | 04/04 | MCAS ELA Level IV | |

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.

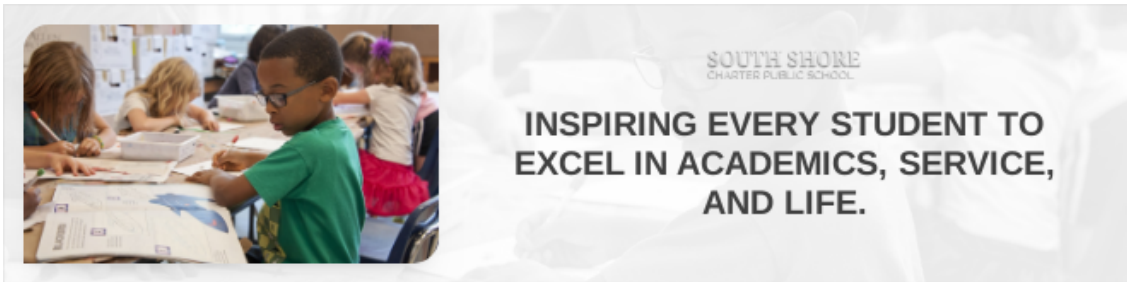
- [Afterschool Enrichment Program](#)
- DESE Student Attendance Letter Translated: [Arabic](#), [Cape Verdean Creole](#), [Chinese](#), [Haitian Creole](#), [Portuguese](#), [Spanish](#), [Vietnamese](#)
- [Back-to-School Information](#)
- [Food Services](#)
- [Health Office](#)
- [Massachusetts Department 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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