

Vol. 11 Issue 5



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A Message from TC

Dear South Shore Charter Public School Parents and Guardians,

As we move into the journey of switching from high school to college, it's natural to feel a mix of excitement and anxiety. This can be a significant change, and it's important to understand the benefits and challenges you might face during this timeframe. College offers increased independence, diverse learning opportunities, networking opportunities, and career preparation. However, it also comes with its own set of challenges such as adapting to a new environment, managing time and responsibilities, balancing academics and social life, and financing education.



Shifting from high school to college can be an exciting and enriching experience, but it also comes with its own set of challenges. I would like to take a moment to emphasize the importance of reviewing scholarship information with your child. Some might think this is solely a 12th grade matter however, I highly recommend Juniors start the process with their families as soon as possible. (As for 9th and 10th graders, this is a perfect opportunity for families to begin the conversation about transitioning to college.) Scholarships can significantly impact students' educational journey, and it is crucial that both parents and students are actively engaged in this process.

The pursuit of higher education can be a challenging and rewarding experience. However, the cost of college can be a significant burden on many families. Scholarships are an

excellent way to alleviate some of the financial stress associated with higher education, and they can open doors to opportunities that might otherwise seem out of reach.

Here are some reasons why it is vital to review scholarship information with your child:

- **Financial Assistance:** Scholarships can provide financial support to cover tuition, books, housing, and other educational expenses. By exploring available scholarship opportunities, you can reduce the financial strain on your family and your child's future.
- **Personal Growth:** The process of researching, applying for, and winning scholarships can be a valuable learning experience. It encourages students to develop their organizational and communication skills, fosters a strong work ethic, and helps them set clear goals for their future.
- **Career and Educational Opportunities:** Scholarships can provide access to specific educational institutions, programs, or fields of study. This can lead to more significant opportunities for your child, aligning their education with their passions and career goals and aspirations.
- **Reducing Student Loan Debt:** The less your child has to rely on loans to fund their education, the more financially secure their future will be.







As parents and guardians, your guidance and involvement in the scholarship application process can make a significant difference. We encourage you to:

- **Start Early:** Begin searching for scholarships early in your child's high school journey, as some scholarships have specific eligibility requirements and deadlines.
- **Communicate:** Regularly discuss scholarship opportunities with your child, offering support, encouragement, and guidance throughout the application process.
- Stay Informed: Keep an eye on our school's website (<u>SSCPS</u>) and newsletters for scholarship updates and opportunities, as well as external resources such as scholarship databases (see below) and financial aid information.
- Seek Help: Our school's guidance counselors are available to provide guidance and assistance in the scholarship search and application process. Guidance Counselors are Mary Carter (<u>mcarter@sscps.org</u>) or Angeline St. Germain (<u>astgermain@sscps.org</u>).

We believe that by working together, we can help your child secure the resources they need to pursue their dreams and succeed in their academic and career pursuits. If you have any questions or need assistance in this process, please do not hesitate to reach out to our school's guidance counselors: Mary Carter (<u>mcarter@sscps.org</u>) or Angeline St. Germain (<u>astgermain@sscps.org</u>).

Thank you for being an active partner in your child's education! Together, we can help them achieve their full potential and set them on a remarkable path to success.

Scholarship Application Tips:

- **Meet all application deadlines:** Use a calendar or planner, make a schedule, and stick to it. Missing a deadline, even by a day, may disqualify your application.
- **Gather application materials early:** Give yourself plenty of time to complete each step. Rushed applications may not be successful.

- Don't ignore small awards: Small scholarships can add up over time.
- **Request letters of recommendation early:** Give recommenders at least two weeks' notice. Follow up to ensure they submit their letters.
- Write a great essay: Carefully address the essay question(s) and use it to share personal insights. Edit for grammar and spelling.
- **Sing your own praises:** Highlight your achievements and activities that demonstrate leadership, initiative, persistence, and community involvement.
- Try, try again: Don't give up if you don't win a scholarship immediately. Save copies of your applications to avoid starting from scratch each time. Remember to APPLY, APPLY, and APPLY!

Feel free to explore these scholarship websites to find valuable scholarship opportunities:

- SSCPS
- Collegeboard.com (look for BigFuture Tab)
- <u>Scholarships.com</u>
- Fastweb.com
- <u>GoingMerry.com</u>
- Bold.org
- <u>MyScholly.com</u>
- <u>ScholarshipOwl.com</u>

Christophe Teulet-Cote

High School Assistant Principal

Athletics and Extracurricular Activities

Winter Sport Tryouts!

High School Winter Sports

Wednesday | November 29, 2023

High School Boys Basketball Tryouts 3:30 - 5:00 pm Starland Sportsplex & Fun Park

High School Girls Basketball Tryouts 3:30 - 5:00 pm 104 Longwater Drive

Middle School Winter Sports

On Tuesday, December 5th, the Middle School boys will be holding tryouts for the basketball team at Starland, 637 Washington Street, Hanover. The school will be providing transportation there, but students will have to be picked up at Starland at 5:00pm. To be eligible, students will have to register online. Please follow this <u>link</u> to FamilyID. Additionally, students will have to have a physical uploaded to Family ID or on file in the health office from the previous 12 months. If you have any questions please contact Coach Walter Duncan (wduncan@sscps.or) or Middle School Athletic Director Joe Kay (jkay@sscps.org).

Middle School girls will start practice the week of December 11th. Practice schedules are being finalized and more information will be sent out soon to interested players. Same eligibility requirements apply with registration on <u>FamilyID</u> and a physical on file with the school. Please contact Coach Matt Goodell (<u>mgoodell@sscps.org</u>) or Joe Kay with any questions.

Afterschool Enrichment Program

Levels II and III



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



December 6 to receive a \$1 coupon for each item you donate!*

YOU MAY TALK TO KATIE CIANELLI OR OTHER NHS MEMBERS FOR DETAILS *Maximum coupon value of \$5



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:

November

Week of 11/14 - Fold/pics 11/22 - Donate **December** Week of 12/11 - Fold/pic (If needed) 12/21 - Donate **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

Students entering K, 4th, 7th and 12th grade are required to submit a current physical form that is less than 13 months old. All students planning on participating in sports must have a current physical submitted to the health office and uploaded to the SchoolID website when registering the student to participate in sports. Students who do not have a current physical form on file will not be allowed to try out or participate in any sports programs.

https://students.arbitersports.com/organizations/sscps-athletics

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

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

Please do not hesitate to reach out if you have any additional questions or concerns.

Jaime Kjelgaard, RN (K-8th) jkjelgaard@sscps.org, x104 Barbara Folan, RN (High School) <u>bfolan@sscps.org</u> x 182

Special Announcements

Parent Teacher Conferences

Parent/Teacher conferences are scheduled for Friday, December 8th. Both in person and virtual appointments are available. In person appointments are available from 8:00 am until 12:00 pm. Virtual appointments are available in the afternoon.

If your child is in grades K-4 you can expect to hear from your child's teacher by the end of the day with instructions for scheduling appointments. If you are having trouble scheduling please contact your child's teacher or John Toland, K-4 Assistant Principal.

If your child is in grades 5-12 use the link below to schedule appointments. You must first register by clicking "Click Here to Register." More detailed instructions can be found <u>here</u>.

https://sscps.schoolappointments.com/

When scheduling in person appointments please allow time to navigate moving from one classroom to another. If you are having difficulty with scheduling please reach out to Dee

Delaney, Assistant to the Administration, at delaney@sscps.org or 781-982-4202 x159..

The deadline to schedule an appointment is Wednesday, December 6th.



Celebrate Your Big Day!

Get everything you need to make your graduation complete. Order your cap, gown, tassel, and stole today. All orders must be complete by Friday, December 15th.





Plus, order your personalized invitations, thank you notes, and unforgettable keepsakes with just one click!

Jostens

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

Dear Parents,

As a token of appreciation, Lifetouch is offering discounts on school photography!

- 50% off a purchase of \$50+ with code THANKFUL50
- 40% off a purchase of \$40+ with code THANKFUL40
- 30% off a purchase of \$30+ with code THANKFUL30

Valid through 11/25/23

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.

Weekly Calendar

Thursday	11/30	Title I Parent Meeting via <u>Zoom</u>	8:30am
Thursday	11/30	Ad Hoc Facilities Committee via <u>Zoom</u>	1:30pm
Thursday	11/30	Finance Committee via <u>Zoom</u>	2:00pm
Friday	12/01	Ad Hoc Field Trip Committee via <u>Zoom</u>	2:20pm
Monday	12/04	1 st Trimester Ends for Grades K-4	
Tuesday	12/05	Strategic Planning Meeting at 700 Longwater Drive and via Zoom	10:30am

Wednesday	12/06	Winter Concert for Grades K, 1, 2 at SSCPS PE Space, 104 Longwater Drive, Norwell	10-10:45am
Wednesday	12/06	Winter Concert Performing Ensemble at Hingham Middle School, 1103 Main Street, Hingham 02043	6:00pm
Thursday	12/07	Governance Committee	7:30pm 5:45pm 6:00pm 6:30pm 7:00pm
Friday	12/08	Parent/Teacher Conferences – No school for students	

Important Links

Weekly Updates are emailed and posted to our website <u>www.sscps.org</u> every Wednesday.

- Afterschool Enrichment Program
- Back-to-School Information
- Food Services
- Health Office
- <u>Massachusetts Department of Transitional</u>
 <u>Assistance</u>
- <u>Community Service</u>
- 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.

SOUTH SHORE

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

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www.sscps.org

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