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Weekly Update | October 11, 2023

Vol. 10 Issue 2



A Message from Angie

Somehow we are more than halfway done with the first quarter of the 2023-2024 school year. This is an important checkpoint for teachers and students as we assess student progress and plan to support each student in meeting their academic potential. Teachers of students in grades 5-12 posted Progress Reports to [PlusPortals](#) last week. For each core academic subject families can expect to find a progress report that includes an updated course average. Directions explaining how to access Progress Reports through PlusPortals can be found [here](#). The first quarter officially closes on November 2nd. There is still time for students to improve their grades prior to the end of the term.

With the newness of the school year now behind us and the important work of teaching and learning well underway, teachers across our campus are busy analyzing student data

as they work to tailor their instruction. We have completed DIBELS 8 reading benchmark testing in grades K-5, iReady math benchmark tests in grades K-8, and iXL math benchmarks at the high school level. Teachers are using this data combined with spring MCAS scores and PSAT data to place students in groups for intervention and acceleration. These groupings include the small group instruction that takes place during class, instruction during Focused Instructional Time (FIT), and student groups recommended for our Title I after school tutoring program set to start next month.

Yesterday we mailed MCAS results out to the families of returning students currently in grades four through eleven. Families that are new to our community can expect us to mail score reports as soon as we receive them from the previous school. The Department of Elementary and Secondary Education has provided a series of slides explaining the score reports for grades 3-8 which can be found [here](#). Translations of the Parent/Guardian report are available on the [DESE website](#).

While the pandemic may feel far in the past, the impact continues. Scores in our building and across the state show that we still have work to do as we address pandemic related learning loss. While we are seeing signs of recovery, the scores show that academic achievement is still not where it was pre-pandemic. Our results as a school were similar to last year with areas of academic strength as well as areas for improvement and are similar to performance rates statewide. Taking a look at [Average Scaled Score](#), our school was slightly below the state in Mathematics grades 3 - 4, 8 and 10, Science and Tech/Eng Grade 9, and in ELA grades 4 and 8. SSCPS has the same Average Scaled Score as the state in ELA grades 3 and 10. Our school had a higher Average Scaled Score than the state in ELA grades 5 - 7, Mathematics grades 5 and 7, and Science, Tech, and Engineering, grades 5 and 8.

For each MCAS exam your child took in the spring you will see a score and an achievement level. Beginning in grade four, you will also find a Student Growth Percentile (SGP). The scaled score shows how much the student has achieved compared to the state's grade-level learning standards. The SGP shows how much the student grew compared to students with a similar assessment history using a percentile ranking. A growth percentile of 53 means that the student scored higher than 53% of the students in the state with similar scores over the past two years. While the achievement score provides a snapshot compared to standards, the growth score allows us to evaluate the progress of students. The chart below provides a general guideline as you interpret your child's Student Growth Percentile.

Student Growth Percentile (SGP) Range	Description
1-39	Lower Growth
40-60	Moderate Growth
61-99	Higher Growth

I will be hosting a Principal's Coffee via Zoom to discuss interpreting MCAS results and our plans to address areas of weakness on Thursday, October 19th at 8:30 am. The link to the meeting can be found [here](#). I hope that many of you are able to attend. We will record the session for those of you who would like to view it at a later date.

I look forward to meeting with families at next week's MCAS Coffee. As always, please do not hesitate to reach out with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Angie Pepin

Principal, K-12

WHAT'S NEW IN PROJECTS AND WORKSHOPS

Middle School Store Project





High School Store Workshop

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

SSCPS SCHOOL APPAREL

AFTER SCHOOL ENRICHMENT PROGRAM

Dear Families,

Unlock your child's potential with our dynamic afterschool enrichment program, tailored for students in grades 3-6! Our engaging activities and expert instructors provide the perfect blend of learning and fun. Your child will have the opportunity to explore their interests, develop new skills and make lasting friendships in a safe and supportive environment. By offering students a range of enrichment classes, they can grow their skills and improve their social emotional learning. The program will run throughout the year in 3 sessions. Session 1 runs from November 6th - December 22nd 2023 on Mondays and Wednesdays. Please note that there are limited spots available. If your student is not selected for Session 1, there will be other opportunities to attend an enrichment class in Sessions 2 and 3.

Enroll today to spark your child's curiosity and inspire a lifelong passion for learning!

Please find a description of the enrichment clubs running during Session 1 [here](#). Use [this form](#) to register your child.

We are excited to get started!

Sincerely,

Nadeen

nsullivan@sscps.org

ATHLETICS

SOCCER

COACH UPDATE:

The girls varsity soccer team won their sixth game in a row yesterday, defeating South Shore Christian Academy 3 - 1 and improving their record to 7 - 3 on the season. Defense led the way yesterday with great performances turned in by the back line that includes Adria Sunnerberg, Jillian Comness, Lehna Belony, and Emma Mooney. Julia Preble was strong in net registering 5 saves. The offense was led by Misha Attardo (1 goal), Aayah Zaynune (2 goals), Brianna Belizaire (1 assist), and Muna Eze. Leannedra Ellerbee and Sadie Grissom had strong games in the midfield providing support for both the offense and defense.

The team hits the road today to take on Boston Prep, followed by home games on Friday against Codman Academy and Boston Prep on Monday, both games starting at 2:30 at Union Point.

Come cheer on the Jaguars in their upcoming games:

Wednesday | October 11, 2023

Varsity Girls Soccer v. Boston Prep (Away) 4:30 - 6:00 pm @Rose Street, Milton

Thursday | October 12, 2023

Varsity Girls Volleyball v. Boston Prep (Home) 3:30 pm Starland Sportsplex & Fun Park

High School Cross Country Meet 4:00 pm Franklin Park Playstead

Middle School Cross Country Meet 4:30 pm @Evergreen Trail, Everett

Friday | October 13, 2023

Varsity Girls Volleyball v. Academy of the Pacific Rim (Away)

#GoJaguars 🐾🐾

COMMUNITY SERVICE

LEVEL III COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECT

The Level III Community Service Project is starting out the year with a food drive to benefit the Randolph Food Pantry. Donations are welcomed starting October 16 until November 13. Non-perishable items may be left in the bins at the front and back doors. Thank you for your support!

FOOD DRIVE



Please help the Level III Community Service Project's Food Drive reach its goal in supporting the Randolph Food Pantry

WE ACCEPT (BUT ARE NOT LIMITED TO):

- Pasta and pasta sauce
- Canned meat
- Canned soups
- Canned vegetables
- Canned fruits
- Dried beans
- Cooking oil



DATE
OCTOBER 16TH -
NOVEMBER 13TH

Reminder: Non-perishable items may be left in the bins at the front and back doors.



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](#)

PARENTS ASSOCIATION

PARENTS ASSOCIATION UPCOMING FOCUS GROUP

Dear Parents,

I hope this message finds you in good spirits. As the Chair of our dedicated Board of Trustees and the help of Alisha Uhlenbrock Furst, I am thrilled to invite you to an important in-person focus group meeting aimed at revamping our parent association to make it more engaging and easier for everyone to participate in.

Date: Oct 25, 2023

Time: 6:30 PM

Location: 100 Longwater Circle (Music Room)

At our upcoming focus group meeting, we will gather to discuss and brainstorm ideas on how we can enhance the parent association experience for everyone involved. Your valuable input and insights are essential in shaping the future of our association, ensuring that it meets the needs and expectations of all parents.

During this session, we will focus on several key areas, including:

Identifying Challenges: What makes it hard to participate and how can parents spend more time being a part of the community?

Engaging Activities: Brainstorming fun and interactive activities that will encourage more parents to participate actively.

Effective Communication: Exploring new communication methods and platforms to keep everyone informed about upcoming events, meetings, and important updates.

Volunteer Opportunities: Identifying volunteer roles and tasks that match different skill sets and time constraints, making it easier for everyone to contribute meaningfully.

Inclusivity: Discussing ways to ensure that every parent feels welcome and valued within our association, regardless of their background or circumstances.

Fundraising Strategies: Brainstorming creative and effective fundraising ideas to support our school and its various initiatives.

Your presence and input are highly valued. Diverse voices make for smarter choices! So mark your calendars and make every effort to attend this focus group meeting. Together, we can create a more vibrant, inclusive, and engaging parent association that benefits not only our children but also our entire school community.

If you have any specific topics or suggestions you would like to address during the meeting, please feel free to reply to reach out to me directly @jjuste@board.sscps.org. Your ideas are crucial in shaping our discussion.

I look forward to seeing you all there and working collaboratively to make our parent association the best it can be. Thank you for your continued support, and let's make a positive difference together!

Warm regards,

Jimmy Juste

Chair, SSCPS Board of Trustees

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 and photos will be posted on two parent run Facebook Sites 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!)

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.

LOST & FOUND

UPCOMING EVENTS

TODAY!

SSCPS SEPAC MEETING



PARENTS RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES IN SPECIAL EDUCATION

Wednesday

October 11, 2023

7:00 PM

100 Longwater Circle

PRESENTED BY:
MATT TONDORF
MICHELLE GALLAGHER



- ✓ Provides families with an introduction to their rights and responsibilities under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), Massachusetts Special Education Law and No Child Left Behind (NCLB)
- ✓ Help parents learn how to be effective partners with SSCPS and assist in determining their child's eligibility for special education
- ✓ Review procedural safeguards, IEP development, and process

EMAIL QUESTIONS TO:
Rachel Brodeur at
SEPAC@SSCPS.ORG

SSCPS SEPAC presents

Kids & Friendship

Join **Katy Boucher**, founder of **The Accord School**, for an evening of lively conversation on how to help our kids navigate their ever-changing social world.

Wednesday October 18th

7:00-8:30pm

South Shore Charter Public School

100 Longwater Drive, Norwell



Parents will walk away with practical guidance that they can put to use the very next day!



www.theaccordschool.org

LITERACY LANE | K-6



SCAN FOR MORE INFO

A LITERARY-THEMED TRUNK OR TREAT AT 100 LONGWATER!

Join the SSCPS community for an afternoon of celebrating literature through car trunk displays, character costumes, and more! Students will have the opportunity to wander from car to car to visit trunks decorated to represent a favorite book, character, or literary series. Students are encouraged to dress up as their favorite literary characters. The Community Service Project will also be collecting donations of nonperishable food items for local food banks!



SATURDAY
21 OCT 2023



2:00 PM -
4:00 PM

Activities Include :

- Live Music
- Free Book Fair
- Refreshments
- Photo Booth
- Volunteer Opportunities (7-12)

This is NOT a drop-off event.



FROM THE HEALTH OFFICE

If your student takes prescription medication during the school day, including epipens or inhalers, the medication will need to be dropped off to the school nurse by an adult. Medication cannot be sent on the bus with students. All medication needs to be accompanied by a prescription medication form. Your doctor may fill out their own

medication form, an Asthma Action Plan, Allergy Action Plan, or the school's [Prescription Drug Form](#). No medication can be accepted without the proper paperwork. Parents/guardians will also need to sign the form to give permission for medication to be administered in school. Students can not bring in over the counter medication. All medication needed at school must be held in the Health Office and have the proper paperwork in order for it to be administered at school.

If your student is planning on playing a school sport in the fall they must have a current physical dated within the past 13 months. Students who do not have a current physical will not be allowed to try out or participate in sports. You may submit health forms to:

K-8: Jaime Kjelgaard, RN Jkjelgaard@sscps.org 781-982-4202 x 104

High School: Barbara Folan, RN Bfolan@sscps.org 781-982-4202 x 182

Fax: 781-982-4201

Students entering K, 4th, 7th & 10th grade must submit current physical forms and vaccine records.

The K through 8 school is a **peanut/nut free** building. Please make sure you do not send your child to school with any food that contains peanuts or nuts or the label reads "may contain nuts or traces of nuts". Caffeinated beverages are not allowed in the elementary school. Please send your student to school with a reusable water bottle as the school does not provide water bottles. Level 1 students should have a full change of weather appropriate clothes that is kept at school.

Please reach out to your school nurse and teacher if your student is sick. Students who have vomiting, diarrhea, or a fever of 100 or above need to remain out of school until the symptoms or fever have resolved for 24 hours. If your student has strep throat, conjunctivitis or any other contagious illness they will need to remain out until they have been on antibiotics for 24 hours. Students who develop any of these symptoms during the school day will need to be picked up from school promptly. Please make sure your contact information with the school is up to date. Absences can be reported to attendance@sscps.org.

If your student tests positive for COVID-19 please reach out to your school nurse so it can be determined when your student is able to return to school. Thank you!

--

Jaime Kjelgaard

SSCPS School Nurse

THE WEEKLY CALENDAR

Wednesday	10/11	SEPAC Meeting – Parent Rights and Responsibilities at 100 Longwater Circle	7:00pm
Thursday	10/12	Title I Information Meeting via Zoom	9:30-10:00am
Tuesday	10/17	South Shore Charter Educational Foundation Meeting	4:00pm
Tuesday	10/17	National Honor Society Induction Ceremony at 700 Longwater Drive	6:00pm
Wednesday	10/18	SSCPS SEPAC Workshop at 100 Longwater Circle	7:00pm
Thursday	10/19	MCAS Principal’s Coffee via Zoom	8:30am
Thursday	10/19	Board of Trustees Meeting Personnel Committee Governance Committee Development Committee Finance Committee All meetings held at 700 Longwater Drive and via Zoom	7:30pm 5:30pm 6:00pm 6:30pm 6:45pm
Friday	10/20	Professional Development Early Release	12:00pm
Saturday	10/21	Literacy Lane – K-6 at 100 Longwater Circle	2:00-4:00pm

IMPORTANT LINKS

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

- [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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