



## Summer Update | August 14, 2024

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## AUGUST GREETINGS FROM SSCPS

Summer greetings to all of our students and families. We hope this email finds you enjoying the warm weather in anticipation of the upcoming school year. There's much to look forward to as we start to think about all of the excitement heading our way.

The new school year marks our 30th anniversary. As we established in 1995, our school community remains committed to our educational model of project-based learning combined with a college preparatory curriculum. Not only were we among the first group of charter schools in the Commonwealth, we were also one of the first to establish a dedication to service learning and community service that holds true today. Community service requirements are an important part of our exit standards at each grade level and we are proud of the work our students accomplish.

We see so many examples of student excellence every day. This summer was no exception. Last week we ran a week-long Math Acceleration Academy. In July we held the Extended School Year and Title III Literacy programs. This year we were thrilled to offer a

new opportunity for seventh and eighth graders, *The Language of Science: Summer Watershed Awareness Education Program* through a partnership with Cohasset Center for Student Coastal Research (CSCR), with support from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). During this new program, students were able to conduct water quality tests, debris analysis, and seagrass studies. It would seem that everywhere you look, student life at South Shore Charter empowers students to make an impact on the world around them.

As we approach our 30th year, it is clear that the South Shore Charter Public School has held fast to the institutional mission of inspiring every student to excel in academics, service, and life. We are fortunate to be granted federal, state, and private funding to maintain these wonderful summer learning programs and grateful for their partnership in our mission. Special thanks to all faculty and staff who made these programs possible, teaching classes, developing curricula, and chaperoning field trips. Special thanks to Laurie Hogan, Jamie Allen, Haley Edmondson, Jess Zutaut, Donika Darabus, and Jack Buckley from CSCR for planning meaningful summer learning experiences for our students.

Summer is also a terrific time to accomplish campus projects on our buildings and outside spaces. Our facilities team has worked hard to get the campus ready for those first days of school in August. This year, the facilities team has been busy painting, conducting electrical repairs, replacing flooring, updating the library, and landscaping. As always, we continue to maintain and monitor air quality in all of our classrooms and hallways to ensure a healthy and safe environment for students and staff.

Kindergarten Orientation will be Monday, August 26 at 100 Longwater Circle. Freshman Orientation for ninth grade students will be on Monday, August 26, at 700 Longwater Drive. Transportation services begin on the first day of school, Tuesday, August 27, 2024. Families will be receiving an email regarding transportation information and bus route updates in the upcoming days.

You will receive an email with a link to your child's contact information and information regarding the upcoming school year as well. Please complete and update your child's profile. Please review the [Back to School Resources](#) with your family and refer to our [School Calendar](#) for important dates and times of school wide events. We have a few exciting events planned for the fall, including a Parents Association Welcome Coffee on Friday, September 13, and the SSCPS Annual Road Race on Saturday, September 28th. Additional calendar updates may be found on our [website](#) and in the Weekly Update as the school year progresses.

Thank you for reading.

Sincerely,  
**Alicia Savage**  
Executive Director

## SUMMER AT SSCPS

### BILINGUAL SUMMER SCHOOL PROGRAM



**Franklin Park Zoo**



### New England Aquarium





### Nantasket Beach Day





**CENTER FOR STUDENT COASTAL RESEARCH**

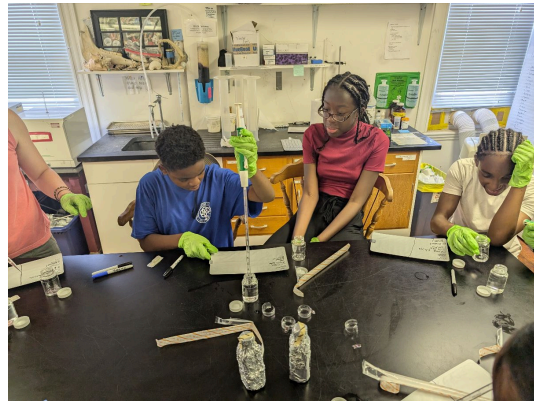
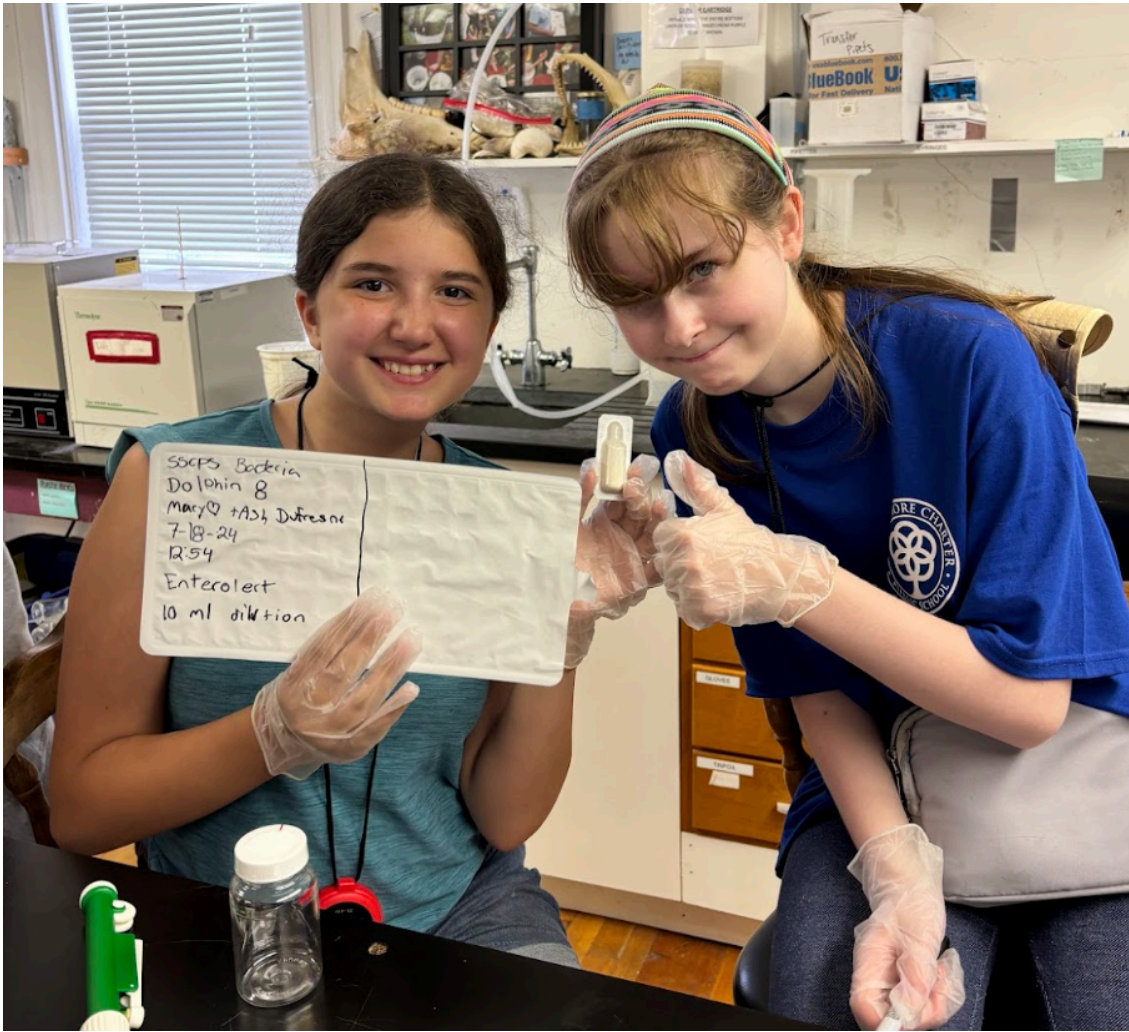




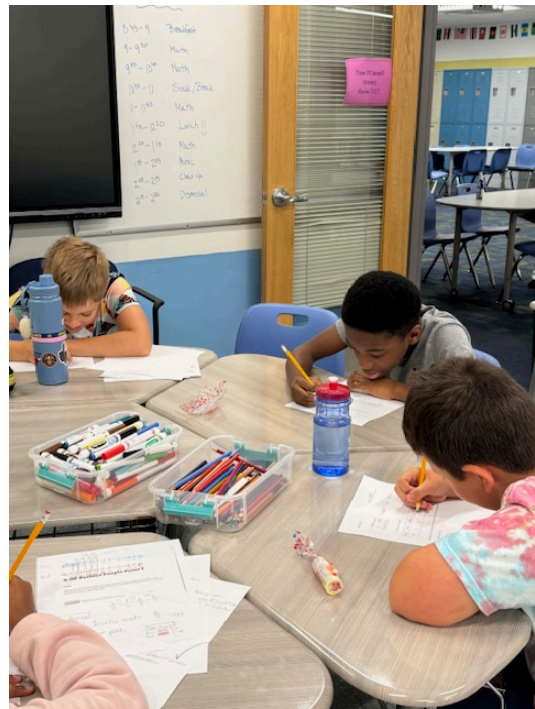




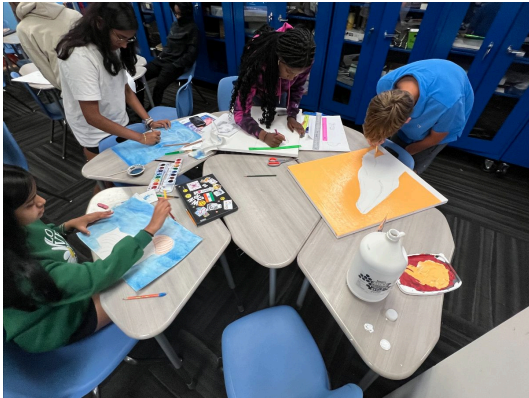
Students learned ways to measure the tides and how to use various oceanography tools. Students spent the majority of the day on the boat exploring the marsh and collecting water samples from various locations around the Cohasset Harbor for analysis the following week.



# MATH ACCELERATION ACADEMY



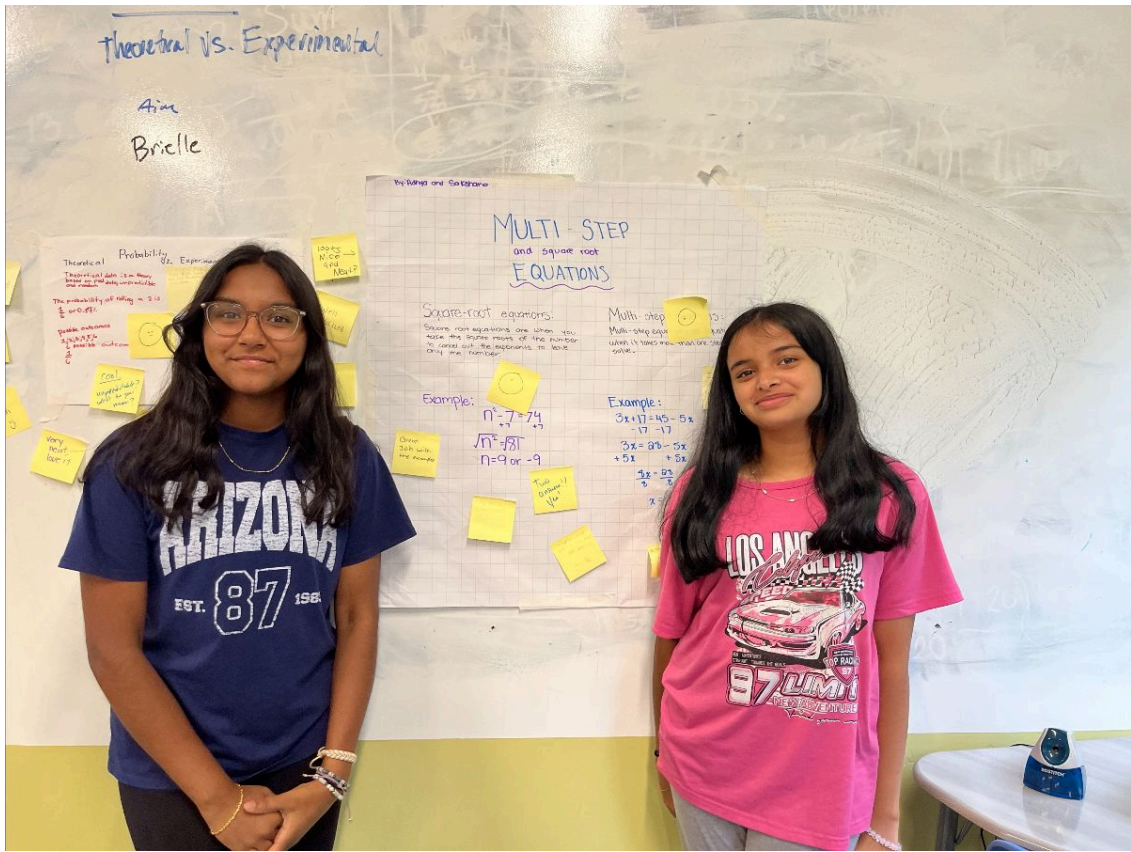
Visual Art



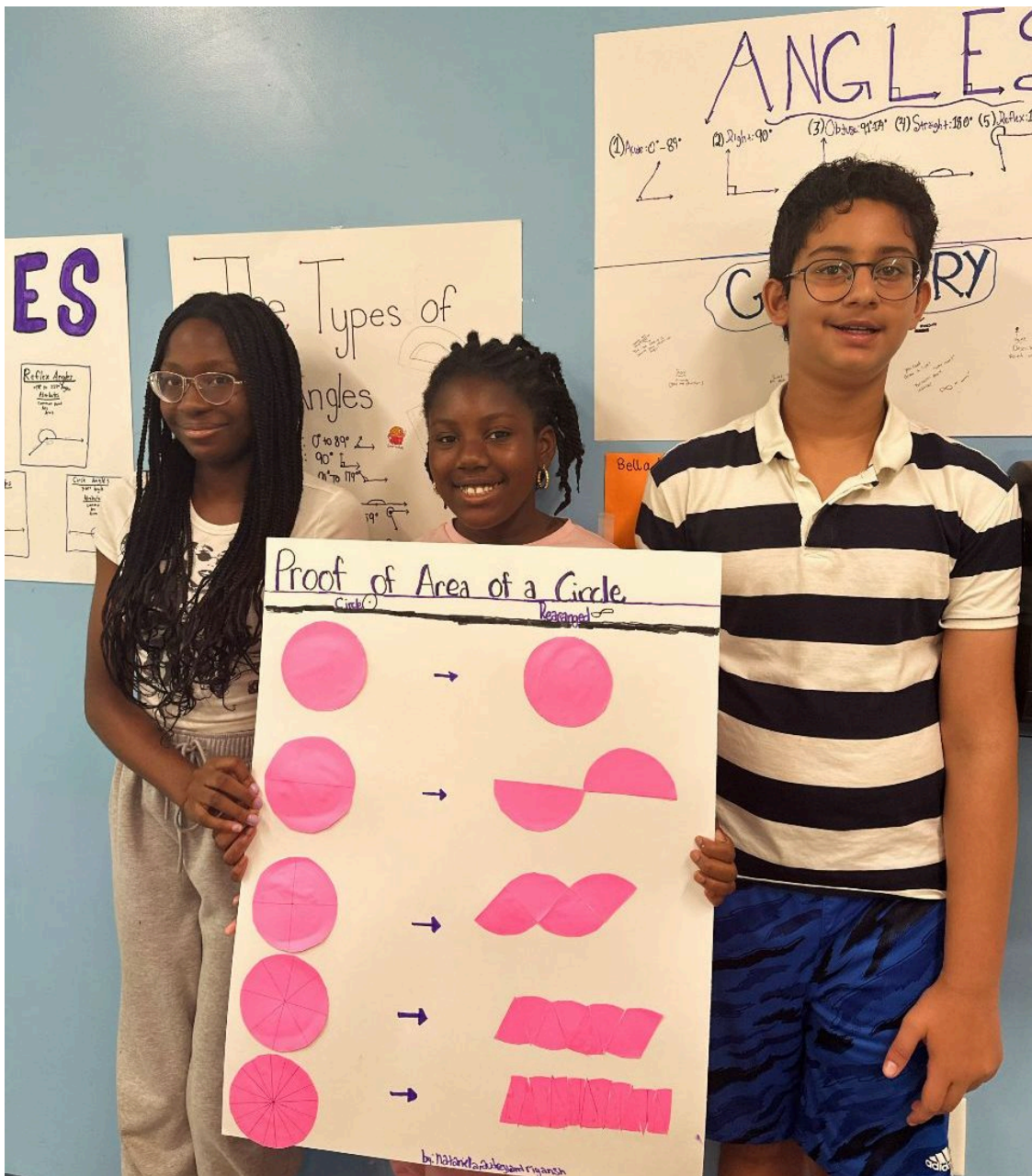
## Music



Jess's 8th Grade



Chinki's 7th Grade

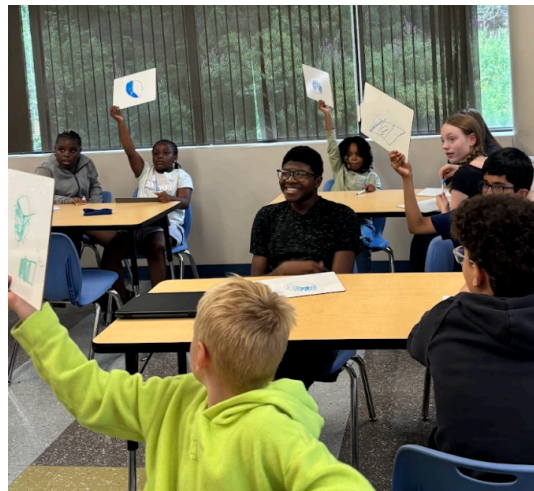


**4th Grade and 9th Grade Collaboration**  
**Angie Williamson (4th) and Kim Williamson (9th)**



As a fun activity for the end of the day in the Math Acceleration Academy, rising ninth grade students paired up with fourth graders in a competitive game of Jaguar Math Mania! Topics ranged from multiplying multi two digit numbers, comparing fractions, and the history of SSCPS. This gave younger students an opportunity to show what they learned and be coached by their older peers, while giving older students a review of their math facts and opportunities to become leaders and role models.





## COMMUNITY SERVICE

If you've started your Community Service for the **2024-2025** school year, it's not too early to start recording those hours today!

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, ELPAC, SEPAC



Dear SSCPS Families,

Welcome to the South Shore Charter Public School community! My name is Nakeya Miller, and I am excited to introduce myself as the new Chair of the Parent Association (PA).

Whether you're joining us for the first time or returning for another year, we are thrilled to have you as part of our community.

As a working parent, I understand the balancing act this can be. However, I've learned that there are many flexible ways to support our school and students. Whether it's volunteering in the classroom, assisting at school events, or offering your unique skills and talents, there's a place for everyone to contribute. Our community is deeply grateful for any level of involvement, and your participation truly makes a difference.

The Parents Association is a fantastic way to stay connected with what's happening at school. Unlike many other organizations, our PA focuses on uniting parents, serving as a voice for our community, and supporting the school's growth. Every parent or guardian of

an SSCPS student is automatically a member of the PA, and we highly value your input.

Together with our dedicated leadership team, we are committed to building a supportive and enriching school community for all our children. Our team includes:

- **Kaleigh Fortune**, Co-Chair for Levels III & IV (Grades 5-8)
- **Addy Olaoye**, Co-Chair for Level V (High School)
- **Ruth Louis**, Treasurer
- **Lisa Elwell**, Secretary
- **Sara Akonkem**, Student Representative and Senior (Class of 2025)
- **Emily Walsh**, Student Representative and Junior (Class of 2026)

Please join our monthly meetings, held the second Tuesday of every month at 7PM in person and on Zoom. These meetings are a great opportunity to meet other parents, share your thoughts, and stay informed about school events and initiatives. As you prepare yourself for the upcoming school year I invite you to visit and bookmark the [PA website](#) which includes our meeting calendar, meeting agendas and minutes, the PA Grant Request form, information on accessing the Parent Directory, and soon to be a Parent Volunteer Opportunities list.

SSCPS thrives because of the incredible people who make up our community, including you and your family. You'll often hear about the "Charter way," which embodies kindness, inclusivity, and collaboration. We are excited to have you join us in this journey and look forward to your contributions.

Please don't hesitate to reach out with any questions or for more information. Together, we can make a positive impact on our children's educational experiences.

Welcome to SSCPS!

Warm regards,

**Nakeya Miller**

Chair, Parent Association and Co-Chair for Levels I & II

## 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 new prescription medication form each year. 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. Please check expiration dates of medication before sending it in. Medication that expires during the school year will need to be replaced before it expires. Please reach out to your school nurse if you have any questions about medications.

K-8: Jaime Kjelgaard, RN [jkjelgaard@sscps.org](mailto:jkjelgaard@sscps.org) 781-982-4202 x104

High School: Barbara Folan, RN [bfolan@sscps.org](mailto:bfolan@sscps.org) 781-982-4201 x 182

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 of the start of the sports season. 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](mailto:Jkjelgaard@sscps.org) 781-982-4202 x 104

High School: Barbara Folan, RN [Bfolan@sscps.org](mailto: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.

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](mailto:attendance@sscps.org).

Level I students should have a full change of weather appropriate clothes that is kept at school.

## FROM THE FOUNDATION

**South Shore Charter Public School Annual Road Race  
Saturday, Sept. 28th!**

**SIGN UP HERE**

#30ANDSTILLRUNNINGSSCPS

# SOUTH SHORE CHARTER PUBLIC SCHOOL



# 30TH ANNIVERSARY ROAD RACE

SATURDAY, SEPT. 28 @ 9:00AM  
WOMPATUCK STATE PARK  
ALL ARE WELCOME!

MORE



INFO

BECOME A COMPANY SPONSOR

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

[Donate Here](#)

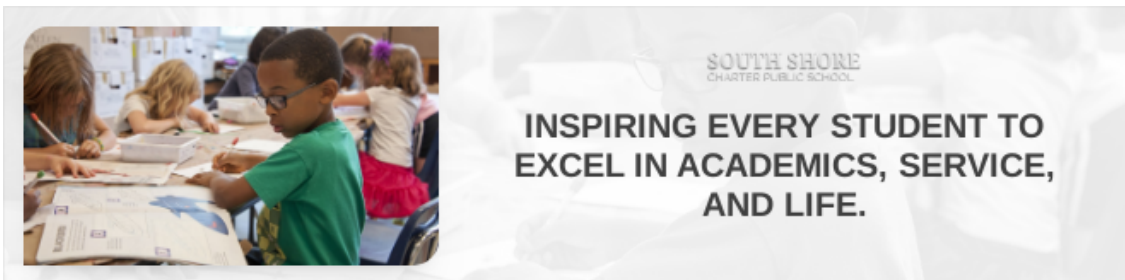
## IMPORTANT LINKS

**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 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](#)

## School Documents

- [2024-2025 School Calendar](#)
- [Student and Family Handbook](#)
- [Arrival and Dismissal Procedures](#)
- [SSCPS By-Laws](#)



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