

Vol. 12 Issue 1

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A Message from Mary

We are thrilled to share the highlights of our inaugural Alumni College Fair, held on Wednesday, November 27th from 10:00am - 12:00. The event brought together our accomplished alumni and our current students for a day filled with inspiration, guidance, and the power of shared experiences.



Alumni Giving Back

This year, we had 17 alumni who returned to represent their colleges and universities. From Ivy League institutions to state universities, liberal arts colleges, and technical schools, the diversity of experiences showcased was nothing short of extraordinary. Our alumni shared their journeys, from adjusting to campus life to pursuing their academic and personal passions, offering invaluable advice to our students preparing for their next steps.





A Day of Connection and Learning

The event was designed to foster meaningful connections. SSCPS Alumni manned individual tables with their college name and information, engaging in one-on-one conversations with students in the current junior and senior class. Students had the opportunity to ask candid questions about campus culture, academic rigor, and tips for college applications.

Colleges represented by the SSCPS Alumni:

Clark University CLC Conservatory Curry College Dean College Emory University Harvard University Howard University Northeastern UMaine UMass Amherst UMass Dartmouth UMass Dartmouth UMass Lowell University of Connecticut







This event reflects the strength of the SSCPS community and the lasting connections we share. Stay tuned for more opportunities to connect and celebrate our alumni in the future!

Mary Carter Director of Guidance

School Calendar & Announcements

Click here for the complete SSCPS Events & Athletics Calendar

SSCPS WEEKLY CALENDAR DEC 04 - DEC 11 Wed 04 Thu 05 Fri 06 Sat/Sun High School Theater Board of Trustees Meeting Library Committee Workshop to The Company at 700 Longwater Drive Meeting - 11:45AM and via Zoom - 5:30PM Theater, Norwell Ad Hoc Communication Committee Meeting via Zoom - 6:30PM Tue 10 Wed 11 Mon 09 Level | Winter Concert in Ad Hoc Communication Parents Association December 12 - High School Meeting - 7:00PM the PE Space at 104 Homecoming Dance at Committee Meeting (in Longwater - 10:00-10:40AM Canton Town Club person) at 700 Longwater Drive - 6:30PM December 13 - Parent/ Teacher Conferences (No School for Students) December 17, 18 - Winter Concerts

SSCPS Events & Athletics Calendar

10% Off School Picture Orders!

CODE: F202410OFF *Expires July 31, 2025*

CLICK HERE TO REDEEM

Don't forget to order your FREE Digital SmileSafe card! More about the Smilesafe program <u>here</u>.

From the SSCPS Board of Trustees

Meeting Today, December 4th

In case you missed it: The Ad Hoc Communication Committee will be holding a virtual meeting today, December 4th at 6:30pm via <u>Zoom</u>. Use the button below to join the meeting.

A second meeting will be held in-person on Monday, December 9th at 6:30pm at 700 Longwater.

These meetings will provide an opportunity to discuss the survey findings, hear from one another, and address key themes from your valuable feedback.

We hope you can join us!

VIRTUAL MEETING LINK

Meeting Agendas & Reports

Below is the Board of Trustees Meeting Agenda for the month of December. You can find more information on the SSCPS Board of Trustees on our website <u>here</u>.

FY25 December Meeting Agenda

FY25 December ED Report

Upcoming School & Community Events

SSCPS Winter Concerts

December 11th, 17th, & 18th



NHS Holiday Rooms

December 19th



Friends of Holly Hill Farm Programs & Events



Celebrating 30 Years of SSCPS



For the last 30 years, South Shore Charter Public School has been a pillar of innovation, community, and academic excellence. This school year, as we celebrate this incredible milestone, we're reminded of the power of generosity in shaping our journey and strengthening our future. As we launch this year's 30th Anniversary Annual Fund Campaign, our goal is to raise \$50,000 and have 100% family participation. Donations will be collected through the remainder of the school year, and you can choose which department or area of SSCPS you'd like your donation to be put toward.

Every donations makes a difference, no matter the size. Help us celebrate 30 years of SSCPS and contribute to our future successes for 30 more years and beyond!

Make a Donation

SSCPS Receives Creative Projects Grant

We are pleased to report that South Shore Charter Public School has received a grant of \$5,000.00 from the Mass Cultural Council for our Holly Hill Farm Program. As our families know, the Holly Hill Farm Project actively engages first and second graders in a comprehensive multi-grade initiative for students on Level I.

Students plant and hike on the farm, learning about water flow, animal nests, and trees. In addition to math, earth science, and ecology, this experiential learning parallels what they are reading and learning about within the new Wonders curriculum. This outdoor education program has provided students with ongoing opportunities inherent in outdoor education. Students learn life cycles by planting, including measuring, digging, placing, and covering seeds. Students learn how to garden, care for animals, and eat harvested food.

We are grateful for this support from MCC. The goal of this project is to increase experiential learning opportunities for students so that they are able to make real life connections with what they learn about in school to the world around them. South Shore Charter has increased the farm program at Holly Hill, added organic garden beds on campus, and continues to provide students with lessons on stewardship of the world. Receiving this grant from MCC is notably special as we celebrate our 30th anniversary. With this generous Creative Projects Grant from Mass Cultural Council, South Shore Charter will continue to provide hands-on, experiential learning opportunities for our youngest learners.



What's New in Projects & Workshops

High School Cultural Diversity Workshop

The Cultural Diversity Workshop is holding a coat drive from now until January 5th! Please feel free to donate warm winter coats for children and adults - all sizes welcome.



Arts & Music

SSCPS Concert Strings | Winter Festival Performance

The SSCPS Concert Strings group has been invited to perform at the Four Corners Winter Festival this Friday! This is a family friendly holiday event with chorus groups and dance schools performing, pictures with Santa, s'mores, food trucks, a gingerbread house contest, and more. Our Concert Strings students will be performing at 5:45pm. All information about the festival can be found below.



Afterschool Enrichment Program 2024-2025

Register for Session II by December 13th!



We are pleased to announce that registration for Session of our Afterschool Enrichment Program is now open. Please review our Club Descriptions here and complete the Registration using FamilyID.com. Registration closes on Friday, December 13th. 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 ASEP Coordinator

Chemical Creations Club

In Week 7, we conducted two exciting experiments that left the students eager for more. The first experiment showcased the fascinating properties of polymers using zip-lock bags. We filled the bags with water and carefully pierced them with colored pencils. The students were amazed to see how the water stayed contained, thanks to the bag's polymer structure forming a tight seal around the pencils, effectively preventing any leaks.

For the second experiment, we created colorful, bubbling volcanoes using baking soda and vinegar. The students were thrilled as they combined the two ingredients, watching the eruption of bubbles and foam as the chemical reaction took place, mimicking a volcanic explosion.

We can't wait for our next chemistry adventure!





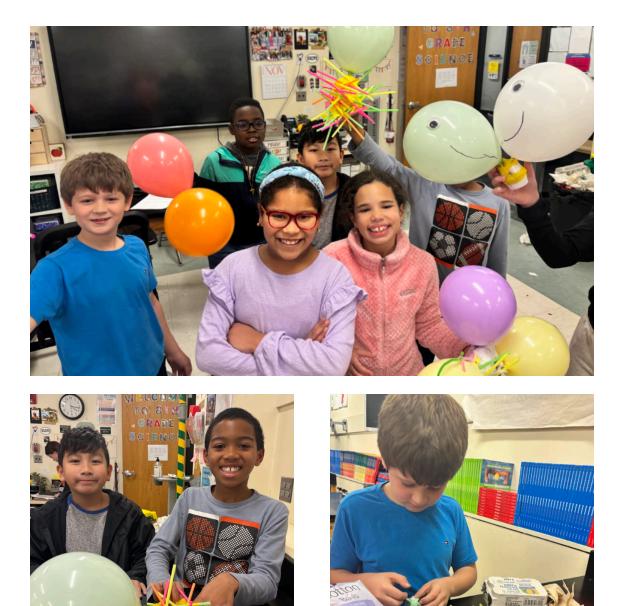




STEAM Dream Team

The STEAM DREAM TEAM students dove into the prototyping process through the classic egg drop challenge. This hands-on activity inspired them to design, construct, and test protective structures to keep an egg intact when dropped from table height. Through trial

and error, they evaluated their designs, refined their ideas, and learned to balance creativity with practical problem-solving—all while collaborating with their teammates.





Creative Minds Club

In Creative Minds Club, we explored the genius of Picasso and his incredible contributions to the art world. Inspired by his unique style, students unleashed their creativity and added their own flair to craft stunning Picasso Collages. It was a fun and imaginative journey into the world of modern art!











Community Service

Submit Community Service Hours

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

Cushing Annual Christmas Tree Sale

Sign up to volunteer with Cardinal Cushing Centers at their Annual Christmas Tree and Wreath Sale this season! Volunteers will help sell trees, wreaths, houseplants, student crafted holiday art, ornaments, and more. Be sure to wear or bring plenty of warm winter clothing as volunteers will be spending lots of time outdoors. Volunteers will also get hot cocoa, coffee, treats, and discounts on trees, wreaths, and more!

Location:

The Garden Shop (aka The Old Trader) at the Cushing Greenhouse,

120 Columbia Road, Hanover, MA 02339

Days & Hours

Thursdays: 2pm - 7pm

Fridays: 2pm – 8pm

Saturdays: 9am - 8pm

Sundays: 9am – 5pm

Closed: Monday – Wednesday

To sign up or learn more information, contact Eleanor using the button below.

SIGN UP & INFO

Interfaith Holiday Sponsor Form

Each year, caring individuals, churches and businesses across the South Shore "adopt" some of Interfaith's food pantry client families as part of our Help for the Holidays program. They purchase gifts for children who would otherwise go without. Last year, nearly 900 children were assisted through this program.

If you would like to purchase gifts for children served by Interfaith Social Services' food pantry, please fill out <u>this form</u>.

Please avoid donating clothing, tablets, gaming systems, computers, scooters or bikes.

LEARN MORE



Help for the Holidays We still have more than 400 children that need sponsors!



`TIS THE SEASON

Here at Interfaith Social Services we're feverishly planning for the holiday season. This time of year is particularly difficult for the families that we serve. We want to make sure that all of our clients receive not only their basic necessities, but a little bit of joy as well.

Each year Interfaith depends on sponsors from our community to participate in our <u>Help for</u> <u>the Holidays</u> program, which distributes holiday gifts to more than 1,000 local kids in need.

SPONSOR TODAY

Parents Association, SEPAC, & ELPAC

Parents Association



Level I & II Co-Chair Elections

Announcing Keisha O'Marde as our new Level I & II Co-Chair! As you may know, there are 3 Co-Chairs of the PA representing our student/parent population; Stephanie Innis represents Level III & IV, and Addy Olaoye represents Level V. Between the three Co-Chairs, they elect a single Chair of the Parents Association to represent all

Parent/Guardians interest on the Board of Trustees. This is a big volunteer responsibility and essential to the health of our school, so please join us in congratulating Keisha on her win!

Our next PA meeting will be held on Tuesday December 10th @ 7PM. Please join us on Zoom.

PA Elections Committee

Lisa Elwell (PA Secretary) Alisha Uhlenbrock-Furst (PA Member)

K-6 Craft Day Volunteer Sign Up

We are looking for volunteers to help with this year's Craft Day event on Friday, December 20th. If you are interested in volunteering on Craft Day please sign up <u>here</u>. We are asking volunteers to plan for a craft for about 50 students. **Due to the structure of the event, individuals may only register for one grade level.**

Anyone that volunteers at SSCPS must complete a CORI, complete volunteer training, take the volunteer quiz and be fingerprinted. Please plan ahead and get your paperwork completed as soon as possible if you plan to come in and volunteer on Craft Day. This sign up will close on Friday, December 13th to allow us time to plan. Thank you for your consideration. We are all looking forward to this year's Craft Day!

CRAFT DAY SIGN-UP

Other Ways to Get Engaged in Our School Community

Did you know there is more than one way to get engaged in our school community? Visit the PA website **Parent Volunteer Opportunities** page to learn more about the following three way you can get engaged:

1. Search through **parent volunteer opportunities list** – This dynamic list houses onetime and ongoing volunteering opportunities at the school.

2. Join a PA Committee – Email the PA if you want to join one of our standing committees including Outreach, Events, and Fundraising <u>PAatSSCPS@gmail.com</u>

3. Join the <u>SSCPS Connect</u> Database - SSCPS Connect is a community engagement platform that connects the skills, talents and expertise of our community members to our school's faculty, staff, and community leaders to support our mission to "Inspire students to excel in academics, service, and life." Through a comprehensive survey, we gather how individuals want to contribute, allowing school leaders to easily search and connect to the resources that exist right here in our community.

PA Website Quick Links

SSCPS Parent Directory Update

We are pleased to announce that the Parent Directory is now active on our <u>PlusPortals</u> website. The Parent Directory provides families with a means to connect with other SSCPS families. In order to be listed in the Parent Directory, you must opt-in. Information will not be shared without your consent.

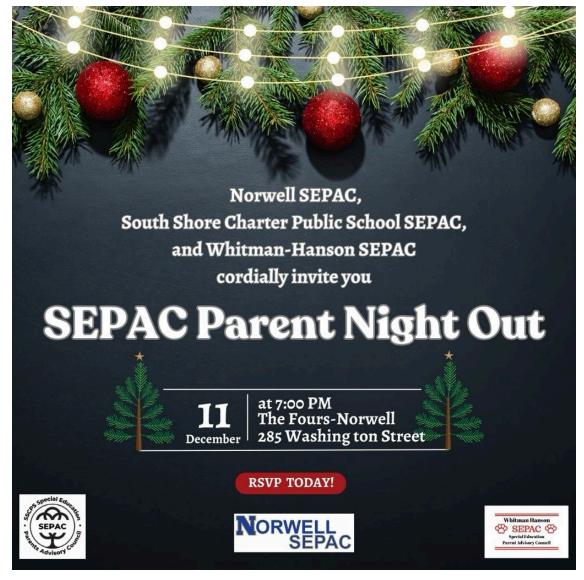
The first step is to activate your **<u>PlusPortals</u>** account. If your account is not yet activated you should have received activation instructions in a separate email.

Next, click on your name and choose "Directory Listing."

From this page, select the information that you would like shared with the community.

Please find detailed instructions here.

SEPAC



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@sspcs.org 781-982-4202 x104

High School: Barbara Folan, RN 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 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.

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.

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

From the Foundation



SOUTH SHORE CHARTER EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

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

Protect Your K-12 Cholocol-Issued Device Xide costly repairs and replacements with comprehensive protection.	Salititud välida par el año escelar 2024-2025 Proteja su dispositivo escolar purors y reemplazos costosos con una protección completa.
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ACER/LENOVO/SAMSUNG CHROMEBOOK Device \$0.00 \$19.00 08.29.20 08.20 08.29.20	NOVO/SAMSUNG CHROMEBOOK Device \$0.00 \$39.00 Plazo de la poliza: 29.08.2024 29.08.2025
Deadline to purchase coverage: SUNDAY 10.06.2024	Fecha límite para comprar cobertura: DOMINGO 06.10.2024
To purchase please visit: https://gpo.worthavegroup.com/southshorecps	Para comprar, visite: https://gpo.worthavegroup.com/southshorecps
Customer Phone: (800) 620-2885 Hours: 8am-Sam M-F CST Deline Chast: swww.weethavegroup.com	ención Telifon: (800) 620-2885 Horas 8a.mSp.m. L.V.CST Charla en lines: www.wortharegroup.com Aceptamos Visa, Masterard, American Express & Discove
S0+ Years Lader in In Business Lader in K+12 beick hourance Display an K+12 beick hourance	50+ años ent el registro work Ave. Group P.O. Bax 2077 Stillwater, OK 74076 www.worthavegroup.com (800) K20 2885

Protect Your K-12 School-Issued Device!

South Shore Charter Public School has chosen Worth Ave. Group as the insurance provider for school devices. To opt into the Voluntary Group Program click <u>here</u>.

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

School Documents

1. Afterschool Enrichment Program

2. DESE Student Attendance Letter Translated:

<u>Arabic, Cape Verdean</u> <u>Creole, Chinese, Haitian</u> <u>Creole, Portuguese, Spanish, Vietnames</u> e

- 3. Back-to-School Information
- 4. Food Services
- 5. Health Office
- 6. <u>Massachusetts Department of</u> <u>Transitional Assistance</u>
- 7. Community Service
- 8. Visit the Parents Association Website

2024-2025 School Calendar Student and Family Handbook Arrival and Dismissal Procedures SSCPS By-Laws



INSPIRING EVERY STUDENT TO EXCEL IN ACADEMICS, SERVICE,

SOUTH SHORE

AND LIFE.



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