

Vol. 3 Issue 3

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A Message from Angie

The beautiful weather and later sunsets have helped all of us to ease into the change that comes with daylight saving time. Last week saw the end of the K-4 second trimester, and teachers posted **progress reports for students in grades 5-12**. We are at a busy point in the year where teaching and learning are coupled with careful planning for next school year.

At the high school level, course selection is a critical component of this planning process. Students in grades nine, ten, and eleven have started the process of creating their

schedules for the 2025-2026 school year. In Advisory, students discussed the course selection process, the importance of designing a rigorous schedule aligned to post-secondary goals, and the available course options. Following the discussion, students completed a survey to make preliminary selections. While the survey is not binding, it is an important first step as the data helps us determine student interest and tailor offerings to meet needs. We will use the data from the surveys to finalize courses and begin to place students. Those offerings, along with descriptions of the courses, information about prerequisites, and general policies can be found in the <u>2025-2026 High School Course</u> <u>Descriptions</u> document.

The availability of courses varies by grade with choice increasing as students move through high school. The selections available in ninth grade are relatively narrow as students complete the foundational courses they need both for high school success and to meet state and school graduation requirements. Seniors have a wide number of courses available to them as they consider what they need to achieve their postsecondary goals. College admissions have become increasingly focused with many programs requiring students to commit to specific majors before their acceptance; those majors often have high school prerequisites. Our guidance department and curriculum team work with students as they navigate these requirements and make decisions.

Our course offerings for the 2025-2026 school year include a wide selection of Advanced Placement® courses. The AP program at SSCPS provides students with exposure to rigorous, college-level academics in a high school setting. AP courses aim to improve not only a student's knowledge of the relevant subject matter, but their time management skills, study habits, and close reading skills in preparation for the demands of a college curriculum. The availability of these courses is important as we work to prepare students for both competitive college admissions and the rigors of the coursework they will encounter after high school.

While Advanced Placement® has many benefits, it requires commitment and significant work outside of school hours. Students planning on taking an AP course must complete a contract before they enroll. A section of that contract requires students to discuss their AP choices with their parents or guardians. AP contracts are due on Thursday, April 3rd. The contract for the 2025-2026 school year can be found <u>here</u>. Students must complete the contract themselves using their school Google account. I will be meeting with all students in grades nine, ten, and eleven during Advisory on Monday to discuss our AP program, explain the enrollment process, and answer any questions. The full list of AP courses available, information about the program, prerequisites, and requirements can all be found on the Advanced Placement page of our website.

Communication with families is a critical component of the course selection process. Significant consideration on the part of both teachers and students goes into course selection. Teachers and students will finalize those selections in the next few weeks with tentative schedules going home in early May. The selections that go home are not final. There will be time prior to the close of the year for students to make changes. Changes can be made by the appropriate curriculum coordinator in consultation with the **guidance department**. Please do not hesitate to ask questions as we work to set the stage for a productive 2025-2026 school year.

Angie Pepin Principal, K-12

School Calendar & Announcements

Click here for the complete SSCPS Events & Athletics Calendar

SSCPS WEEKLY CALENDAR MAR 19 - MAR 26							
Wed 19	Thu 20	Fri 21	Sat/Sun				
Junior Parent Night via Zoom - 6:30PM SSCPS SEPAC Meeting via Zoom - 6:30PM	New High School Students Shadow Day	New High School Students Shadow Day High School Mock Trial Competition in Boston NHS Volunteer Trip to Father Bill's Brockton					
Mon 24	Tue 25 MCAS Grade 10 ELA New Grade 7 & 8 Shadow Day	Wed 26 MCAS Grade 10 ELA New Grade 7 & 8 Shadow Day Grade 10 & 11 Spain Trip Parent Information Meeting via Zoom - 6PM	Upcoming				

SSCPS Events & Athletics Calendar

Upcoming School & Community Events

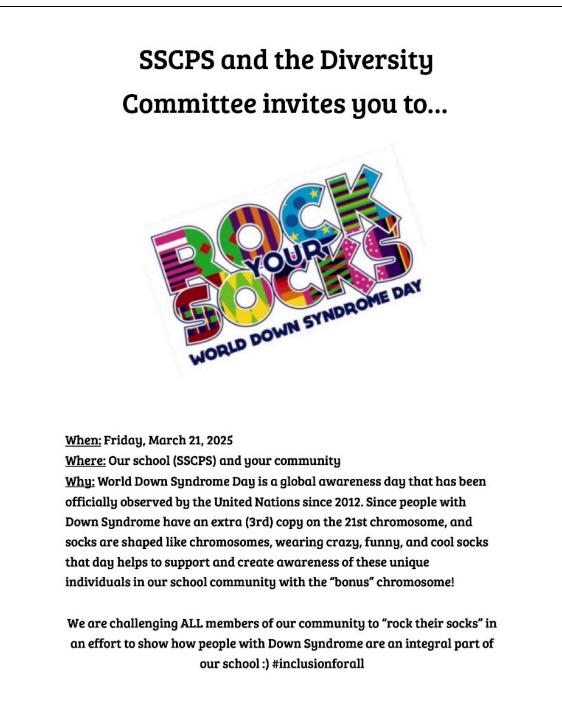
Junior-Senior Prom 2025

Juniors & Seniors - join SSCPS for "An Enchanted Time" at prom on May 16th! The dance will be held at the Tirrell Room in Quincy, MA from 7:00 - 11:00PM. Tickets are on sale now - use the button below to purchase!

Buy Tickets



World Down Syndrome Day



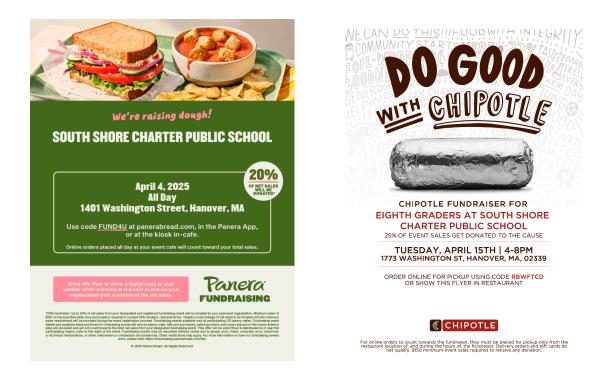
Grade 8 Fundraising Opportunities

Eighth graders at South Shore Charter are raising money to help fund our field trips and group activities at the end of this year! We have two field trips coming up: one to Washington D.C. and one to Boston, and we'd love your support.

A number of local restaurants and businesses have upcoming fundraising opportunities in

April that can help support our initiatives, from dining out or ordering from certain restaurants to spending time at activity centers with the family! Click on the flyers below for more details about the next two opportunities.

For any questions, please contact Kristen Mullin-Connolly at kconnolly@sscps.org



Friends of Holly Hill Farm Programs & Events



SSCPS YEARBOOKS ON SALE NOW!

Our SSCPS 2025 yearbooks are available to order now! Use the information below to order yours today.

> Yearbook: <u>Order Here</u> Code: **14917725**

10% OFF SCHOOL PICTURE ORDERS!

CODE: **F2024100FF** *Expires July 31, 2025*

CLICK HERE TO REDEEM

Don't forget to order your FREE Digital SmileSafe card!

Celebrating 30 Years of SSCPS

CELEBRATING 3®YEARS

SOUTH SHORE CHARTER PUBLIC SCHOOL

Est. 1995

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



On the Levels

Irish Step Dancing at 100 Longwater

Ninth grader Katie Byrne came over to 100 Longwater to put on an Irish Step Dance performance for the kindergarteners on Friday, March 14th. After dancing, Katie taught 8 kindergarteners how to do some steps, and they then taught their classes. A great time was had by all!



Level I Artwork

First and second grade students in Pam Golden's art class used lines and colors to create 3D spatial illustrations!







P.E. Kids Heart Challenge

The Kids Heart Challenge has reached its goal! In the month of February, the Physical Education Department partnered with the American Heart Association by hosting the Kids Heart Challenge. Throughout the month, we thoroughly enjoyed teaching lessons on the function of the heart, the importance of heart health, and how a healthy lifestyle can positively impact us socially, emotionally, and physically. Thank you to all the families and friends of SSCPS that have donated and to the students that have raised money for this great cause!





NHS Disability Awareness Fundraiser

Support the SSCPS National Honor Society's latest fundraiser! Until March 24th, NHS will be selling wristbands to raise money for Developmental Disability Awareness Month! The wristbands will come in various colors that represent different disabilities, and each one will be accompanied by an info card to spread awareness. SSCPS students at 100 and 700 can use the pre-order form below to place their orders.

Wristband Pre-Orders



What's New in Projects & Workshops

Beatles Concert | High School Music Workshop

Join SSCPS on Wednesday, April 9th for a Beatles Concert performed by the High School Music Workshop! The concert will be held in the PE space at 104 Longwater Drive starting at 6:00PM.



Level III Community Service Project

Click the message or button below to support the Level III Community Service Project!

Hello SSCPS Community,

"The Level III Community Service Project is planning a trip to the local nursing home to host a craft day and we need your help. We would be so grateful if you could help us purchase an item from our <u>Amazon Wish List</u>. All the elderly would be so grateful to wake up on Valentine's Day morning and have a bunch of crafts to do to brighten their day."

> Sincerely, The SSCPS Community Service Project



Visit the Wishlist

Afterschool Enrichment Program 2024-2025

Chemical Creations Club

This week in the Chemical Creations Club, we explored the magic of chemistry through two exciting hands-on experiments!

Our first activity demonstrated the mesmerizing interaction between soap and milk. By adding food coloring to milk and introducing soap, we observed a burst of swirling colors. This reaction occurs because milk contains water, proteins, and fat, while soap molecules have both hydrophilic (water-attracting) and hydrophobic (fat-attracting) ends. As the soap disrupts the fat in the milk, the food coloring moves in a vibrant, ever-changing display—just like a liquid rainbow!

For our second activity, students became chemists in the kitchen by making homemade playdough. By mixing flour, salt, water, and food coloring, they crafted their own colorful, moldable creations. The kneading and shaping process provided a hands-on way to explore chemical mixtures and textures. Best of all, everyone got to take their unique playdough creations home!

Below is the simple recipe we used, featuring common household ingredients:

Playdough Recipe:

- 1/2 cup flour
- 1 ½ tablespoons salt

- 1/2 tablespoon vegetable oil
- 1/3 cup warm water
- A few drops of food coloring

Stay tuned for more fun chemical experiments next week!









Community Service

Community Service Opportunities

Need help finding a community service opportunity? Below is a link to our regularly updated Community Service Table filled with CS opportunities around the South Shore. Descriptions of organizations, contact information, and more are included.

Community Service Table

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

From the SSCPS Board of Trustees

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

FY25 March Meeting Agenda

Health Office

In the coming weeks, the Health Office will be starting screenings for vision, hearing, weight, and heights. These screenings are based on grades. **If you would like to exempt**

your student from any or all of these screenings please email:

K-8: Jaime Kjelgaard (<u>Jkjelgaard@sscps.org</u>) High School: Barbara Folan (<u>Bfolan@sscps.org</u>) Exemptions must be done annually.

Please remember if your student has a fever, vomiting, diarrhea, or an infectious illness (such as strep throat) they need to remain out of school. Students with a fever need to remain home until they are fever free with no medication for 24 hours. Vomiting and diarrhea needs to be resolved for a full 24 hours before returning to school. Students with an infectious illness need to stay out until symptoms have resolved or they have completed a full 24 hours of antibiotics.

Students go outside for recess in most weather. Please make sure that students have proper clothing to be outside. Students should also have a refillable water bottle daily.

If you have any further questions please do not hesitate to reach out to the Health Offices.

781-982-4202 Jaime Kjelgaard, RN - K-8 building (x104) Barbara Folan, RN - High School building (x182)

Parents Association, SEPAC, & ELPAC

Parents Association



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 one-

time 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 **PAatSSCPS@gmail.com**

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.

Today: SEPAC Meeting



Important Links

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

School Documents

- 1. Afterschool Enrichment Program
- 2. DESE Student Attendance Letter Translated: (<u>Arabic, Cape Verdean Creole, Chinese, Haitian</u> <u>Creole, Portuguese, Spanish, Vietnamese</u>)
- 3. Back-to-School Information
- 4. Food Services
- 5. Health Office
- 6. <u>Massachusetts Department of Transitional</u> <u>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

Next Year: <u>Updated 2025-</u> 2026 School Calendar

Protect Your K-12 School-Issued Device!



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	SOL	TH SHOR	E CHARTE	R PUBLIC S	CHOOL	
Reclamos ilimitados	Dallos Accidentales		ubmersión y	o, inundación desastres naturates	la por Vandalis	smo Robo
Dispositivo	No se cubre:	Defecto del fabricante		os cosméticos, desgaste Deducible		plicada.
ACER/LENOVC	D/SAMSUNG C	HROMEBOOK	Device	\$0.00	\$19.00	Plazo de la póliza: 29.08.2024 29.08.2025
F	echa límit		Para cor	tura: DOMI nprar, visite: egroup.com/s		
Atenció al clien	Horas: 8	: (800) 620-2885 a.m5p.m. L-V CS a linea: www.wort		VISA .	a, Mastercard, Ame	rican Express & Dis
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Worth Ave, Group P.O. Box 2077 Stillwater, OK 74076 | www.worthavegroup.com | (800) 620-2885

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>.





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