



## Weekly Update | October 23, 2024

Vol. 10 Issue 4

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[View this email in your browser](#)

Table of Contents:

- [A Message from Mary](#)
- [School Calendar & Announcements](#)
- [Upcoming Events](#)
- [Celebrating 30 Years of SSCPS](#)
- [On the Levels](#)
- [Afterschool Enrichment Program 2024-2025](#)
- [From the SSCPS Board of Trustees](#)
- [Community Service](#)
- [Parents Association, SEPAC, & ELPAC](#)
- [Health Office](#)
- [From the Foundation](#)
- [Important Links](#)

### A Message from Mary

**“If you don’t know where you want to go, then it doesn’t matter which path you take.”**

*-The Cheshire Cat, Alice in Wonderland*

This is a quote that I have had in my office for many years because as a guidance counselor, many students seek the answer to that daunting question: “What should I do after school?” or “What should I major in?”. In my role as a guidance counselor, it is my job not to tell anyone what to do (especially a high school student), but rather guide them

through the process of finding the answer to this question for themselves.

To help students with this process, guidance helps support students through various activities and events, including Parent Nights, as well as individual and group meetings. I primarily work with the juniors and seniors as their Guidance Counselor, and Ahminchie Esteime is our new freshman and sophomore counselor this year.

Below is a summary of guidance services by grade level:

**Senior Year:** This year, seniors started the year off with a mini college fair in early September as well as having a Senior Seminar for the first quarter. Senior Seminar is a space for students to work on college applications, go over the college search process and participate in mini lessons on resume writing, financial aid, careers, and internships.

**Junior Year:** The juniors took the PSAT last Friday and will take the SAT Day Exam on April 11, 2025. The first half of junior year is working on keeping up grades, extra curricular activities, and bringing their resume as well as looking at different career paths. Junior Seminar FIT will be in the Quarter 3 and we end the year by attending a college fair at Bridgewater State University.

**Sophomore Year:** During the sophomore year, guidance supports students in their academics with a focus on test taking and career exploration. As sophomores, students will take MCAS and a practice PSAT10 in the Spring.

- Work with students on career development
- Encourage students to keep up with community service
- Counsel students on Advanced Placement courses for Junior year
- Utilize Naviance for exploring college majors and careers

**Freshman Year:** The goal of freshman year guidance is to help students transition into high school.

- Freshman Orientation
- Assist students with time management, study skills, and report card review
- Help students understand the importance of a strong freshman year
- All freshman will create a CollegeBoard and Naviance account, PSAT 8/9

Ahminchie and I look forward to working with you and your students. Feel free to reach out to us with any questions!

**Mary Carter**  
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mcarter@sscps.org

**Ahminchie Estime**  
Counselor (Grades 9-10)  
aestime@sscps.org

## School Calendar & Announcements

[Click here for the complete SSCPS Events & Athletics Calendar](#)

**SSCPS WEEKLY CALENDAR** OCT 23 - OCT 30

<b>Wed 23</b>	<b>Thu 24</b> Governance Committee via Zoom - 6:15PM	<b>Fri 25</b> Library Committee Meeting at 100 Longwater Circle - 11:45AM	<b>Sat/Sun</b> Sat: K-6 Literacy Lane at 100 Longwater Circle - 2-4PM Sun: Norwell Public Safety Open House - 11-2PM
<b>Mon 28</b> School Picture Day Grades K-4 and High School	<b>Tue 29</b> School Picture Day Grades 5-8 Board of Trustees Committee Meetings via Zoom - 5-7:30PM	<b>Wed 30</b> Board of Trustees Executive Committee Meeting - 9AM	<b>Upcoming</b> <b>November 1st: Early Release Day</b>

### SSCPS Events & Athletics Calendar

## Upcoming Events

**K-6 Literacy Lane**  
**Saturday, October 26th**

A graphic for a 'Literacy Lane' event. The background is a dark blue sky with white stars. On the right, a green car is shown from the back with its trunk open, filled with a row of colorful books. On the left, the text 'Literacy Lane' and 'Grades K-6' is written in large, bold, dark blue letters. Below that, in white, it says 'ATTEND A LITERARY THEMED TRUNK-OR-TREAT AT SSCPS!'. At the bottom left, in white, it says 'SAT, OCTOBER 26TH | 2PM - 4PM | 100 LONGWATER'.

[Register Now](#)

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## Norwell Public Safety Open House

Sunday, October 27th

# Public Safety Open House



Including Norwell Fire,  
Police, DPW and CERT

*Join us for: pizza, popcorn, an auto extrication  
demonstration, the smoke trailer and NFD  
T-Shirts!*



**Fun for everyone!**

**October 27th 2024 11am-2pm**

**Norwell Fire Headquarters 300 Washington St**

# School Picture Day

**October 28th - K-4 & High School Picture Day**

**October 29th - Grades 5-8 Picture Day**



**Celebrating 30 Years of SSCPS**

**30 YEARS**  
**SOUTH SHORE CHARTER PUBLIC SCHOOL**  
*Est. 1995*

Keep your eyes out for our annual fundraising campaign beginning soon! If you'd like to make a general donation to support SSCPS, you can do so using the button below.

**Make a Donation**

**On the Levels**

## **Level III Pumpkin Carving**

On Tuesday, 10/22, Level III students carved over 100 pumpkins of varying sizes, on a spring-like, sunny day. The New England Wildlife Center (NEWC) in Weymouth has participated in a longtime community outreach with SSCPS. These pumpkins were

delivered by NEWC for Level III Project participants to carve for the annual **NEWC Night of a Thousand Faces** event on Friday, 10/25 and Saturday, 10/26 (6:30-8:00 PM). Student pairs collaborated on a design for their pumpkin, and the following day implemented their plan. Families can see these creatively-carved pumpkins on display at NEWC along with 1,000 additional pumpkins, lit up for the big event.





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## Kindness Project Collaboration | Levels I & IV

Fourth grade students in Jenn's Pod read books about kindness to second graders in Tracey's Pod. They will be working together throughout the year on community service projects!







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## Students vs. Teachers Basketball Game

On October 18, the Scrapbooking Project on Level IV hosted a Student vs. Teacher Basketball Game. This is one of many level-wide events the Project puts on throughout the year to build community across the level. The teachers remain champions, however, fun was had by all! Due to popular demand, a rematch will be scheduled for later in the year.





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## Level III Community Service Project

The Level III Community Service Project is holding a food drive! We are taking donations for the Norwell Food Pantry until October 29th. Our most needed items are canned foods (like vegetables, beans, spam, etc.), bottled water, pasta, rice, boxed meals, cereals, and juices. Please leave donations in the bin out front at the school or in Laura's classroom next to Angie's office.

For more information, please contact Laura Bosse at [lbosse@sscps.org](mailto:lbosse@sscps.org).

# Food Drive

## Donate please!!

- Canned food: corn, carrots, beans, spam, peas, ect.
- Bottled water
- Pasta
- Rice
- Boxed meals
- Cereal
- Juice



We are donating this to the Norwell food pantry!!

Please put the donations in the bin out front or in Laura's room (next to Angie's office)! This will happen on October 7-29th.

Thank you! - Level 3 Community Service Project

## Afterschool Enrichment Program 2024-2025

### Chemical Creations Club

#### **Week 2: The Fascinating World of Polymers**

This week, students delved into the science of polymers, with a spotlight on sodium polyacrylate – a super-absorbent polymer that can hold up to 300 times its weight in water, famously used in diapers. Using 3D molecular kits, they explored how polymers form by linking individual molecules. The hands-on experiments that followed allowed students to witness the incredible water-absorbing properties of sodium polyacrylate. They had fun manipulating the polymer and adding vibrant dyes, making for an engaging and colorful learning experience!





## Creative Minds Club

We're excited to share that we've completed our first project! Last Thursday, we kicked things off by using pencils to create unique Name Art designs, followed by outlining them in sharpie for a bold finish. This week, we brought those designs to life with vibrant watercolors—and they look AMAZING! Stay tuned for more creative projects ahead!





## Coding & Technology Club

We've had an exciting start in the Coding and Technology Enrichment class! The students are a talented, eager group showing great enthusiasm for learning to code. I'll be sharing updates every two weeks to keep you in the loop. Here's a summary of what we've accomplished so far:

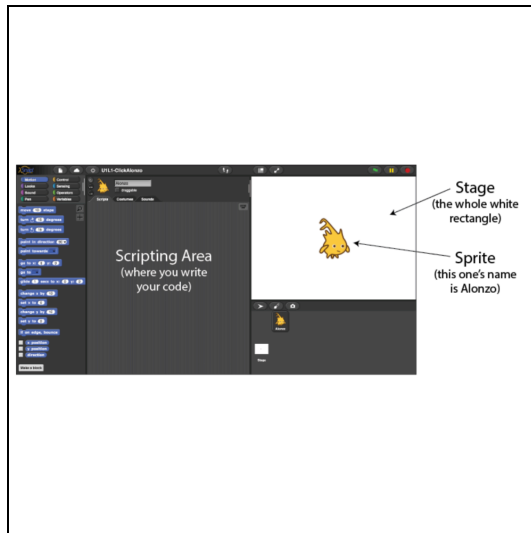
### **Week 1:**

Students were introduced to Snap! Programming, a visual, block-based language that allows users to create interactive animations, games, and stories. They created their accounts and completed their first project—a fun game where they tried to click on Alonzo, the program's mascot, as he jumped across the screen.





*This is Alonzo, the mascot of our programming language, Snap!.*



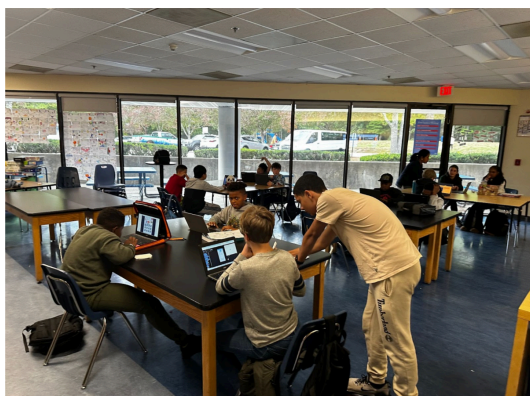
*Students programmed a game in which the goal is to click on Alonzo as he's moving around.*

**Week 2:**

Building on the first project, students enhanced their "Click Alonzo" game by making the character fade gradually with each click, eventually disappearing when the player wins. We also explored looping concepts using commands like "forever," "repeat," and "for" loops. Students applied these loops to generate creative polygon art, showcasing their growing coding skills. It's been amazing to see their creativity and enthusiasm! Stay tuned for more updates as they continue to explore the exciting world of coding!

**Looping with a Counter**

On this page, you will use **for** loops not only to repeat, but also to count the repetitions and then use that counter to draw shapes with repeated patterns:



## From the SSCPS Board of Trustees

Below are the Board of Trustees Meeting Agenda and Executive Director Report for the month of October. You can find more information on the SSCPS Board of Trustees on our website [here](#).

### FY25 October Meeting Agenda

### October Executive Director Report

## 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, SEPAC, & ELPAC



### Mid-Year Election for Level III & IV Co-Chair Position

The PA is holding a mid-year election this October to fill an opening on the leadership team! Kaleigh Fortune, our Level III & IV (Grades 5-8) Co-Chair, is leaving our school community and we need to fill this important role. You can learn more about this role by visiting the [PA Website](#) and letting us know your interest by emailing the PA at [PAatSSCPS@gmail.com](mailto:PAatSSCPS@gmail.com). Self nominations are now closed. The elections timeline is as follows:

#### Voting Period

October 22nd - 28th

#### Winner Announced

October 29th

### 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](mailto:PAatSSCPS@gmail.com)
3. Join the [SSCPS Connect](#) 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

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## SSCPS Parent Directory Update

We are pleased to announce that the Parent Directory is now active on our [PlusPortals](#) 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 **PlusPortals** 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](#).

## 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](mailto:jkjelgaard@sspcs.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 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 School-Issued Device!**

**WORTH VE. ROUP** Application valid for 2024-2025 school year

**Protect Your K-12 School-Issued Device**  
Avoid costly repairs and replacements with comprehensive protection.

**SOUTH SHORE CHARTER PUBLIC SCHOOL**  
NORWELL, MA

Unlimited Claims, Accidental Damage, Cracked Screens, Spills & Liquid Submersion, Fire, Flood & Natural Disasters, Power Surge, Vandalism, Theft

**NOT Covered:** Manufacturer Defect & Mechanical Failure, Cosmetic Damage, Wear & Tear, and Unexplained Loss.

Device	Coverage	Deductible	Price
ACER/LENOVO/SAMSUNG CHROMEBOOK	Device	\$0.00	\$19.00

Policy Term: 08.29.2024 - 08.29.2025

Deadline to purchase coverage: **SUNDAY 10.06.2024**

To purchase please visit:  
<https://gpo.worthavegroup.com/southshorecps>

Customer Support: Phone: (800) 620-2885, Hours: 8a.m.-5p.m. L-V FCT, Online Chat: [www.worthavegroup.com](http://www.worthavegroup.com)

Worth Ave. Group P.O. Box 2077 Stillwater, OK 74076 | [www.worthavegroup.com](http://www.worthavegroup.com) | (800) 620-2885

**WORTH VE. ROUP** Solicitud válida para el año escolar 2024-2025

**Proteja su dispositivo escolar**  
Evite reparos y reemplazos costosos con una protección completa.

**SOUTH SHORE CHARTER PUBLIC SCHOOL**  
NORWELL, MA

Reclamos Ilimitados, Daños accidentales, Pantallas rotas, Derrames y submersión líquida, Fuego, inundación y desastres naturales, Sobrecarga de energía por rayo, Vandalismo, Robo

**No se cubre:** Defecto del fabricante y falla mecánica, daños cosméticos, desgaste normal, o pérdida inesperada.

Dispositivo	Cobertura	Deducible	Precio
ACER/LENOVO/SAMSUNG CHROMEBOOK	Device	\$0.00	\$19.00

Plazo de la póliza: 29.08.2024 - 29.08.2025

Fecha limite para comprar cobertura: **DOMINGO 06.10.2024**

Para comprar, visite:  
<https://gpo.worthavegroup.com/southshorecps>

Atención al cliente: Teléfono: (800) 620-2885, Horas: 8a.m.-5p.m. L-V FCT, Charla en línea: [www.worthavegroup.com](http://www.worthavegroup.com)

Worth Ave. Group P.O. Box 2077 Stillwater, OK 74076 | [www.worthavegroup.com](http://www.worthavegroup.com) | (800) 620-2885

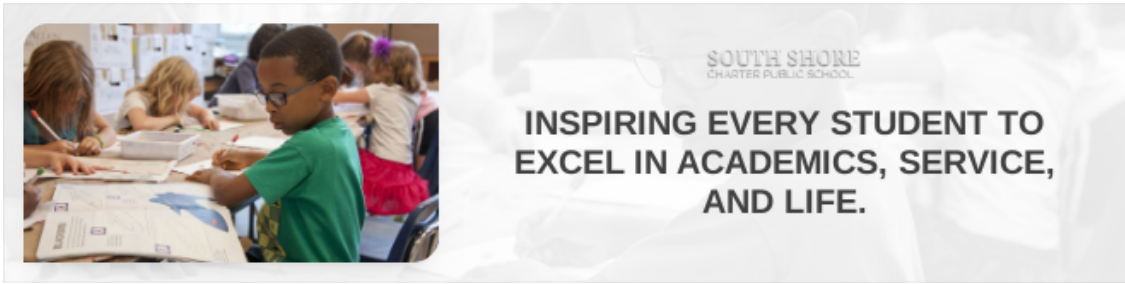
South Shore Charter Public School has chosen Worth Ave. Group as the insurance provider for school devices. To opt into the Voluntary Group Program click [here](#).

Weekly Updates are emailed and posted to our website [www.sscps.org](http://www.sscps.org).

School Documents

- [1. Afterschool Enrichment Program](#)
- [2. DESE Student Attendance Letter](#)  
Translated:  
[Arabic](#), [Cape Verdean Creole](#), [Chinese](#), [Haitian Creole](#), [Portuguese](#), [Spanish](#), [Vietnames e](#)
- [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](#)

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



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