

Weekly Update | September 4, 2024

Vol. 9 Issue 1

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A Message from Angie

What a great start to the year we've had! With the first six days now behind us, both students and teachers have begun to settle into the familiar rhythm of school. The important work that is teaching and learning is well underway across our campus. Our teachers have done an outstanding job of welcoming students, teaching classroom and school expectations to our students, and setting the routines that lay the foundation for a productive academic year. Clear expectations and structured routines help all of us, adults included, to perform at our best.

As we enter September, I hope that families are also settling into a school year routine at home and are adjusting to the balancing act that back to school requires. Transitioning from summer's leisurely pace to a structured school routine is a challenge, with social time and screen time needing to make space for homework and earlier bedtimes. Many families have found it beneficial to create an after-school schedule and display it prominently in

their homes. This schedule should include designated time for fun, dedicated slots for homework and studying, and a consistent bedtime that allows for a full night's rest.

As you work to set a school year schedule and expectations at home, I strongly encourage you to establish a weeknight cut off time for all devices including cell phones, video games, and any devices connected to the internet, including those issued by the school. While that cut off may vary depending on the age of the student, it is important for all children and adolescents to have time to relax before going to bed away from the sleep disrupting blue light of a screen. For middle and high school students who may use social media, it is critical that they do not have access to those apps overnight. Every high school student could use more sleep and nothing disrupts their rest more than the incessant stream of push notifications from a phone.

Now that students have learned the schedule and gotten to know their teachers, we are eager to welcome families into the building to see what the school day is like for their children. Our Back to School Nights begin next week and continue through the month of September. The purpose of these events is to provide parents and guardians with the opportunity to meet their child's teachers and to learn more about the curriculum. Additional information will be available as the dates approach.

Back-to-School Nights 2024

Grades K-4 -- Thursday, September 12th, 6:00 pm-7:00 pm
Grades 5-8 -- Thursday, September 26th, 6:00 pm-7:30 pm
High School, Grades 9-12 -- Wednesday, September 18th, 6:00 pm-7:30 pm

We are also eager to welcome parents and guardians back into the building as volunteers. Last year parents volunteered in classrooms, taught FIT classes, chaperoned field trips, ran the library, covered lunches, helped on field days, and led crafts on Craft Day. They planned celebratory breakfasts, coordinated events for eighth graders and Seniors, and chaperoned dances. The list goes on. We are eager to build on last year's successes with more opportunities for families to model the service portion of our mission in our buildings. Teachers will reach out to families as these opportunities arise throughout the school year. Thanks to parent David Luu, we now have an easy way for faculty and staff to request volunteers and for parents and guardians to search for opportunities. Please visit the Parent Volunteering Opportunities page on the Parents Association website regularly to see opportunities as they are listed.

Anyone who is working with children or within our buildings must be officially registered as a volunteer. This policy is in place to protect our students. To register as a volunteer you must complete a CORI form on an annual basis, be fingerprinted, and complete volunteer training. Fingerprinting must be completed every three years. We will have an opportunity for parents and guardians to complete the necessary paperwork on the evenings of our K-

4 and 5-8 Back to School nights from 5:00-6:00. This year we are moving volunteer training online. I will be sharing the link to the training with the community shortly.

I am thrilled to be back and looking forward to connecting with families over the next few weeks. As always, please do not hesitate to reach out with any questions or concerns. I am looking forward to a wonderful school year!

Sincerely,

Angie Pepin

Principal, K-12

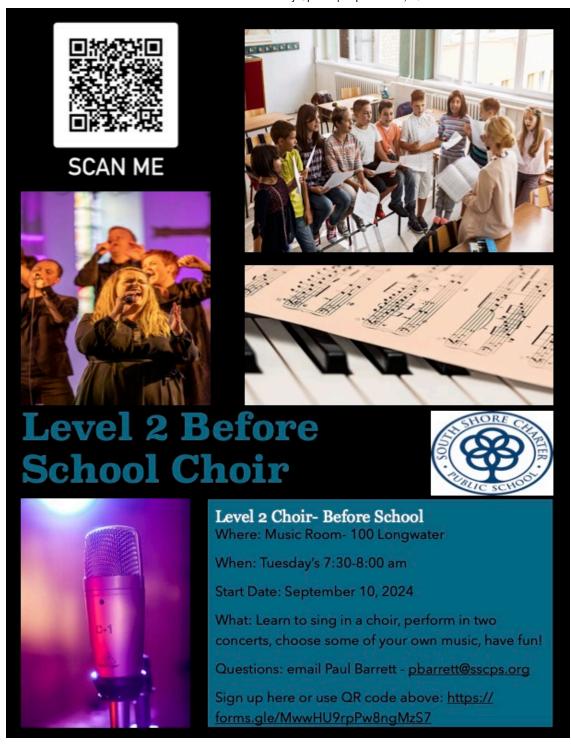
School Calendar

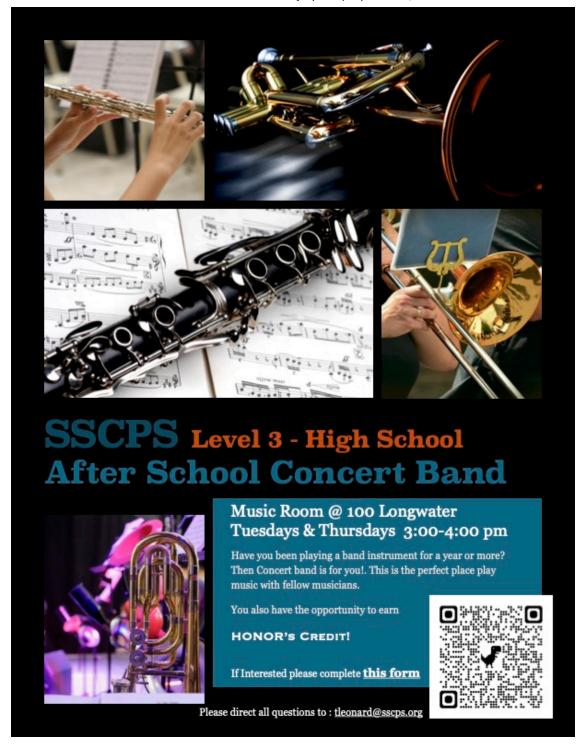


Music Department









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



1. Get Involved – Upcoming PA Meetings and Events:

PA Meetings:

The PA needs your ideas and involvement! Our meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each month at 7 PM. The next meeting will be **virtually only on** <u>Zoom on September 10th, 2024, at 7 PM</u>. The PA needs you and your ideas—please attend the next meeting and get involved!

2. Morning Coffee Reception: Updated Date!

Join us for a relaxed coffee reception at **9 AM on September 20th, 2024**. These informal gatherings provide the perfect chance to connect with fellow parents, share your thoughts, and get to know the PA team in a casual setting. We also plan to host a **PA Committee Kick-off**, where we'll dive into proposed projects for the year. Your participation is vital to the success of our initiatives, so we encourage you to get involved.

3. Join a PA Committee:

We're actively seeking leaders and volunteers to join our **PA Committees**. Whether your interests lie in outreach, event planning, or fundraising, there's a role for everyone! Learn more about each committee's responsibilities and how you can contribute by visiting our PA Committees page. If you're interested or have questions, please contact us

at <u>PAatSSCPS@gmail.com</u>. Your involvement is key to the success of our initiatives, so we invite you to step up and help make a difference in our school.

Nakeya Miller

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



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 <u>Jkjelgaard@sscps.org</u> 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 Public School Annual Road Race Saturday, Sept. 28th!

SIGN UP HERE



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

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.

- 1. Afterschool Enrichment Program
- DESE Student Attendance Letter Translated:

Arabic, Cape Verdean

Creole, Chinese, Haitian

Creole, Portuguese, Spanish, Vietnamese

3. Back-to-School Information

School Documents

2024-2025 School

<u>Calendar</u>

Student and Family

Handbook

Arrival and Dismissal

Procedures

SSCPS By-Laws

- 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



SOUTH SHORE

INSPIRING EVERY STUDENT TO EXCEL IN ACADEMICS, SERVICE, AND LIFE.









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