



Weekly Update | August 20, 2025

VOL. 8, ISSUE 2

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Meet the Instructional Leadership Team

This is Part 1 of a series "Meet the Instructional Leadership Team." Over the next few weeks, you will meet our school leaders and read about their roles at South Shore Charter. In today's Update, we invite you to read about our school administration.

School Administration

Walter Duncan | Dean of Students (K-6)

Walter Duncan has been an educator since 1998, teaching English Language Arts and Spanish in schools across Detroit, Los Angeles, Washington DC, and the Boston area. In addition to his classroom work, he co-founded Quick Key, an education technology company that won the 2018 Visionary Award from the Cambridge Chamber of Commerce before being sold in 2019. Walter received his Master's Degree in Educational Leadership from Fitchburg State University in 2024 and has been teaching Spanish at SSCPS since 2019. He now serves as Dean of Students for Grades K–6, bringing his experience as both a teacher and innovator to help students thrive academically and personally.



Maria Lappas | Principal (K-6)

Maria has been a world language educator for fifteen years and has taught in Greece, Spain, and the United States. She received her BS in Marketing from Bentley University, as well as a Master of Spanish from Simmons College and a Master of Teaching

Greek as a Second Language from the University of Nicosia. She is currently finishing her Educational Leadership program at Bridgewater State University and has worked as a Spanish Teacher at SSCPS since 2011. She started an independent Modern Greek School program in 2017 and is actively involved in the Greek-American community. She resides in Pembroke, MA with her husband and three sons.



Jean-Paul Marcellus | Principal (7-8)

JP will continue his career at SSCPS in his new role as Principal, Grades 7-8. JP has been with us at SSCPS since 2019, serving as Assistant Principal (Grades 5-8), High School Athletic Director, P.E. Teacher, and Boys Varsity Basketball Coach. He received his BA in Business Management from Eastern Nazarene College and his Masters in Educational Leadership from Fitchburg State College.



Christophe Teulet-Cote | Principal (9-12)

TC is a seasoned educational leader, holding a number of head positions at different schools around Massachusetts and in Chicago. Prior to his new role, TC has served as the High School Assistant Principal at SSCPS. He received his Masters in Educational Administration from UMass Boston and is pursuing his Educational Doctorate from Northeastern University.



School Calendar & Announcements

SSCPS WEEKLY CALENDAR

AUG 20 - AUG 27

Wed 20

Summer Break
New Faculty/Staff Orientation


Thu 21

Summer Break
Faculty/Staff Professional Development

Fri 22

Summer Break
Kindergarten Family Open House - 9AM


Sat/Sun



Mon 25

Summer Break
Kindergarten & Freshman Orientations

Tue 26

First Day of Classes
Kindergarten Early Release - 12PM


Wed 27

Kindergarten Early Release - 12PM

Upcoming

Aug 28

Kindergarten Early Release - 12PM

Aug 28

Instrumental Night at 100 Longwater - 5PM

Aug 29

Early Release - 12PM

Sept 1

Labor Day (No School)

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

SSCPS Events & Athletics Calendar

Bus Dismissal Procedure 2025-2026

Below you'll find an overview of the Bus Dismissal/Pick-Up Procedures for the 2025-2026 school year, along with a map to help demonstrate the dismissal/pick-up process. **Transportation registration, which includes student route assignments, will be emailed later this afternoon.**

https://mailchi.mp/sscps/weekly-update-august-20?e=75c0482a70

3/8

Dismissal/Pickup Procedures

Grades K-6 100 Longwater Circle	Grades 7-12 700 Longwater Drive
Bus Dismissal 1 Buses 1-8	Bus Dismissal 1 Buses 9-17
Carline Dismissal Begins	
Bus Dismissal 2 Buses 9-17	Bus Dismissal 2 Buses 1-8
	Carline Dismissal Begins

100 Longwater Drive (Grades K-6): Dismissal will begin for buses (1-8)

700 Longwater Drive (Grades 7-12): Dismissal will begin for buses (9-17)

After the buses are loaded, buses 1-8 will depart for 700, and buses 9-17 will depart for 100 to pick up the remaining students.

Carline dismissal will begin for 100 after the first round of buses (1-8) depart.

Carline dismissal will begin at 700 after the second round of buses depart.

Procedure for 700 Longwater Drive (Grades 7-12) Dismissal

(See Map)

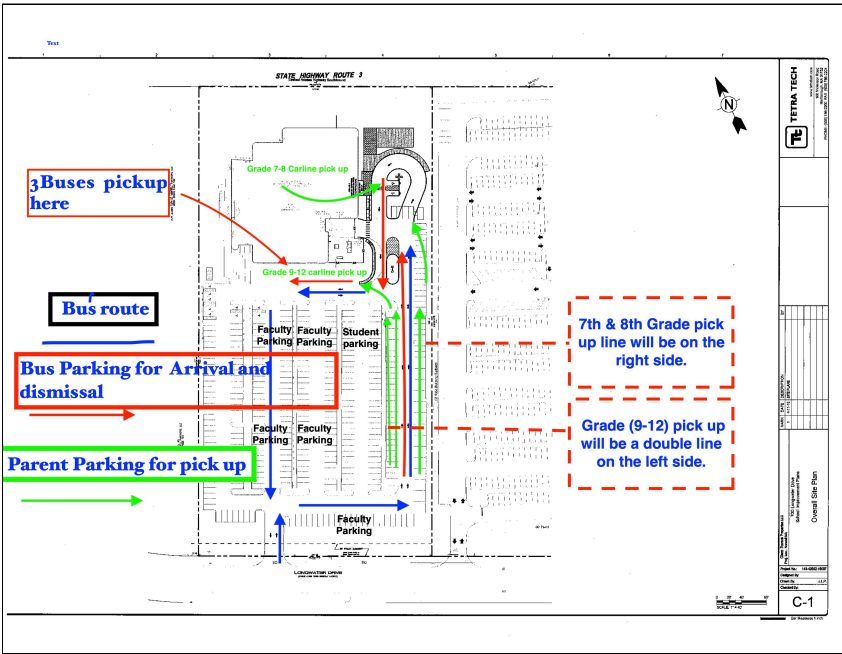
There will be 3 carlines at 700 Longwater:

- The far right (green arrow) will be for Grades 7-8
- The double green arrow is for Grades 9-12

After the buses have completed pickup, cars for grades 7-8 will pick up around the traffic circle to the right of the building and exit, following the blue arrows.

After the buses have completed pick up, cars for grades 9-12 will pick up in front of the building, along the sidewalk.

If you are picking up students in both grades 7-8 and 9-12, pick up your 7-8th grade student first, then continue to the grade 9-12 pickup.



Upcoming School & Community Events

Upcoming SSCPS Events

PA New Family Meet & Greet | August 23rd

The SSCPS Parents Association is hosting a new family meet & greet on August 23rd from 10:30AM - 12PM at the SSCPS playground! Students can play, parents can chat, and everyone can make new friends. Come laugh, relax, and enjoy the day with your community!

[SIGN UP HERE](#)

SSCPS Instrument Night | August 28th



SOUTH SHORE CHARTER PUBLIC SCHOOL

Instrument Night

Discover your favorite instrument!

THURSDAY, AUG 28

100 Longwater Circle

5:00pm - 6:00pm

Grades 4-8

STUDENTS WILL SELECT THEIR TOP 3 CHOICES

MORE INFO: TLEONARD@SSCPS.ORG

Community Events & Programs

South Shore YMCA After School Program

In need of some after school care? Send your child to the South Shore YMCA's Laura's Center for the Arts After School Program, where our mission "The Better You Belongs Here" applies to all the children in our care. At the SSYMCA's After School Programs, we strive to provide your child with the love and care they deserve while also providing fun and exciting opportunities for enrichment and socio-emotional learning. Our program is located at the Emilson Branch of the SSYMCA in Hanover, where our kids get the opportunity to utilize many of the excellent resources, state of the art facilities, and amenities the Y has to offer, all while being guided by our dedicated, vetted, experienced, and well-trained staff. Transportation directly to our facility and program is provided at no additional cost to you by SSCPS's school busses.

This year we are excited to introduce a number of new enrichment programs and curriculums specifically designed for the different age groups our program supports (K-8). From STEAM learning and physical fitness to arts programming and real-world skill building, your child will have the chance to access these unique and fun learning opportunities in a safe and supportive environment.

If you're interested in learning more about our program, or in registering your child for the 2025-2026 school year, please reach out to Samantha Blumberg-McSweeney, Program Director, at smcsweeney@ssymca.org or by phone at 781-826-7900 ext. 5240.



the SOUTH SHORE YMCA
BEFORE & AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAMS

CONTACT US
781-826-7900 x5240
smcsweeney@ssymca.org
ssymca.org/afterschools

the SOUTH SHORE YMCA
The Better You Belongs Here



South Shore YMCA Before/After School Program in Norwell & Scituate

ABOUT US
The South Shore YMCA provides families with safe, engaging, and enriching before/after-school care programs for children at local Norwell and Scituate Public Schools.

OUR SCHOOLS

SCITUATE	NORWELL
WINCHESTER ELEMENTARY & CLARK ELEMENTARY 24 West Avenue, Scituate, MA	VINAL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL 102 Elm Street, Norwell, MA
WINDFORD ELEMENTARY & HANCOCK ELEMENTARY 200 Water Road, Scituate, MA	COLD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL 81 High Street, Norwell, MA
SCHOOL VACATION & HOLIDAY PROGRAMS Summer programs operate from June 1st to August 1st at the Emilson Branch of the SSYMCA in Hanover, MA. Registration is required and space is limited. For more information, please contact Samantha Blumberg-McSweeney at 781-826-7900 x5240 or smcsweeney@ssymca.org .	SOUTH SHORE CENTER 100 Langdon Circle, Norwell, MA Open for school to SSYMCA's Laura's Center for the Arts, 37 Main St, Hanover, MA

CONTACT US
For inquiries and registration, contact smcsweeney@ssymca.org
781-826-7900 x 5240
ssymca.org/afterschools

Spanish PDF

Haitian-Creole PDF

From the Health Office

Back to School | 2025-2026

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-6th Grade: Jaime Kjelgaard, RN jkjelgaard@sscps.org 781-982-4202 x104
 7th-12th Grade: 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-6th: Jaime Kjelgaard, RN jkjelgaard@sscps.org 781-982-4202 x 104
 7th-12th: Barbara Folan, RN bfolan@sscps.org 781-982-4202 x 182
 Fax: 781-982-4201

Students entering Kindergarten, 4th, 7th, or 10th Grade must submit current physical forms and vaccine records.

The K through 6 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.

SSCPS Health Office

Important Links

Weekly Updates are emailed and posted to our website - [subscribe here](#).

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](#)

School Documents:

- [2025-2026 School Calendar](#)
- [Student and Family Handbook](#)
- [Arrival and Dismissal Procedures](#)
- [SSCPS By-Laws](#)

7. [Community Service](#)
 8. [Parents Association Website](#)
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