

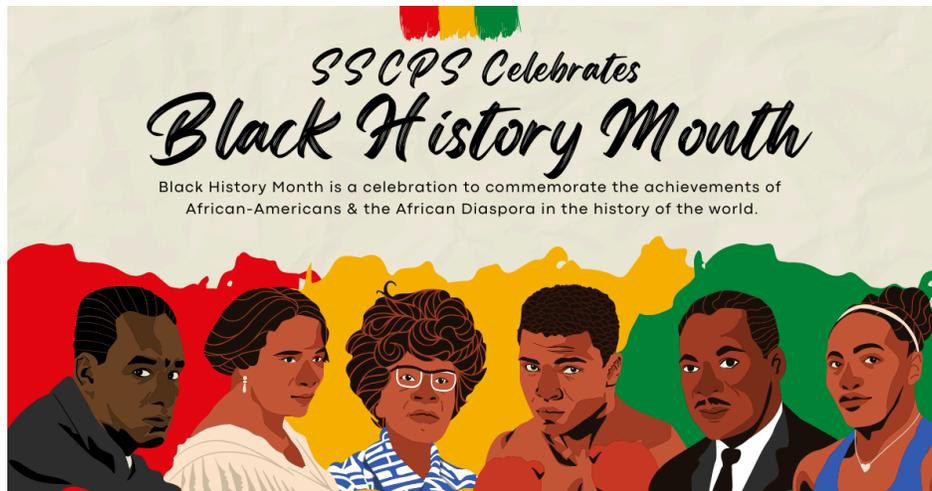


Weekly Update | February 4, 2026

VOL. 2, ISSUE 1

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A Message from Sheina

Black History Month at SSCPS

February is Black History Month, a time for our community to reflect, learn, and celebrate the rich histories, cultures, and contributions of Black people who have shaped our world in powerful ways. It is also an important opportunity for our students to see themselves reflected in history, to build pride in identity, and to deepen their understanding of the many stories that make up our shared human experience.

Throughout the month, the SSCPS halls, classrooms, teachers, and student body will be highlighting historical and contemporary Black figures who have made meaningful contributions in areas such as science, art, literature, music, sports, activism, and leadership. These efforts are designed to spark curiosity, conversation, and a sense of belonging for all learners.

We are also excited to share that families are invited to join us for our annual Diaspora Night on Thursday, February 26 from 6:00–7:30PM at 100 Longwater Circle. During this evening, families will have the opportunity to visit different spaces throughout the school and learn about Black cultures from around the world through music, visuals, and interactive experiences.

At SSCPS we know that Black History Month is not only about looking back, but it is also about honoring the past, celebrating the present, and inspiring our students to imagine the future. Families can help extend meaningful learning around this month by reading books by Black authors, exploring different foods and traditions, and having conversations about all the historical figures they are learning about. Even asking a question as simple as “*Who is someone new you discovered in your learning today?*” helps students reflect and build understanding.

We look forward to celebrating together as a school community.

Sheina Prince-Eugene
Reading Teacher & Civil Rights Coordinator

School Calendar & Announcements

Weekly Calendar

SSCPS WEEKLY CALENDAR

 FEB 04 - FEB 11

Wed 04 World Read Aloud Day	Thu 05 Board of Trustees Meeting at 700 Longwater and via Zoom - 5:30PM	Fri 06 Level III Social at PE Space - 3:15PM	Sat/Sun Sat 07 - Middle School Bridge Building Competition, Wentworth Boston Sun 08 - High School Poetry Out Loud Contest, Hopkinton
Mon 09 	Tue 10 HS AP Computer Science BSU Case Talk to Us Tuesday - 9AM Level III Community Service to Guardian Nursing Home Brockton - 9AM PA Meeting via Zoom - 7PM	Wed 11 School Council Meeting via Zoom - 4:30PM	Upcoming Feb 13 - Early Release 12PM Feb 16-20 - No School - February Vacation Feb 26 - Diaspora Night at 100 Longwater Circle

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

[Click here for the new 2026-2027 School Calendar](#)

SSCPS Events & Athletics Calendar

Important Announcements

Inclement Weather Notification Procedures for Families

As we enter the season when winter weather can impact our school operations, we want to ensure all families understand how and when you will be notified about weather-related delays, early dismissals, and closures. Please use the button below for more details on inclement weather notification procedures at SSCPS.

INCLEMENT WEATHER PROCEDURES

SSCPS Annual Family Survey

Please take a moment this week to answer the SSCPS Annual Family Survey! Data collected from the survey is annually reviewed by the Instructional Leadership Team, the faculty and staff, and the SSCPS Board of Trustees to assess key measures of student achievement, institutional strength, and areas of growth. In this way, the data collected will not only inform day-to-day enhancements but also play a crucial role in planning for the future.

Over the past five years, family participation in the survey has been strong, and we hope to achieve and surpass the high level of engagement this year. We are asking each SSCPS family to participate in the survey by reflecting on the first half of the academic year and your overall SSCPS experience to provide data essential to our institutional development. Your feedback is invaluable as we strive for continuous improvement and work to provide the best possible educational experience for our students.

The deadline for survey submissions is next Friday, February 13th.

SSCPS ANNUAL FAMILY SURVEY

From the Food Services Department

SSCPS Families,

The South Shore Charter Public School offers free nutritious lunch and breakfast at school every school day for all students. Please visit our [Food Services](#) webpage to learn more about our FREE NSLP breakfast and lunch programs and to place an order for your child. If you haven't already, you are able to order your child's meals online. All families must register each child in Arbiter. Please visit the [SSCPS FamilyID Programs](#) webpage to register your child. When registering your child for meals please be sure to input their grade. Their student ID and homeroom teacher **are not** required fields. If you do know their homeroom teacher it would be helpful but that information can always be entered at a later time. To learn more on how to register your child click [here](#) to watch a quick video. If you need any assistance with FamilyID registration, please call 1-800-311-4060 or email support@arbitersports.com. All meal orders will be made directly through this online system. If you need further assistance, please contact Charlene Salamone at csalamone@sscps.org or by calling 781-982-4202x156.

If your family needs additional support please visit [Project Bread's FoodSource Hotline](#).

FoodSource hotline counselors, in 180 languages, can help families find food assistance through other sources such as the Women, Infants and Children (WIC) Program and local food pantries.

Thank you,

Charlene Salamone
Food Services Coordinator



Can't afford enough food? Let's chat.

CALL: 1 (800) 645-8333

Hotline Hours Mon-Fri: 8am-7pm Sat: 10am-2pm

No matter what you're going through, we understand that food is a must. We want to help you. PROJECT BREAD can connect you to programs that will help you afford groceries and put food on the table. Always free & confidential for all Massachusetts residents, our counselors are ready to assist callers in 180 languages.

SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program)
SNAP is a federal nutrition program that provides monthly financial assistance for groceries. Could you be eligible? Find out today and get help applying.

Free Meals for Kids & Teens
All children ages 0-18, and in some locations up to age 21, can receive free meals for pickup at hundreds of locations around the state. No registration or I.D. is required. Find a free meal site near you.

Food Pantries
If you need food right now, we can direct you to emergency food programs near you, including food pantries and meal programs.

Referrals to Additional Resources
We can help you find additional support, including referrals to WIC (a federal nutrition program for Women, Infants, and Children), housing, and utility assistance.

Call today or learn more at projectbread.org/gethelp



LOCAL FOOD RESOURCES

Click the names of each resource for more information.

Wellspring Multi-Service Centers	Norwell Food Pantry
The Charity Guild Food Pantry	Randolph Food Pantry
Feeding America	Rockland Food Pantry
Find Local Food Resources	Weymouth Food Pantry
Interfaith Social Services	Self Help

School Picture Reminders

Order your school pictures today!

Use the code **F2510OFF** for 10% off your order.

Code expires July 31, 2026.

[ORDER HERE](#)

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

More about the SmileSafe program [here](#).

From the Dean's Desk

Winter has a way of changing the rhythm of school. We spend more time indoors, share space more closely, and see each other in different ways than we do in the fall. That shift affects friendships, especially for students who are still learning how to navigate social situations with maturity and care.

This week in advisory, we're spending time talking with students about friendships as they actually experience them day to day. Not the ideal version, but the real one. The moments when someone feels left out. When joking crosses a line. When small disagreements start to take up more space than they should.

These years are an important time socially. Students care deeply about where they fit and how they are seen by peers. They are still learning how to handle conflict, how to speak up for themselves, and how to step away when a situation isn't productive. Advisory gives us a chance to slow that process down and help students think through those situations more clearly.

Families can support this work in simple ways. Asking about who your child has been spending time with, how friendships are going, or whether anything has felt difficult lately opens the door for honest conversation. Listening without immediately trying to fix things often helps more than we realize.

Our goal is for students to leave Charter knowing how to be thoughtful classmates and respectful friends.

This work is part of that, and we appreciate your partnership as we continue to support students in growing socially as well as academically.

Warmly,

Walter Duncan
Dean of Students (K-6)



From the Foundation

The JJ Facey SSCPS Scholarship



South Shore Charter Public School will raise money until May 1st, 2026 for a scholarship to be awarded to two senior students who embody the characteristics of JJ Facey: Sportsmanship, Character, and Respect.

JJ was a consummate leader. JJ would often offer advice to his fellow students, join the principal for discussions with students, and raise the confidence of his teammates on and off the field. He is still helping his fellow students, but in a different way now: by funding their dreams in honor of his name.

We are seeking donations to provide two scholarships. Please donate using the button below. *All receipts will be generated electronically and can be used for Tax purposes for non-profit donations.*

SCHOLARSHIP DONATIONS

Upcoming School & Community Events

Upcoming SSCPS Events

Level III Winter Social

The Level III Student Council is hosting a Winter Social for our Level III students and families! The event will be held **this Friday, February 6th** in the PE space at 100 Longwater from 3:15pm - 4:45pm.

This event is only for 5th and 6th grade students (not siblings in other grades). Tickets will be sold during lunch time until Wednesday 2/4/26, and when the event is over, students will be picked up at the front of 100 Longwater and not at the PE space. Pizza, water, and snacks will be provided during the social!



On the Levels

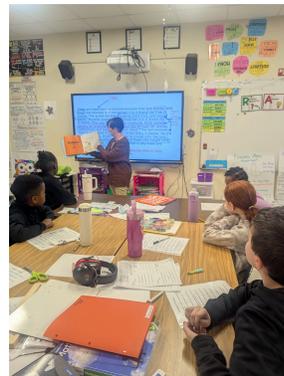
K-6 Art Classes

Students in K-6 art classes studied the art of Origami this January, learning how to master basic folding techniques and expand their definitions of what a blank piece of paper can be! Upper elementary and early middle school students are learning how to make the Crane, a symbol of peace, hope, healing, and good fortune.



K-4 World Read Aloud Day

Students in Kindergarten - 4th grade celebrated World Read Aloud Day by listening to stories read aloud by high school students and SSCPS faculty members.



Grades 9-10 Winter Semi





NHS Tutoring Committee

The SSCPS National Honor Society is offering peer tutoring for all high school students! Use the form below to request a tutor and the committee will pair you with a tutor that best fits your needs. Tutoring is open to all SSCPS high school students for any subject!

[REQUEST A TUTOR](#)

THE SSCPS NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY IS OFFERING

PEER TUTORING

TUTORING IS OPEN TO ALL STUDENTS FOR ANY SUBJECT! EVERY DAY AT RECITATION (10:04 - 10:57) & WORKSHOP (11:00 - 11:50)

Athletics

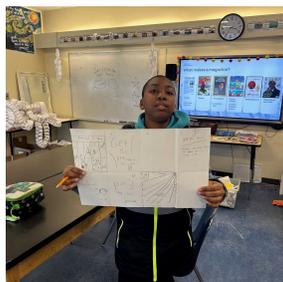
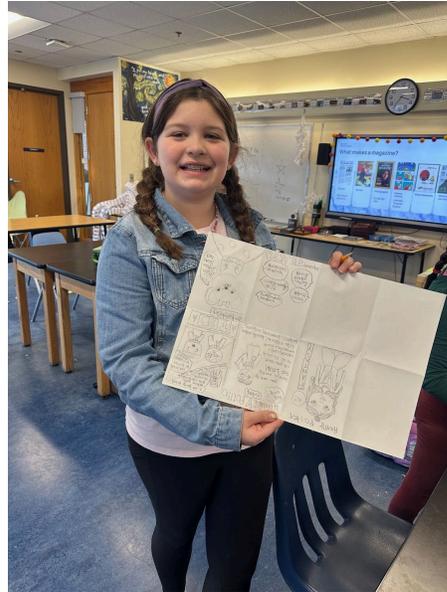
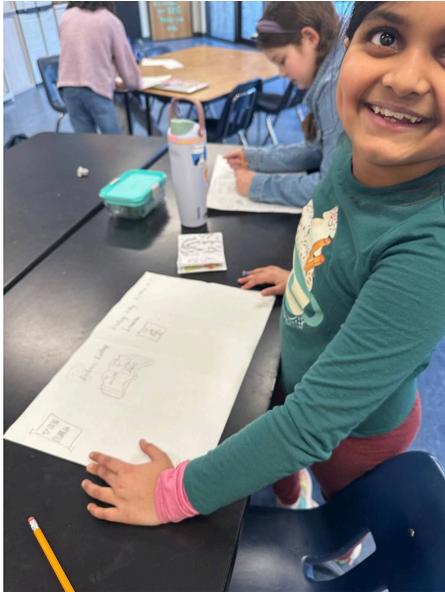
Senior Night | Girls Varsity Basketball



Afterschool Enrichment Program

Magazine Production Club

In Thursday's Magazine Production Club led by Sarah Gavin, students kicked off the session by making "zines", which is short for magazine. Zines are a short form, self-published, non-commercial format of expressing topics of personal interests such as fandom or activism. In the zines, students include the type of content that is typically included in magazines such as a written piece, comics, interviews, advertisements, and photography. Zines are a great introduction to magazine production as they are often short and sweet, topics of personal interest, and familiarize students with the variety of content included in magazines. Later in the session, students will work on producing a longer form magazine. We can't wait to see their final production pieces!!



From the Health Office

Important Reminders | 2025-2026

Please be advised that per our school policy, if your student has a fever, vomiting, diarrhea, or a contagious illness, they must remain out of school until symptoms have resolved for 24 hours without medication or they have been on antibiotics for a full 24 hours. If your student will be absent from school, please email attendance@sscps.org as well as your student's teacher.

This is also a reminder that over-the-counter medications (including, but not limited to, eye drops, allergy medications, cough medications, vitamins, and nasal sprays) may not be brought into school by students. All medication within the school system is considered prescription and requires a doctor's prescription medication form. Before any medication is brought to school, it must be discussed with the school nurse and must be accompanied by the required prescription medication form. If a student is found to have any medication on them, it will be brought to the health office and a parent will need to pick it up or it will be disposed of.

Please also be advised that we will be beginning state-required vision, hearing, height, and weight screenings, based on your student's grade. If you would like to opt your student out of part or all of these screenings, please email your student's school nurse.

Please make sure all students are dressed appropriately for the weather. Students go outside for recess daily, except in inclement weather or when the wind chill temperature drops below 20 degrees. Students in grades K through 2nd should have a spare set of weather appropriate clothing in their backpacks/classrooms.

Contacts:

Grades K–8: Jaime Kjelgaard (jkjelgaard@sscps.org) & Erlin Martinez (emartinez2@sscps.org)

Grades 7–12: Barbara Folan – bfolan@sscps.org

SSCPS Health Office

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.

Submit Community Service Hours

If you've started your Community Service for the **2025-2026** school year, it's not too early to start recording those hours today!

Use the links below to submit your community service hours. **Please note that Levels III, IV, and High School students are required to enter their own community service hours using their school email.** Family members of students on Levels I and II have been given direct access to the forms and do not need a school email.

LEVEL I FORM

LEVEL II FORM

LEVEL III FORM

LEVEL IV FORM

HIGH SCHOOL FORM

Parents Association, SEPAC, & ELPAC

Parents Association Updates

PA Virtual Meeting

The Parents Association would like to remind you that the next monthly meeting will be on Tuesday, February 10th at 7PM. The meeting will be held virtually via Zoom - please join using the button below.

We have 2 guest speakers this month: Matt Tondorf (Director of Student Services) to speak about the Transportation Survey, and Walter Duncan (K-6 Dean of Students) to discuss the new behavioral plans that have been initiated.

We look forward to seeing all parents at the upcoming meeting!

PA MEETING LINK

February 10th
@7PM



COMMUNITY BUILDING

PA MEETING

GUEST SPEAKERS

- **Matt Tondorf, Director of Student Services- Talk about Transportation**
- **Walter Duncan, K-6 Dean of Students- Discuss Behavioral Methods**

General PA Info

Check out the PA website for meeting agendas/minutes, the new bulletin board and other handy info: <https://sscpspa.weebly.com/>

More updates from the Parents Association can be found on our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/SSCPSParentGuardianInfo>

POD PARENT SIGN-UP



Volunteer as a Pod Parent!



- Need Volunteers for each classroom
- Pod Parents organize **supply drives** throughout the year for things like tissues, wipes, extra snacks, bottled water
- Pod Parents help with classroom communication and parents engagement
- Work with the teacher to plan special events like **pod breakfasts, community service events**, and end-of-year activities like **field day**
- Assist with anything else the teacher could use help with

Interested?? Please email: paatsscps@gmail.com

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

School Documents:

- NEW: [2026-2027 School Calendar](#)
- [2025-2026 School Calendar](#)
- [Student and Family Handbook](#)
- [Arrival and Dismissal Procedures](#)
- [SSCPS By-Laws](#)
- [2024-2025 SSCPS Annual Report](#)
- [DESE Integrated Monitoring Review](#)



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