



Weekly Update | October 8, 2025

VOL. 10, ISSUE 2

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A Message from Angie

It's hard to believe that we are already in October and that we have passed the midpoint of the first quarter. Teachers have released first quarter progress reports through [PlusPortals](#) for all students in grades 5-12. For each core academic subject families can expect to find a progress report that includes an updated course average. Directions explaining how to access Progress Reports through PlusPortals can be found [here](#).

It has been a busy start to the year as we have welcomed new students and faculty members, built new routines, and acclimated to new spaces. Across our campus students and faculty members have also implemented new schedules to maximize instructional

time while optimizing the use of space. At the high school level these changes have included a shift to three lunch periods. This change allows students to eat in the cafe area and to use the outdoor space just outside of it that includes picnic tables for eating and a grassy area for play. We have also increased Workshop time and made a move away from Focused Instructional Time (FIT) to Recitation.

The Recitation Block is an additional instructional period designed to create a weekly double class session for each course. This dedicated time allows teachers to provide reinforcement, practice, and review of key concepts. Teachers are available to provide extra help to individual or small groups of students on a regularly scheduled basis. Recitation also provides an extended period of time for science classes allowing for use of the science lab at 100 Longwater Circle.

During the recitation block, students engage in guided practice, conferencing, and targeted skill development to enhance their understanding of the material. This time is devoted to student support and not to the introduction of new concepts. The structured yet flexible format of the recitation block allows for personalized support, deeper exploration of challenging topics, and the application of learning through hands-on activities and problem-solving exercises. Some students may receive small group instruction and/or other support during this block outside of the primary classroom.

We surveyed teachers to monitor the transition. Teachers report that students are more focused on learning and work during Recitation than they were during less structured FIT periods. They appreciate the additional time with their own students, but some report needing support to plan for this time. As with any change, there is room for adjustment and improvement. In response to this data, high school teachers will spend time during Friday's professional development discussing strategies for the most effective use of this time. We will continue to gather feedback and analyze outcomes to ensure these adjustments truly enhance teaching and learning across our high school.

The start of the school year has brought meaningful growth and collaboration, and we are excited to build on this momentum in the weeks ahead. Thank you for your continued support of our students and our school.

Angie Pepin

Director of Teaching and Learning

School Calendar & Announcements

IMPORTANT REMINDER:**EARLY RELEASE - 12PM****FRIDAY, OCTOBER 10TH****NO SCHOOL****MONDAY, OCTOBER 13TH****INDIGENOUS PEOPLES' DAY/COLUMBUS DAY****SSCPS WEEKLY CALENDAR** OCT 08 - OCT 15**Wed 08**

HS Best Buddies Fundraiser
K-12 Raise Craze Fundraiser
Board of Trustees Executive Committee Meeting via Zoom - 9AM
School Council Meeting via Zoom - 4:30PM
Junior Parent Night via Zoom - 6PM

Thu 09

HS Best Buddies Fundraiser
K-12 Raise Craze Fundraiser

Fri 10

HS Best Buddies Fundraiser
K-12 Raise Craze Fundraiser
Early Release 12PM (Professional Development)

Sat/Sun**Mon 13**

K-12 Raise Craze Fundraiser
No School (Indigenous Peoples' Day/Columbus Day)

Tue 14

K-12 Raise Craze Fundraiser
Board of Trustees Committee Meetings via Zoom - 5PM

Wed 15

K-12 Raise Craze Fundraiser

Upcoming

Oct 16 - Title I Info Meeting via Zoom - 8:45AM

Oct 23 - ELPAC Meeting via Zoom

Oct 25 - Literacy Lane at 100 Longwater

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

SSCPS Events & Athletics Calendar

Important Announcements

School Picture Reminder

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](#).

PSAT Announcement

PSAT Day - Friday, October 17th

All Juniors will be taking the Digital PSAT on Friday October 17th here at school. This is a FREE test administration to all of our students in the Class of 2027. The goal of the PSAT is to prepare students for the SAT exam they will take in April 2026.

The Digital PSAT is 2.5 hours with a 10 minute break between sections. The total test time will be 3 hours (start to finish - standards time).

For additional information on what to expect on the Digital PSAT Exam, click [here](#).

How to prepare for the digital PSAT/NMSQT

Since the digital PSAT/NMSQT mimics the digital SAT, students can go through [Khan Academy's free official digital SAT](#) test prep materials to prepare for the digital PSAT/NMSQT. Here, you'll find article and video guides, worked examples, and practice.

Drop Off & Pick Up Reminders

Protocol for absences, tardiness and dismissing students early:

When your child is absent and leaving a message, please be sure to leave the **first and last name as well as the grade of your child**. Any changes can be sent to attendance@sscps.org.

Drop off in the morning by 8:10am.

Please try to arrive by or before 8:10am so that teachers can take attendance and students can prepare for classes that start at 8:20am. **At 8:15am the doors will close and students will be marked as tardy.**

SSCPS Volunteer Information

We know that many parents and guardians are eager to complete volunteer requirements so that they are able to begin volunteering. Please find the list of volunteer requirements below. Links to the required documents are available on the [volunteering page on our website](#). Copies of the paperwork will be available prior to the Back-to-School Nights.

Anyone who is working with children or within our SSCPS buildings must be officially registered as a volunteer. This policy is in place to protect our students. Volunteers must register each school year. In order to register as a volunteer, you must complete all of the requirements listed below.

1. **Complete a CORI form.** This requirement must be met annually. The CORI form should be returned to the school to the attention of Pam Algera with a copy of a photo ID.
2. **Complete Identogo Fingerprinting.** This task must be completed every three years. Fingerprinting is completed off site and has a cost. SSCPS will reimburse parent/guardian volunteers for this cost.
3. **Complete Volunteer Training and agree to the Confidentiality Policy.** This requirement must be completed every three years. The training is available on the volunteering [page on our website](#).

If you have any questions please reach out to Angie Pepin at aepin@sscps.org.

From the Dean's Desk

Dear Families,

Next week in Advisory, our students are focusing on readiness. Readiness is about more than just having the right supplies—it's about building the small daily habits that set us up for success.

Helping students excel in academics, service, and life is our mission as a school. We do this not only by nurturing a warm and inclusive culture, but also by teaching the practical skills and healthy boundaries that help children thrive in every setting. Readiness is one of those essential skills.

When students take time to prepare—to charge their device, pack their folders, or set a reminder—they're learning how to manage themselves and take responsibility for their day. These small steps add up. They build independence, confidence, and a sense of pride in being ready to learn.

Explore this at home by talking with your child about their own readiness routines. Ask what helps them feel prepared for school. Encourage them to plan ahead for the next day—packing their bag, laying out clothes, or reviewing their schedule. These simple habits strengthen not only school success but lifelong skills for responsibility and follow-through.

Families can support this work at home by:

- Creating a short evening routine to check backpacks and charge devices.
- Encouraging your child to write down or set one reminder each week.
- Talking with them about what helps you stay organized and ready in your own life.

Warm regards,

Walter Duncan
Dean of Students (K-6)



Upcoming School & Community Events

Upcoming SSCPS Events

K-6 Literacy Lane

South Shore Charter Public School will hold Literacy Lane, a literary themed trunk-or-treat event on Saturday, October 25th from 2-4pm! At the event, students will have the opportunity to wander from car to car to visit trunks decorated to represent a favorite book, character, or literary series. Some examples of decorated trunks can be found [here](#).

Please complete the form below to register your car and/or your family for the event. We have a limited number of parking spaces available. Families that register a car should plan to arrive on campus between 1:00-1:45pm for setup.

[REGISTER NOW](#)

LITERACY LANE | K-6

A LITERARY-THEMED TRUNK OR TREAT AT 100 LONGWATER!

Join the SSCPS community for an afternoon of celebrating literature through car trunk displays, character costumes, and more! Students will have the opportunity to wander from car to car to visit trunks decorated to represent a favorite book, character, or literary series. Students are encouraged to dress up as their favorite literary characters. The Community Service Project will also be collecting donations of nonperishable food items for local food banks!



SATURDAY
OCT 25, 2025



2:00 PM -
4:00 PM

Activities Include:

- ▶ Live Music
- ▶ Free Book Fair
- ▶ Refreshments
- ▶ Photo Booth
- ▶ Volunteer Opportunities (7-12)

This is NOT a drop-off event.



SSCPS Homecoming Dance (Grades 9-12)

The 2025 Homecoming Dance will be held on Thursday, November 6th from 7:00-10:00pm at the Canton Town Club. The dance is open to all SSCPS students in grades 9-12, and no outside guests are permitted to attend. **Tickets are \$30.00 per person and must be purchased through FamilyID using the button below.**



PURCHASE TICKETS



South Shore Charter Public School

HOMECOMING *Dance*

**THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 6TH, 2025 | 7–10PM
CANTON TOWN CLUB | 300 BAILEY ST, CANTON MA**

OPEN TO SSCPS STUDENTS ONLY (9–12)

\$30 TICKETS

TICKETS MUST BE PURCHASED THROUGH FAMILYID

Heart Screenings | Who We Play For

SSCPS will be holding \$20 heart screenings on November 13th from 12:30-3:00pm in collaboration with Who We Play For and Long Live JJ. SSCPS students can use the button below to sign up for a screening today!



REGISTRATION



WHO WE PLAY FOR

HEART SCREENING

For Every Kid Who Never Had The Opportunity



An Electrocardiogram (ECG or EKG) is painless, non-invasive and only takes 5 minutes to complete.

Each ECG is read by a board certified pediatric cardiologist.

WHEN:

Thursday, November 13th from 12:30pm - 3pm

WHERE:

South Shore Charter Public School

(700 Longwater Circle, Norwell, MA 02061)

COST:

\$20/Screening Ages 10 - 25

REGISTER:

Online at

<https://www.whoweplayfor.org/massachusetts-plymouth>



To learn more about Who We Play For or to get Involved, visit [whoweplayfor.org](https://www.whoweplayfor.org)

80%

No symptoms prior to
sudden cardiac arrest
event

1 IN 300

Youth have a detectable
heart condition

#1

Cause of death on school
campuses and in student
athletes

In Collaboration
With



On the Levels

Holocaust Speaker | Werner Salinger

Today, our school community was honored by another visit of guest speaker Werner Salinger, who has been sharing his experiences of the Holocaust with our eighth-grade students for the past three years. Our school community is truly grateful to Mr. Salinger for sharing his life experience as a child who escaped Germany with his family after Kristallnacht, immigrated to the United States, and returned to Europe as a translator and air force officer. Students had the opportunity to ask questions and reflect on Mr. Salinger's experiences.



Holly Hill Farm 2025



Level IV Newsletter

Check out the latest updates, highlights, and upcoming events from our middle school community in the Level IV newsletter below!

[LEVEL IV NEWSLETTER](#)

Level III: Community Service Project & Kindness Counts

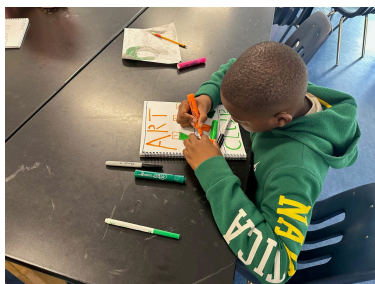
Kindness Counts! September Edition

6th Grade teachers are highlighting kind acts that are observed by awarding students with a "caught you being kind" card each time we see a student doing something thoughtful. At our monthly town meeting, the students who have received kindness cards are recognized by their peers for their kind acts. **Please ask your 6th grader student if they were caught being kind today!**

6th Graders		
Zoey Francis	Francesca Dupiton	Conor Egerton x 4
Gabriella Olaoye	Seerat Talwar x 2	Kaleb Samuels
Glory Woghiren	Sam Newell	Azarias Williams x 2
Penelope Brasile x 2	Elliot Martinez	Avery Goines
Rowan Shinney-Kalafatas x 2	Nora Christopher x 2	Kadar Mims-Powell x 2
Jazlyn Daley	Ayla Monteiro	Zoe Fabian Benzan
Olivia Veissid	Zaniyah Brown x 4	Aaron Biruk
Gloria Woghiren x 3	Alani Schoonmaker	
Nikith	Molly Merceron	

Afterschool Enrichment Program

The Afterschool Enrichment Program officially kicked off yesterday, and the excitement was contagious! From hands-on activities to creative challenges, students explored a wide variety of opportunities designed to spark curiosity, build skills, and inspire learning beyond the classroom. They dove right into their first sessions with enthusiasm and eagerness; ready to collaborate, try new things, and have fun while learning. We can't wait to see their passion and growth continue throughout the program. Thanks to everyone who helped make our first day such a success!





From the Foundation

The 2025 SSCPS Annual Road Race

Thanks for joining us!

A big thank you to everyone who participated in this year's Annual Road Race! It was another successful event thanks to your help and generosity. Special thanks to SSCPS alumna Mia Ray Strahm for capturing such great photos of the event.

If you participated in this year's race in any way, please take a moment to fill out the survey below to share your feedback and help us improve future road races at SSCPS!

[TAKE THE SURVEY](#)

From the Counseling Department

This year, the Counseling Team is excited to welcome two graduate-level interns who will be working under the supervision of our school counselors and school psychologists. Our interns will be involved in one-on-one, group and/or classroom student support.

Our school counselors will continue to invite students in grades K-6 to occasionally participate in “Lunch Bunch” or skill building group with peers. These groups take place during non-academic time and are created to support developmentally appropriate social skills. The groups run in 6-8 week sessions, but possibly extend beyond that in some cases. Students tend to enjoy these opportunities and look forward to them during the week.

If you are the parent or guardian of a student in Grades K-6 and would like to opt your child OUT of lunch bunch/skill building groups, please email Tanya Ames at tames@sscps.org. If you consent to your child being included in these groups, no action from you is necessary.

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@sspcs.org 781-982-4202 x104

7th-12th Grade: Barbara Folan, RN bfolan@sspcs.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

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 **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: Raise Craze Fundraiser

Save the date for this year's Raise Craze fundraiser held by the SSCPS Parents Association from **October 6th - October 23rd this year!**

Raise Craze is a unique way for us to raise money for our school while making an impact in our community. During this fundraiser, students ask friends and family for donations via the online Raise Craze platform while paying it forward serving others. What a great way for us to teach our students the importance of kindness and gratitude while raising much needed funds. Students will spend time serving, not selling!

Watch the video below for more info on how this fundraiser works, and keep your eyes out for more details coming soon!

SEPAC Announcements

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](#)

School Documents:

[2025-2026 School Calendar](#)

[Student and Family Handbook](#)

[Arrival and Dismissal Procedures](#)
[SSCPS By-Laws](#)

[2024-2025 SSCPS Annual Report](#)

5. [Health Office](#)
 6. [Massachusetts Department of
Transitional Assistance](#)
 7. [Community Service](#)
 8. [Parents Association Website](#)
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