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Weekly Update | September 24, 2025

VOL. 9, ISSUE 4

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From the Dean's Desk

Dear Families,

At SSCPS, we believe that safety—both physical and emotional—is at the heart of a strong school culture. When it comes to student safety, we use a tone that is both firm and warm. This helps students understand that safety is non-negotiable, while also showing them that the adults in their lives care deeply about protecting them.

This week in Level III Advisory (Grades 5–6), we are focusing on Safety. Sixth graders completed the lesson already, and fifth graders will do so on Friday. In these sessions,

students are learning that safety isn't only about fire drills or playground rules—it's also about how we treat each other every day.

We are teaching a simple tool for safe decision-making:

See it → Name it → Choose safe action → Tell an adult

Through real-life scenarios, students practice spotting unsafe situations, naming what's wrong, and making a smart choice to keep themselves and others safe. We also highlight that emotional safety matters just as much as physical safety—teasing, exclusion, and online drama can cause just as much harm as physical risk.

Here are a few simple ways you can support this learning at home:

- Ask your child: "What's one way you helped keep yourself or a friend safe this week?"
- Reinforce that it's always okay to speak up if something feels unsafe.
- Remind them that telling an adult is not "tattling"—it's taking responsibility.
- Model calm, firm responses when you talk about safety situations.

Together, school and home can help students learn that when they choose safe actions, they are protecting the whole community. That's real leadership, and it's something we want every child to grow into.

Thank you for your ongoing partnership in helping our students feel safe, supported, and ready to thrive.

Warm regards,

Walter Duncan
Dean of Students (K–6)



School Calendar & Announcements

SSCPS WEEKLY CALENDAR SEPT 24 - OCT 01

Wed 24



Thu 25

Board of Trustees
Committee Meetings at
700 Longwater and via
Zoom - 5:30-7:30PM

ELPAC Meeting via
Zoom - 6PM

Fri 26



Sat/Sun

Sat 27 - SSCPS Annual
Road Race - 9AM



Mon 29

High School Best Buddies
Fundraiser

7-12 Spirit Week - Decade
Day

Tue 30

High School Best Buddies
Fundraiser

7-12 Spirit Week - Twin Day

Wed 01

High School Best Buddies
Fundraiser

7-12 Spirit Week - JJ Merch
Day

Upcoming

Oct 2 - No School (Yom
Kippur)

Oct 3 - 7-12 Spirit Week -
Pajama Day

Oct 8 - Junior Parent Night
via Zoom

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

SSCPS Events & Athletics Calendar

Important Announcements

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 apepin@sscps.org.

Upcoming School & Community Events

Upcoming SSCPS Events

Saturday, September 27: SSCPS Annual Road Race

RUN THE RACE

ROAD RACE INFO

A colorful illustration of a road race. Several runners of various ages and ethnicities are shown running along a paved road that curves through a green landscape with trees. The sky is light blue. The text is in bold, green, sans-serif fonts. A yellow starburst contains the text '\$35 ENTRY'. A yellow rounded rectangle contains the text 'SUGGESTED \$10 DONATION FOR STUDENTS'. The event details are listed in green text: 'Starts at 9:00am Saturday, September 27th', 'Wompatuck State Park 204 Union St. Hingham, MA 02043', and 'FOOD - DRINK - MUSIC - PRIZES ALL WELCOME - VOLUNTEERS NEEDED'. The South Shore Charter Public School logo is in the bottom left corner.

SSCPS ROAD TO GROW 2025 ROAD RACE

#SSCPSRoadToGrow

\$35 ENTRY

SUGGESTED \$10 DONATION FOR STUDENTS

**Starts at 9:00am
Saturday, September 27th**

**Wompatuck State Park
204 Union St. Hingham, MA 02043**

**FOOD - DRINK - MUSIC - PRIZES
ALL WELCOME - VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

 SOUTH SHORE CHARTER PUBLIC SCHOOL | 100 LONGWATER CIRCLE, NORWELL, MA 02061

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 2:00pm-4:00pm! 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 1:00-1:45 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:

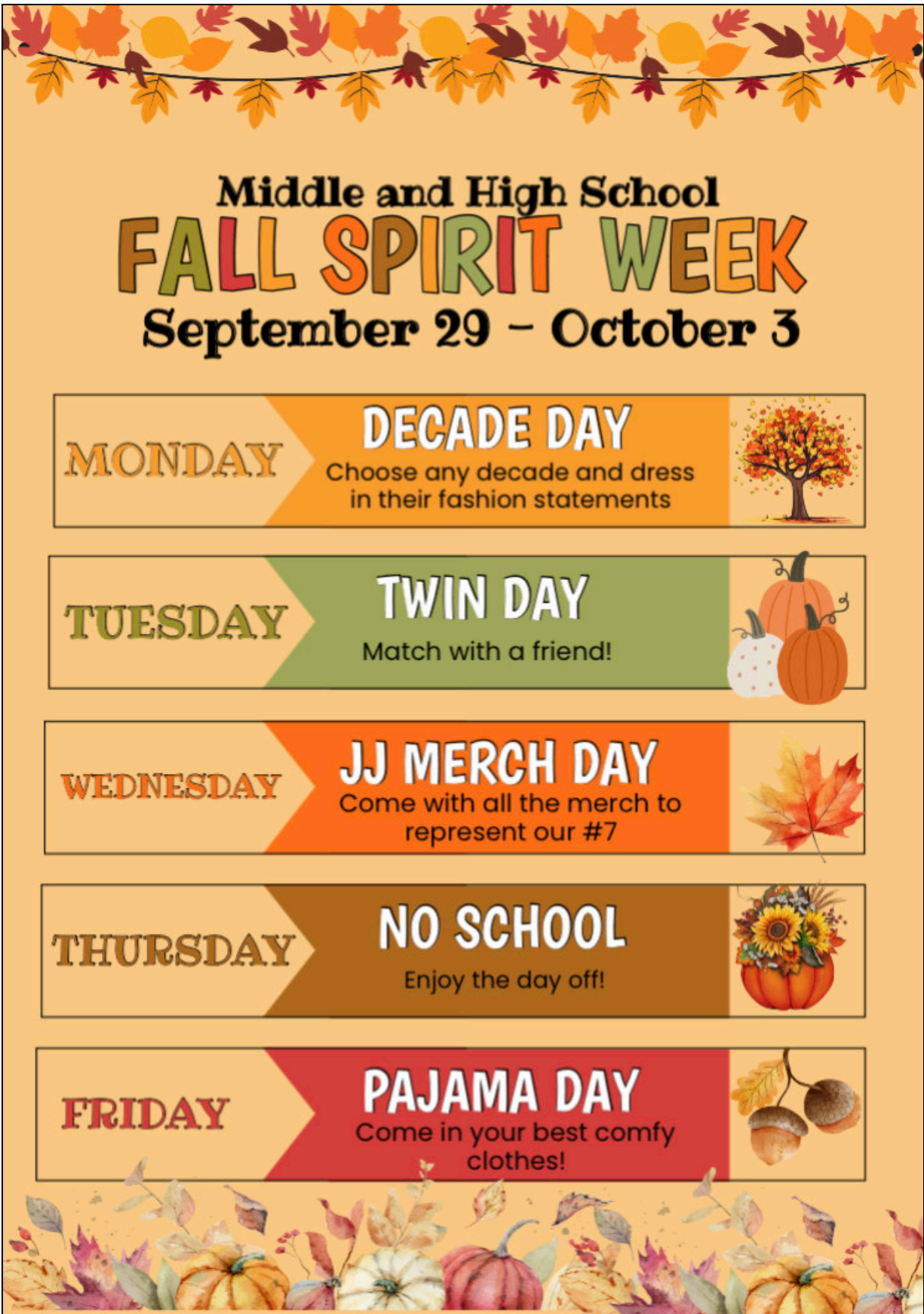
- ▶ Live Music
- ▶ Free Book Fair
- ▶ Refreshments
- ▶ Photo Booth
- ▶ Volunteer Opportunities (7-12)

This is NOT a drop-off event.








On the Levels

SSCPS Middle & High School Spirit Week



Middle and High School
FALL SPIRIT WEEK
September 29 – October 3

MONDAY	DECADE DAY Choose any decade and dress in their fashion statements	
TUESDAY	TWIN DAY Match with a friend!	
WEDNESDAY	JJ MERCH DAY Come with all the merch to represent our #7	
THURSDAY	NO SCHOOL Enjoy the day off!	
FRIDAY	PAJAMA DAY Come in your best comfy clothes!	

Arts & Music

Music Program Sign Ups

Use the button below to sign up for an after school music program! All information can be found on each sign up form. Please contact tleonard@sscps.org or pbarrett@sscps.org for more information.

CHOIR SIGN UP

INSTRUMENT SIGN UP



SSCPS Choir Sign Up

Level 2 Choir- Before School
When: Wednesday's 7:30-8:00 am
Start Date: September 11, 2025

Level 3 Choir- After School
When: Thursday's 3:00-4:00 pm
Start Date September 12, 2025

Questions: Email Paul Barrett - pbarrett@sscps.org



SOUTH SHORE CHARTER PUBLIC SCHOOL

INSTRUMENT SIGN UP

BEGINNING/ADV. BEGINNING STRINGS MON 3-4:30PM

BEGINNING BAND TUES 3-4:30PM

CONCERT BAND THURS 3-4:30PM

CONCERT STRINGS WED & FRI 3-4:30PM

CONTACT TLEONARD@SSCPS.ORG FOR MORE INFO

From the Foundation

The 2025 SSCPS Annual Road Race

At this year’s road race, we’re celebrating our anticipated enrollment expansion at SSCPS this fall! This is an exciting opportunity to allow more students to become a part of our diverse, inclusive community, and there’s no better way to celebrate than by coming together as a community for this beloved event - we hope to see you there!

There are lots of ways you can support our school and contribute to this event, from running the race, to volunteering your time, to sponsoring the race or a student runner, and more. Visit our website to learn more about the race and how you can be a part of our celebration and help us pave the **#SSCPSRoadToGrow!**

RUN THE RACE

SPONSOR THE RACE

ROAD RACE INFO

Thank you to our 2025 Road Race sponsors!

BRONZE SPONSORS	SILVER SPONSORS	GOLD SPONSORS	PLATINUM SPONSORS	PEARL SPONSORS	DIAMOND SPONSORS
 	   			 	
FRIEND SPONSORS					
My Gym Norwell Shake Shack Burton’s Grill Playa Bowls Fruit Center Marketplace Starland Sportsplex & Fun Park Sip Cafe					

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

Greetings Parents/Guardians,

We invite you to join us **tomorrow** for our English Learner Parent Advisory Council (ELPAC) meeting! This is a great opportunity to connect, stay informed, and help shape the educational experience of our English Learner students.

We'll be sharing important updates, upcoming events, and resources for multilingual families, plus, we want to hear from you! Your input is essential in supporting the success of our students.

Please see the below flyer for meeting details.

We hope to see you there!



South Shore
Charter Public
School

ELPAC MEETING

ZOOM MEETING ID: 875 7114 6589
PASSCODE: 858304



THURSDAY

25

SEPTEMBER

6:PM

Join us for an informative and engaging discussion at our upcoming ELPAC meeting! Your voice matters and your participation plays a vital role in supporting the success of our English Learners.

- ✓ Meet other parents
- ✓ Learn about our mission
- ✓ Discuss important information

For More Information

Contact: Sheina Prince-Eugene
Sprince@sscps.org



Important Links

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

School Documents:

[2025-2026 School Calendar](#)

[Student and Family Handbook](#)

[Arrival and Dismissal Procedures](#)

[SSCPS By-Laws](#)

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](#)



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