



Weekly Update | August 19, 2026

VOL. 8, ISSUE 2

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A Message From Alicia

These August days continue to be exciting and full of change. We are fortunate to look forward to the future while maintaining fidelity to the innovative academic programming and inclusive school community that is South Shore Charter. This year, we continue to enjoy all that institutional growth brings as we enter into year two of our five-year enrollment growth plan. We are pleased to experience student population growth for a second year as we gradually approach our new enrollment cap of 1,300 students by 2030. Through this incremental growth, we continue to enhance academic programming, expand the athletic department, and increase opportunities for students to explore their talents in music, art, and theatre. This has meant direct improvements and greater educational opportunities for our current students, as well as opening more seats for new students throughout the South Shore.

We continue to grow our faculty and staff to meet the needs of our growing student population. In the spring of last year, we added a Dean of Students for grades 7-12. This year, we are adding another leadership position so that both the middle and high schools will have a designated Dean of Students. We are pleased to announce our leadership team of Principals and Deans of Students for the 2026-27 school year.

Walter Duncan | Dean of Students K-5

Walter Duncan has been a teacher, administrator, and education technology entrepreneur since beginning his career in education in 1998. He began teaching Spanish in Detroit and has since taught English and Spanish in schools across the country, including Los Angeles, Washington, DC, and the Greater Boston area. In 2012, Walter co-founded Validated Learning Inc., the education technology company that created the Quick Key Mobile Grading App. The company went on to receive the 2018 Visionary Award from the Cambridge Chamber of Commerce. Walter sold and exited the company in 2019 and returned to South Shore Charter, where he taught Spanish and coached basketball, cross-country, and track.



Walter is now in his second year as Dean of Students in our elementary school. He brings his experience as a teacher, administrator, coach, and innovator to his work helping students thrive socially and academically.

His column in the Weekly Update, *From the Dean's Desk*, provides insight into student life in our classrooms and hallways, as well as how families can navigate some of the day-to-day challenges our youngest students face in today's world.

Walter holds a Bachelor of Arts in Spanish Language and Literature and a Master's degree in Educational Leadership from Fitchburg State University.

Maria Lappas | Principal K-5

Maria Lappas has over 15 years of classroom experience teaching world languages and second-language acquisition. Maria is an international educator who has taught in Greece, Spain, and the United States. Maria came to South Shore Charter in 2011 as a Spanish teacher; her classroom was one where every student felt valued and encouraged to reach their full potential. Her pedagogy was built on student support and establishing relationships with all learners in the classroom. Maria has carried this pedagogy to her administrative role and is now serving her second year as K-5 Principal.



Maria has served on the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) World Language Framework Implementation Team and the DESE Heritage Language Advisory Committee. She has presented at numerous language conferences and seminars, including MAFLA, ACTFL, the Metropolis of Pittsburgh, and Greek 4 Kids. Maria established an independent Modern Greek School program in 2017 and is actively involved in the Greek-American community.

Maria completed her Educational Leadership program at Bridgewater State University. Maria holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Marketing from Bentley University, a Master of Spanish from Simmons College, and a Master of Teaching Greek as a Second Language from the University of Nicosia.

Laura Bosse | Dean of Students 6-8

The new Dean of Students for Grades 6-8 will be Laura Bosse. Laura taught sixth-grade ELA and will be moving to 700 with her students. Laura is an experienced educator who began her career with the AmeriCorps New York City Teaching Fellows Program, where she served as a Grade 2 teacher at Public School 361 and a Grade 4 teacher at Public School 15, both in Brooklyn. Prior to joining us in the fall of 2018, Laura served as a Library Teacher at Sacred Heart School in Weymouth. Laura earned her Principal/Assistant Principal licensure through the DESE Massachusetts Aspiring Principals Fellowship last spring, an intensive one-year program that identifies and cultivates educators committed to equity-driven education.



Laura holds a Bachelor of Science from New York University and a Master of Science in Elementary Education from Brooklyn College. We look forward to Laura serving in this new role and know that our students will continue to thrive with her guidance and support.

Jean-Paul (JP) Marcellus | Principal 6-8

Jean-Paul Marcellus will continue his leadership as Middle School Principal at South Shore Charter. Now in his second year as Principal, JP brings an impressive career of school-wide program development and innovation. JP's background as an impressive college athlete and professional basketball player in Europe has been instrumental in building our athletic department into what it is today. Prior to arriving at South Shore Charter, JP was the Athletic Director at Dayspring Christian Academy, where he built the athletic program from the ground up. He managed a tight budget, focused on community building, and built lasting relationships with students.



Beginning as a Physical Education teacher in 2019, JP carried that mindset over to South Shore Charter. JP's work at South Shore Charter has been far reaching. JP has served as Assistant Principal (Grades 5-8), High School Athletic Director, Physical Education Teacher, and Boys Varsity Basketball Coach. JP has grown the South Shore Charter athletic program and has developed the basketball program into one of the strongest statewide. With each role, JP has fostered relationships with students, modeling hard work, fairness, and how to grow from defeat. As Assistant Principal and now Principal, his understanding of how to reach the whole student and foster social and emotional support has provided our middle school students with the foundation they need to navigate their middle and high school experiences.

Outside of school, JP is a proud husband and father. He is married to his wife, Heather, and together they have three children, Lily, Jaxon, and Isiah. JP holds a Bachelor of Business Administration with a Major in Business Management from Eastern Nazarene College and a Master's of Education in Educational Leadership from Fitchburg State University.

Christophe Teulet-Cote (TC) | Dean of Students 9-12

Christophe Teulet-Cote will be the new High School Dean of Students. Christophe, known by our high school students as TC, has served as our High School Principal and Assistant Principal since 2022. TC came to South Shore Charter from Boston Public Schools, where he served as Assistant Headmaster for 17 years at The English High School and Charlestown High School, as well as Head of Middle School at Charlestown High School. He has been an exam writer and a course outline writer for Chicago Public Schools, and his extracurricular experience includes founding student clubs, coaching athletics, and leading service-learning programs and school history fairs.



Prior to his work in school administration, TC was a lead teacher of Advanced Placement United States History and World History at English. TC is a certified Restorative Justice practitioner specializing in social-emotional learning. His rapport with students, both in and out of the classroom, continues to focus on building relationships and providing them with the support they need to reach their highest potential.

TC's professional accomplishments include grants, awards, and achievements that focus on the importance of service learning, such as the *Community Beautification Grant*, the *Illinois Department of Commerce and Communication Grant*, the *Oppenheimer Award*,

the *Teacher Excellence Award*, the *American Red Cross Grant*, the *Close-Up Grant*, the *Youth Empowerment Grant*, and the *Youth As Resources Grant*. TC served in the United States Marine Corps, holds a Bachelor of Arts from the University of Illinois, a Master's in Educational Administration from the University of Massachusetts, Boston, and is currently pursuing his doctoral degree at Northeastern University.

Nadeen Sullivan | Principal 9-12

Please join me in congratulating Nadeen Sullivan on her new role as High School Principal. Nadeen taught English and AP African American Studies and was the 7-12 Dean of Students last spring.

In addition to her extensive teaching experience, Nadeen is the Enrichment and Community Service Coordinator and established the program in 2023. Under her leadership, this exceedingly popular afterschool program continues to grow.



Nadeen's experience is far-reaching. Prior to South Shore Charter, Nadeen was a Home and Hospital Teacher Coordinator for the Special Education Department of the Brockton Public Schools, an Adult Basic Education Coordinator for Training Resources of America, a Teacher Supervisor at the Little Flowers Prep School in Brooklyn, NY, and an ESL and World History teacher for the Brockton Public Schools.

Nadeen holds a Bachelor of Arts in Communication from Cameron University, a Master of Arts in Liberal Studies from Brooklyn College, City University of New York, and a Master of Education in Curriculum and Teaching from Fitchburg State University.

School Calendar & Announcements

SSCPS WEEKLY CALENDAR

AUG 19 - AUG 26

Wed 19

Thu 20

Fri 21

Sat/Sun

Mon 24

Tue 25

Breakfast and Lunch Orders
Due by 3PM

Wed 26

Upcoming

Aug 28: Kindergarten Open House

Aug 31: New Middle School Student Open House

Sept 1: Kindergarten Orientation

Sept 1: Middle School Open House

Sept 2: First Day of School

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

SSCPS Events & Athletics Calendar

Back to School Forms

We will be sending out a number of Back to School forms to SSCPS families within the next couple of days — please keep an eye on your inboxes for these forms to fill out ahead of the 2026-2027 school year.

Food Services Announcements

Community Eligibility Provision (CEP)

The South Shore Charter Public School is approved to participate in the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) of the National School Lunch Program. This special provision means that families are no longer required to complete a meal benefit application, and all our students have access to breakfast and lunch at no cost.

Fee waivers for athletics, enrichment, and other applicable student fees will be based on Direct Certification for the new school year.

Direct Certification is the process by which school districts certify students whose households receive assistance from SNAP, TANF/TAFDC, or FDPIR as eligible for free meals without further application. Direct Certification is based on information provided by the state agencies administering these benefit programs.

To apply for Direct Certification, please visit: <https://dtaconnect.eohhs.mass.gov/> and apply for benefits.

All families who are Direct Certified will receive notification of their status and a Community Eligibility (CEP) information-sharing form from the school in the coming weeks. To determine if a fee can be waived, all families must complete and return the CEP Information Sharing Form to Charlene Salamone, Food Services Coordinator. The Food Service Department cannot share your Direct Certification status with any other school department without a completed form on file.

2026-2027 Meal Ordering Information

Welcome to the 2026-2027 school year! For those of you new to SSCPS, my name is Charlene Salamone and I am the Food Services Coordinator. My role at SSCPS is to ensure that our school provides our students with nutritious, healthy meals during the school day. Since SSCPS does not have cafeterias, we offer our students a "Grab and Go" hot meal, a salad, or a cold meal that complies with the nutritional guidelines set by the National School Lunch and Breakfast Program, as well as "Grab and Go" breakfast programs.

In order for your child to receive breakfast, lunch, or both, you will need to place a weekly or monthly order for meals. For the first week of school, this must be completed by ***Tuesday, August 25th by 3:00 PM.*** We utilize an online ordering system called Arbiter, and all families must register each child to order meals. Please visit the [SSCPS FamilyID Programs](#) webpage to register your child. Also, 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 know their homeroom teacher, that would be helpful, but that information can always be entered later. To learn more about 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.

Please review the menus carefully and order them accurately. Orders are due on Tuesdays, no later than 3:00 pm, for the following week's meals.

[September 2026 Breakfast Menu](#)

[September 2026 Lunch Menu](#)

Finally, if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call me at 781-982-4202 ext. 156 or email me at csalamone@sscps.org.

Over the next month or so, we will be transitioning to a new point-of-sale (ordering) system, and we will be sending updated instructions on how to order meals using the new system to all families.

Charlene Salamone
Food Services Coordinator

Athletics Announcement

Fall Sports Registration



Fall Season 2026 is Approaching and Athletics Registration is Live!

Register online [here](#) on the Athletics page on our website today!

We will be offering the following sports for the Fall season:

- Varsity Boys Soccer (Grades 9-12)
- Varsity Girls Soccer (Grades 9-12)
- Varsity Girls Volleyball (Grades 9-12)
- High School Coed Cross Country (Grades 9-12)
- Middle School Coed Soccer (Grades 7-8)
- Middle School Coed Cross Country (Grades 7-8)

To register you must:

1. Upload Copy of Physical Exam

- Upload a copy of a valid physical to the Arbiter sports registration form.
- Valid physicals must be in-person exams conducted within the previous 13 months and include both an athletic participation clearance and a doctor's signature (an electronic signature is acceptable.)

2. Make Payment

- All sport participants MUST pay an athletic fee (\$125) to sign up and participate. Payments can be made online through MySchoolBucks as part of the registration process.

Please register today! More information regarding schedules will be provided the first week of school. If you have any questions, please contact the Athletic Director.

Joe Kay
SSCPS Athletic Director

jkay@sscps.org[REGISTER HERE](#)

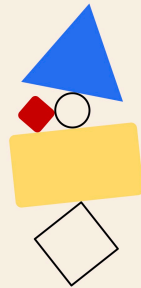
School Policy Announcement

2026-2027 SSCPS Cell Phone Policy

Thank you to all parents who participated in yesterday's Cell Phone Policy Focus Group! If you were unable to attend, please use the button below to see the full presentation with information about our proposed Cell Phone Policy for the 2026-2027 school year.

[CELL PHONE POLICY](#)

SSCPS Proposes



Using Student Homeroom/Advisory

Students will turn in their phones to homeroom teacher/ advisor at the start of the day and will collect their phones from their advisor/homeroom teacher at the end of the day.

Storing Phones in Secure Spaces

Teachers will collect and store devices in designated locations until end of the school day.

Using Instructional Technology

Students will continue to have access to technologies safely managed by the school: Chromebooks.

August 2026

SSCPS

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Upcoming School & Community Events

Upcoming SSCPS Events

2026 SSCPS Annual Road Race

Join us on Saturday, October 17th at Wompatuck State Park for another SSCPS Annual Road Race! The road race is a beloved community-wide event that helps us all unite in the spirit of collaboration and togetherness, so join us with your friends and family for a morning of fun, exercise, and community. Use the buttons below for more information on this year's race, volunteer and sponsorship opportunities, and more!

[RUN THE RACE](#)[ROAD RACE INFO](#)



South Shore Charter Public School

BECOME A SPONSOR!
2026 SSCPS
ANNUAL ROAD RACE

SUPPORT STUDENTS IN THE SOUTH SHORE

OCT 17, 2026 | WOMPATUCK STATE PARK, HINGHAM MA

 Promote Your Business  Connect With Community  Support Education



At this year's road race, we're celebrating the continued enrollment expansion at South Shore Charter! 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!**

[SPONSOR THE RACE](#)



SSCPS ROAD TO GROW 2026 ROAD RACE

#SSCPSRoadToGrow

\$35 ENTRY

SUGGESTED \$10 DONATION FOR STUDENTS

**Starts at 9:00am
Saturday, October 17th**

**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

From the Health Office

Back to School | 2026-2027

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](#). The form must be dated after July 1, 2026 in order for it to be valid for the school year. 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-12th grade: Jaime Kjelgaard, RN jkjelgaard@sscps.org 781-982-4202 x104

K-5th grade: Erilin Martinez, RN emartinez2@sscps.org 781-982-4202 x 104

6th-12th grade: Barbara Folan, RN bfolan@sscps.org 781-982-4202 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 Jaime Kjelgaard, RN jkjelgaard@sscps.org 781-982-4202 x 104

Students entering K, 4th, 7th & 10th grade must submit current physical forms and vaccine records.

The K-5 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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