



Weekly Update | August 26, 2026

VOL. 8, ISSUE 3

Table of Contents

- [A Message From Alicia](#)
 - [New Faculty & Staff at SSCPS](#)
 - [School Calendar & Announcements](#)
 - [Upcoming School & Community Events](#)
 - [From the Health Office](#)
 - [Important Links](#)
-



A Message From Alicia

Welcome to the 2026-27 school year! Whether you have been with us for years or just a few days, we all share the excitement of the new school year. In one short week, we will be together again, celebrating all September brings. This year, it brings new students and families, new classrooms, and an expanded campus still undergoing a major buildout. This has been our busiest summer ever, and we know that with growth and change, possibilities abound.

Here on campus, we owe a great deal to our facilities team, led by Wayne Heuer, who has worked tirelessly throughout the summer to ensure that the buildings are gleaming and ready for the first day of school on September 2. This year, we have once again been working with construction crews at 700 Longwater to create new classrooms and learning spaces. We are currently in Phase 3A, which is scheduled to be completed by the end of

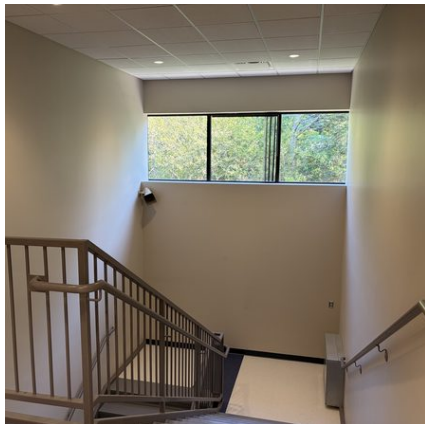
September. Phase 3B, which includes first-floor music and art rooms, a physical education area, a black box theatre, and offices, is scheduled for completion by late winter or early spring. Although the job is not yet finished, there are new classrooms and temporary classrooms to accommodate our incoming high school students. We will continue to provide our students and families with construction updates throughout the project.



High School Great Room, August 2026



High School math classroom at 700 Longwater, August 2026



New stairwell and lockers at 700 Longwater, August 2026

There are some exciting faculty and staff updates for the new school year. We have a few familiar faces in new spaces over at 700 as our sixth grade joins the middle school. Stacy Jackson will be joining Karen Boyle at the front desk of 700 Longwater as the new 6-8 Administrative Assistant. Jenn Moore is moving from fourth grade to sixth grade. Kim Beshere will be a Learning Services paraprofessional for grades 9-12. Additionally, there are some changes at 100 Longwater. Jenna Brink has taken on a new teaching position as our K-5 STEM teacher. Kristen Gale will be our K-5 Literacy Coach. Deborah Noe, who was a paraprofessional last year, will now be a building-wide substitute teacher. Amy Pike will be teaching a music class in addition to her current paraprofessional role. Crystal Nunes is moving from first to third grade, Darlene Parker is moving from third to fifth grade, and Deana Tondorf will be our new Reading Specialist.

The role of Athletic Director is changing at South Shore Charter, reflecting an important shift as we grow and restructure our athletic program. This year, Joe Kay will serve as the school's Athletic Director for middle and high school. Joe Kay will be taking on this new role in addition to teaching physical education. Joe has been the Middle School Athletic Director for the past few years and has been a successful basketball, softball, and track and field coach. Joe is also an experienced school administrator who served as the High School Assistant Principal for 5 years and as the High School Dean of Students for 2 years. His knowledge and experience with our students will continue to benefit our school community as our athletic program grows.

We begin this school year with a significant number of new professionals to meet the needs of our growing student population and campus. Please join me in welcoming our newest faculty and staff to the South Shore Charter community in the section below.

I would like to thank all of our staff who worked hard throughout the summer to ensure these positions were filled by opening day with such outstanding educators and professionals.

I would also like to thank our families for the ongoing support and trust in us as we look forward to another excellent new school year. Thank you for believing in our mission of inspiring every student to excel in academics, service, and life.

Alicia Savage
Executive Director

New Faculty & Staff at SSCPS

Elementary School | Grades K-5

Jennifer Archbald | Paraprofessional

Jennifer comes to South Shore Charter from the Bridgewater-Raynham Regional School District, where she served as an educational support professional and a proctor. Outside of education, Jennifer's experience includes food service, retail, and furniture sales and design. Jennifer holds an Associate Degree in Business Administration from Massasoit Community College.

Kelsey Higgins | Grade 5 Elementary Teacher

Kelsey is joining our fifth-grade team from the New London Public Schools, where she served as a ¾-year-round teacher. Kelsey's teaching experience includes fifth-grade ELA and History, district-wide and building substitute teaching, and after-school tutoring. Kelsey has also served as a Teacher in Residence for the AmeriCorps Tutor Corps and as an Assistant Marching Band Director at Killingly High School in Connecticut. In addition to teaching, her professional experience includes serving as a sound engineer for The Bradley Playhouse in Connecticut and as a pit musician for the Killingly High School Theatre. Kelsey also hosted a Saturday Morning and Afternoon Show, where she

reported, photographed, and anchored the news for WINY Radio. Kelsy holds a Bachelor of Arts in Music Performance, minoring in Jazz Studies and Communications, and an Elementary Certification from Relay Graduate School of Education.

Matthew Huggett | Elementary Learning Services Teacher

Matthew comes to South Shore Charter from the Stars School and Learning Center in Weymouth, where he served as a special education co-teacher and a physical education teacher. Prior to Stars, Matthew was a special education paraprofessional at Jenkins Elementary School in Scituate. Matthew's professional experience includes serving as a RISE literacy tutor for Hopewell in Boston and as a reading coordinator and education liaison for the Akwesane Boys and Girls Club. Matthew served as a reading interventionist at the Deerfield Elementary School and an instructional assistant at Westhampton Elementary School. A college athlete himself, Matthew coached lacrosse at Scituate High School, Wahconah High School, and the New England Oaks Lacrosse Club. Matthew has also served as a lacrosse camp counselor and box lacrosse referee. Matthew holds a Bachelor of Arts in Criminal Justice with a minor in Education from Springfield College and is currently pursuing a Master's degree in special education.

Andrew Johnson | Art Teacher

We are pleased to welcome Andrew Johnson to the South Shore Charter Art Department. Andrew is an experienced curriculum developer and artist working in ceramics, drawing, painting, digital illustration, sculpture, and printmaking. Andrew comes to South Shore Charter following student teaching at Cambridge Rindge and Latin School, volunteer work at the Holland Technical High School in Dorchester, and teaching Saturday Studios at MassArt. In addition to art, Andrew taught language at Borderlink in Saitama, Japan. Andrew is the recipient of the Nona Hershey Auction Award, the Senior Printmaking Award, and the Tochigi Prefecture Teaching First Award. Andrew holds a Bachelor of Fine Arts and a Master's in Art Education from the Massachusetts College of Art and Design.

Hannah Levy | Learning Services Teacher

Hannah comes to South Shore Charter from the Boston Higashi School, where she was a special education teacher. Her impactful professional experience includes teaching students with language-based learning disabilities and Autism Spectrum Disorder in a student-centered environment. Hannah completed her student teaching at the Loranger Memorial School in Maine and was a summer teaching intern at the Forman School in Connecticut. Hannah holds a Bachelor of Science in Special Education from the University of Maine at Farmington.

Michelle MacDonald | Grade 4 Elementary Teacher

Michelle is joining our fourth-grade team following a year of long-term substitute teaching, first in a fourth-grade classroom at the Wampatuck Elementary School in Scituate, and most recently in a first-grade classroom at the Eames Way Elementary School in Marshfield. Michelle also served as an instructional paraeducator at Liberty Elementary School in Braintree. Michelle completed her prepracticum and practicum work at Franklin Avenue Elementary School in Westfield and Tatham Elementary School in West Springfield. Michelle holds a Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Studies with a concentration in History and a Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education from Westfield State University.

Kristen McDonald | Administrative Assistant

Kristen comes to South Shore Charter with a background in communication and public relations. She served as a front desk administrator in Greenville, South Carolina, and a sales development representative for Invoice Cloud. More locally, Kristen has served as a senior resident service specialist for Lenox Farms in Braintree. Kristen has been a shift supervisor, hostess, server, and trainer at 99 Restaurants, and a conference and event

services planner at Bridgewater State University. Kristen served as a member engagement specialist for the Emilson YMCA in Hanover, and has worked in marketing for On Deck Sporting Goods in Braintree and Music Alley in Bridgewater. Kristen holds a Bachelor of Arts in Communication Studies and Strategic Communication, with a minor in Public Relations from Bridgewater State University.

Liz Ouellette | Grade 1 Elementary Teacher

Liz comes to South Shore Charter from a second-grade classroom at Blackstone Valley Prep Charter School, where she served as a classroom teacher and grade chair. Liz has been teaching elementary school for five years. Her professional experience includes teaching first-grade students at Brownfield-Denmark Elementary School who did not attend kindergarten due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Liz was a Teacher of the Year nominee in 2023 and 2025, and she holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Elementary Education from the University of Maine at Farmington.

Alexa Marie Parham | Kindergarten Teacher

We are pleased to be adding another kindergarten classroom this year. And we are even more excited to introduce Alexa Parham as the teacher for this new classroom. Alexa comes to South Shore Charter from the Sacred Heart School in Weymouth, where she taught first and second grade. Her extensive experience also includes serving as a Special Education Paraprofessional at the Thomas W. Hamilton School and as a remote and in-person kindergarten teacher for the Early Childhood Preschool and Learning Center in Weymouth. She has served as a teaching intern at the Williams School in Bridgewater, the Arnone School in Brockton, and for the Taunton Public Schools. Alexa holds a Bachelor of Science in English, a Bachelor of Science in Elementary and Secondary Education, and a Master of Science in Special Education from Bridgewater State University.

Margaret Plante | Long-Term Substitute Teacher

Margaret will be joining Level I as a second-grade classroom teacher. Margaret comes to South Shore Charter from CEIP Infanta Leonor, where she served as an English language assistant for Spanish-speaking students ranging from preschool through grade four. Margaret has served as a substitute teacher for the Sharon Public Schools and as a long-term substitute at the Jackson Street School in Northampton. In addition to teaching, Margaret has served as an activity and special event lead for the Family and Community Program at Hale Education in Westwood. Margaret completed her student teaching in a fifth-grade classroom at the Jackson School and in a second-grade classroom at the Fort River Elementary School in Amherst. Margaret holds a Bachelor of Arts in Education and a Master of Education from the University of Massachusetts Amherst.

Desislava Poutias | Kindergarten Paraprofessional

Desislava will be joining Level I as a classroom paraprofessional. Desislava is a dedicated childcare professional with more than 10 years of experience, coming to us from Sisters Secret Garden in Braintree. Prior to family day care, Desislava was a breastfeeding specialist for the Women, Infants, & Children Nutrition Program (WIC) and a volunteer with the Trauma Center's Injury Prevention Program at Boston Children's Hospital. Desislava holds an Associate Degree in Health Care Administration from Quincy College.

Shaquita Rockhold | Grade 1 Elementary Teacher

Shaquita is an experienced educator who comes to South Shore Charter from Cambridge Friends School, where she held a variety of positions, most recently as the Library Media Specialist and Director of Auxiliary Programs. Shaquita's classroom experience is significant; in her time at Cambridge Friends, Shaquita was a first, third, and fourth-grade teacher, where she planned and implemented lessons using differentiated instruction and

social-emotional learning strategies to reach all learners in the classroom. While at Cambridge Friends, Shaquita served as the Interim Co-Director of Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging (DEIB), leading institutional initiatives to address achievement gaps and foster inclusion. Prior to her work at Cambridge Friends, Shaquita was a kindergarten special education paraprofessional and a building substitute teacher for Quincy Public Schools. Shaquita holds a Bachelor of Arts in Education, a Master of Education in Early Childhood Education, and a Master of Education in Language and Literacy from Lesley University in Cambridge.

Lindsay Roth | Math Intervention Teacher

Lindsay comes to South Shore Charter from Braintree Public Schools, where she taught math at South Middle School and Highland Elementary School. Prior to Braintree, Lindsay taught math at the Wilson Middle School in Natick, where she also served as a METCO tutor, a co-advisor for the math team, an interdisciplinary team leader, and a Technology Day instructor. Lindsay completed her student teaching practicum at the Angier Elementary School in Newton. Lindsay holds a Bachelor of Arts in Elementary Education and Math/Computer Science, and a Master of Education in Moderate Special Needs, both from the Boston College Lynch School of Education.

Jack Ryan | Long-Term Substitute Learning Services Paraprofessional

Jack will be assisting in the Speech and Learning Department in the fall. Jack recently completed his Speech-Language Pathologist internship at the Hannah Elementary School in Beverly and the Jenkins Elementary School in Scituate. Jack completed his Student Teacher/SLP at the Proctor Elementary School in Topsfield. Jack holds a Bachelor of Education from Endicott College.

Danielle Seropian | Kindergarten Paraprofessional

Danielle is a professional photographer, graphic designer, and visual communications professional who has used her creative and design expertise to support various organizations in technology, healthcare, finance, and education. Danielle's childcare experience includes coaching and serving as a professional nanny for ten years. Danielle holds a Bachelor of Communications with a minor in Public Relations from Bridgewater State University.

Gina Thawley | Grade 4 Elementary Teacher

Gina comes to South Shore Charter from an early childhood classroom at Over the Moon Parenting Center in Norwell. Her extensive classroom experience includes substitute teaching for the Duxbury Public Schools and teaching in elementary classrooms in Connecticut and Indiana. Gina holds a Bachelor of Arts in Elementary Education from Ohio Wesleyan University in Ohio, and a Master of Arts in Education from Sacred Heart University in Connecticut.

Elizabeth Woodman | Paraprofessional

Elizabeth brings significant experience in early childhood education to South Shore Charter. She comes to us from Sacred Heart in Kingston, where she served as a pre-K teacher. Elizabeth was the lead toddler teacher, a preschool teacher, and a pre-K teacher at Cherubs Child Development Center in Marshfield. Elizabeth also served as a lead toddler teacher at Sunshine Daycare in Bridgewater. Elizabeth is currently pursuing a degree in Early Childhood Education at Quincy College.

Chelsea Yourell | Grade 3 Elementary Teacher

Chelsea is joining the third-grade team after teaching in a second-grade classroom at Boston Renaissance Charter Public School in Hyde Park, where she honed her skills in creating student-centered learning environments, differentiating instruction, and designing culturally responsive lessons. Prior to teaching at Boston Renaissance, Chelsea was the Building Substitute teacher at the Governor Winslow School in Marshfield. Her additional experience in education includes serving as an ABA Tutor at Center School in Hanover and as an Education Support Professional at the Daniel Webster School in Marshfield. Prior to her classroom experience, Chelsea served as the Food Service Coordinator for UPPAbaby in Rockland. Chelsea holds a Bachelor of Science from the University of Massachusetts Amherst and a Master of Education from Curry College.

Middle School | Grades 6-8

Kristin Dorfman | STEM Teacher

We are pleased to welcome back Kristin Dorfman, who has accepted a permanent teaching position in our middle school. Last year, Kristin served as a long-term substitute math teacher on Level IV and built wonderful relationships with our students. Kristin is an experienced epidemiologist and a certified math and science teacher. Kristin's experience includes serving as a Senior Epidemiologist at Decision Resources Group, an Epidemiologist at the Massachusetts Department of Public Health, a Graduate Teaching Assistant at Tufts University, a Senior Research Assistant at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, and a Research Assistant at Children's Hospital Boston. Kristin holds a Bachelor of Science from the University of Connecticut, a Master of Science in Food Policy and Applied Nutrition, and a Master of Public Health in Epidemiology/Biostatistics.

Daniel Kiser | Learning Services Teacher

Daniel comes to South Shore Charter from Canton High School, where he has served as a Special Education Teacher for the past two years. Daniel is an experienced special education educator who has taught History at TEC Phoenix Academy in Walpole and in an alternative learning center at the O'Donnell Middle School in Stoughton. Daniel has also taught, coached, and served as a child care worker at the Brandon Residential Treatment Center in Natick. His coaching experience is extensive; Daniel has coached basketball at Canton High School, Randolph High School, Weston High School, South Shore Christian Academy, and numerous colleges, including Endicott College, Eastern Nazarene College, and Framingham State University. Daniel holds a Bachelor of Arts in Sports Management, a Master of Sports Science from the United States Sports Academy, and a Master of Education from Framingham State University.

Jenelle La Grange | STEM Teacher

Joining our middle school team and Science Department is Janelle La Grange. Janelle comes to South Shore Charter from Colorado SKIES Academy, where she was a Science and STEM facilitator for students in grades 6-8. Janelle's professional experience includes classroom teaching and serving as chair of the science department for K-8 students at the Parker Performing Arts School, teaching ninth-grade earth science and serving as department chair at the Miami-Dade Charter School, and serving as a K-8 environmental science teacher at the Bright Future Academy. Janelle holds a Bachelor of Science in Turfgrass and Soil Science with a minor in Meteorology from Pennsylvania State University and a Master of Science in Education from Northern Western Florida University.

Matthew McGaffigan | Long-Term Substitute Math Teacher

Matthew joins South Shore Charter following a year of teaching math to seventh graders at Aspen Middle School in Aspen, Colorado. Matthew's teaching experience additionally includes sixth-grade science at Rogers Middle School in Rockland, physical education at Phelps Elementary School, and numerous other teaching assignments as a substitute

teacher for the Cambridge Public Schools. Matthew was a college lacrosse player who interned for Lacrosse the Nations and is currently coaching at Kings Lacrosse Club. Matthew has been a camp counselor at Ajax Adventure Camp in Aspen, Colorado, and at the Rockland Youth Commission. Matthew holds a Bachelor of Science in Public Health from the University of Massachusetts Amherst.

Erin Rodden | Learning Services Teacher

Erin joins South Shore Charter following two years of teaching in the Therapeutic Learning Center at Weymouth High School. Erin has also taught at the South Shore Educational Collaborative, where she planned and instructed academic lessons, collaborated with colleagues and families, and constructed and implemented student IEPs. Erin's professional experience includes roles as a paraprofessional, certified trainer, hostess, and food runner in the food service industry. Erin holds a Bachelor of Science in Communication Sciences and Disorders and a Master of Education, Special Education, from Bridgewater State University.

Kathleen Sughrue | ESL Teacher

Kathleen comes to South Shore Charter from the Boston Public Schools. Kathleen holds licensure in General Science and English as a Second Language. She has served as a middle school science teacher at UP Academy Boston and the Orchard Gardens Pilot School, where she taught English Language Learners and students with learning disabilities in an inclusive classroom. Kathleen served as the Science Department Lead and was a New Teacher Developer, all while teaching at Orchard Gardens. Kathleen has taught middle school science at Uncommon Schools' Roxbury Prep Dorchester campus. Kathleen holds a Bachelor of Science in Environmental Studies from the University of Vermont and a Master of Education in General Science from Fitchburg State University.

High School | Grades 9-12

Catharine Buhse | English Teacher

Catherine is joining the Humanities Department following a Nativity Teaching Fellowship in Jamaica Plain, Boston, where she taught seventh-grade Reading and Language Arts and fifth-grade Social Studies. While completing her fellowship, Catherine served as a student advisor and the middle school soccer and track coach. Catherine's experience includes a ReadBoston internship with the Mayor's Office of Workforce Development, where she worked on research and storytelling initiatives related to childhood literacy.

Catherine has written and published a thesis that explored the author Toni Morrison and her use of trauma and violence in fiction. She has been a Student Ambassador for the Holy Cross Alumni Anti-Racism Alliance. Catherine has also been a cashier and counter clerk at Long Island Bagel Café in Long Beach. Catherine holds a Bachelor of Arts in English, with minors in Education and Peace and Conflict Studies, and has recently earned her Master of Education in Teaching Secondary School English. We are excited for Catherine to bring her knowledge and perspective to our growing high school community.

Alexander Martel | Learning Services Teacher

Alexander comes to South Shore Charter from Rockland Federal Credit Union, where he served as a Loan Service Specialist for three years before returning to the classroom. Alexander is an experienced educator and historian who has taught Social Studies at Chapman Middle School in Weymouth, Humanities at East Bridgewater Junior/Senior High School, and served as a Title I Tutor for the New Bedford Public Schools. Additionally, Alexander was a secondary education teacher at the Nazarene Christian

Academy, where he also served as the Title 1 Coordinator and as an Academic Advisor. Alexander holds a Bachelor of Arts in History and a Bachelor of Arts in Secondary Education and Teaching from Eastern Nazarene College and a Master of Arts in History from Simmons University.

Eldine Beaubrun Montauban | French Teacher

Eldine will join our flourishing World Languages Department as a new French teacher. Eldine comes to South Shore Charter from Randolph Public Schools, where she served as a Multilingual Language Learner teacher. In that role, Eldine was an ESL teacher who worked on Early College initiatives at the high school. Prior to Randolph, Eldine was an English Language Learners teacher for East Bridgewater Public Schools. Eldine has also served as a substitute teacher for the Brockton Public Schools and a Consulting Investigator for English Learners at TERC. Eldine served as a Research Fellow and a Research Associate at Lesley University's Institute for Trauma Sensitivity, where she conducted research, shared findings, and presented on the impact of trauma and learning. Eldine holds a Bachelor of Science in Chemistry from the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth, a Master of Education in Elementary Education from Bridgewater State University, and a Ph.D in Educational Leadership from Lesley University.

Clifton Smalley | English Teacher

Clifton comes to South Shore Charter from Framingham High School, where he taught English for grades 9, 11, and 12. Prior to Framingham High, Clifton served as the English Department Chair at Marquette Senior High School in Michigan. There, he led the English Department, provided professional development, mentored teachers, and developed a co-teaching and teacher coaching program. His teaching experience at Marquette includes teaching AP Language and Composition, as well as grade nine and ten English. Clifton holds a Bachelor of English from Worcester State University and received the *Honor Teacher of 2023* award from Grow & Lead: Community and Youth Development of Marquette, Michigan.

All School

Alyssa Cabrera | Food Services Assistant Grades 6-12

Alyssa Cabrera will be joining our Food Services team at 700 Longwater. Alyssa joins South Shore Charter after an extensive career as a Customer Service Representative and Medical Assistant. Alyssa was a Customer Service Representative at CSR, Northeast Arc in Somerville, and a Client Service Representative at Franciscan Children's Hospital. Alyssa has also been a Medical Assistant in the Neurology Department and completed her Medical Assistant Internship in the Oncology/Hematology Department at Mount Auburn Hospital. Alyssa completed her Medical Assistant Externship at the Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center. She is a licensed Medical Assistant and holds a Clinical Medical Assistant certification from the Medical Professional Institute.

Elizabeth Noronha | School Psychologist K-12

We are pleased to welcome Elizabeth as our new School Psychologist. Elizabeth recently completed her school internship at Higham Middle School and her practicum at Indian Head Elementary School in Hanson. Elizabeth has held numerous positions working with children, including after-school program teacher at Kids in Action in Hingham, Head Counselor at the South Shore YMCA Nature Center, an internship with Over the Moon Parenting in Norwell, and senior counselor at the South Shore YMCA. Elizabeth holds a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology with a minor in Education from the University of

Massachusetts Amherst, where she also served as a Teaching Assistant and a Research Assistant. Elizabeth holds an Education Specialist and a Master of Education in School Psychology from the University of Massachusetts Boston.

Christopher Spagone | Art Teacher Grades 6-12

Christopher joins the South Shore Charter Art Department following an impressive career as an artist, teacher, and business professional. Christopher has taught Art at East Bridgewater Junior/Senior High School, where he taught general art and ceramics. He has taught art history as a volunteer in the Art Docent Program at the Richardson Olmsted School and has been a private art teacher as well as a youth baseball and basketball coach.

As an artist, Christopher’s work has been featured in the Boston Herald, and he has had showings locally. Christopher has done book illustrations, worked as an illustrator for corporate publications, and created poster art for local musicians. Prior to his work as an artist, Christopher worked in manufacturing as Vice President of Operations. Christopher holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Illustration from the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth.

School Calendar & Announcements

SSCPS WEEKLY CALENDAR

AUG 26 - SEPT 02

Wed 26



Thu 27



Fri 28

Kindergarten Open House at 100 Longwater - 9AM

Sat/Sun



Mon 31

New Middle School Student Open House at 700 Longwater - 4PM

Tue 01

Breakfast and Lunch Orders Due by 3PM
Kindergarten Orientation at 100 Longwater - 8AM
Freshman Orientation at 700 Longwater - 10AM
Middle School Open House - 4PM

Wed 02

First Day of School
Board of Trustees Executive Committee via Zoom - 9AM
Kindergarten Early Release - 12PM

Upcoming

Sept 3: Kindergarten Early Release at 12PM
Sept 4: Early Release at 12PM
Sept 7: Labor Day (No School)
Sept 8: Board of Trustees Committee Meetings via Zoom at 5PM

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

SSCPS Events & Athletics Calendar

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. 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 our Cell Phone Policy Focus Group! If you were unable to attend, please view the Cell Phone Policy flyer for the 2026-2027 school

year below.

We are asking all SSCPS families to take the Cell Phone Policy Survey by September 30th, 2026. Please use the button below to complete the survey.

TAKE THE SURVEY



SSCPS Cell Phone and Personal Electronic Device Policy



SSCPS is committed to fostering a school environment that prioritizes engaged learning, supports the development of social skills, and promotes the overall well-being of our students.

To achieve this, SSCPS is adopting a **Bell-to-Bell** cell phone policy beginning **fall, 2026**. This means that cell phones and other personal electronic devices will not be accessible to students during school hours.



DEFINITION OF PERSONAL ELECTRONIC DEVICES:

Personal electronic devices ("devices" as used herein) are defined as any electronic device utilized to access the internet, wi-fi, cellular telephone signals, or to capture or play images or video. These include, but are not limited to, smartphones, mobile phones, headphones, earbuds, smartwatches, tablets, laptops, and gaming devices. The school reserves the right to classify additional devices as personal electronic devices.



WHAT IS THE POLICY?

Each morning, students will be required to silence or power off their devices and place them in the secured box in their advisory room. The devices will remain in the secured box until dismissal. If a student arrives late or is being dismissed early, they will place their device in the secured box at the front desk.



WHAT IF A STUDENT DOES NOT PLACE THEIR PHONE IN THE BOX?

If a student is seen with a device after the boxes have been locked, the device will be placed in the secure box in the dean's office. A parent will then be notified and required to pick up the device, in person, from the dean.



WHAT IF I DON'T WANT MY STUDENT TO PLACE THEIR PHONE IN THE BOX?

While there may be exceptions for some medical circumstances, if students do not wish to participate, they should leave their device at home. (Please note the policy above regarding devices found in student use).



WHAT IF I NEED TO CONTACT MY STUDENT?

You may contact the front office, email the dean or email the student directly.



This policy helps us create a focused, connected, and respectful school community where all students can learn and thrive.

Thank you for your support and partnership!

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](#)

A colorful illustration of a road race taking place on a paved path that curves through a green landscape with trees. Several runners of various ages and ethnicities are shown in motion. A yellow starburst graphic contains the text '\$35 ENTRY'. A yellow rectangular box contains the text 'SUGGESTED \$10 DONATION FOR STUDENTS'. The event details are listed in bold black text: 'Starts at 9:00am Saturday, October 17th', '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, and the school's name and address are at the bottom.

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: Eriin 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](#)

School Documents:

[2025-2026 School Calendar](#)

[Student and Family Handbook](#)

[Arrival and Dismissal Procedures](#)

[SSCPS By-Laws](#)

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