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Weekly Update | November 10, 2026

VOL. 11, ISSUE 2

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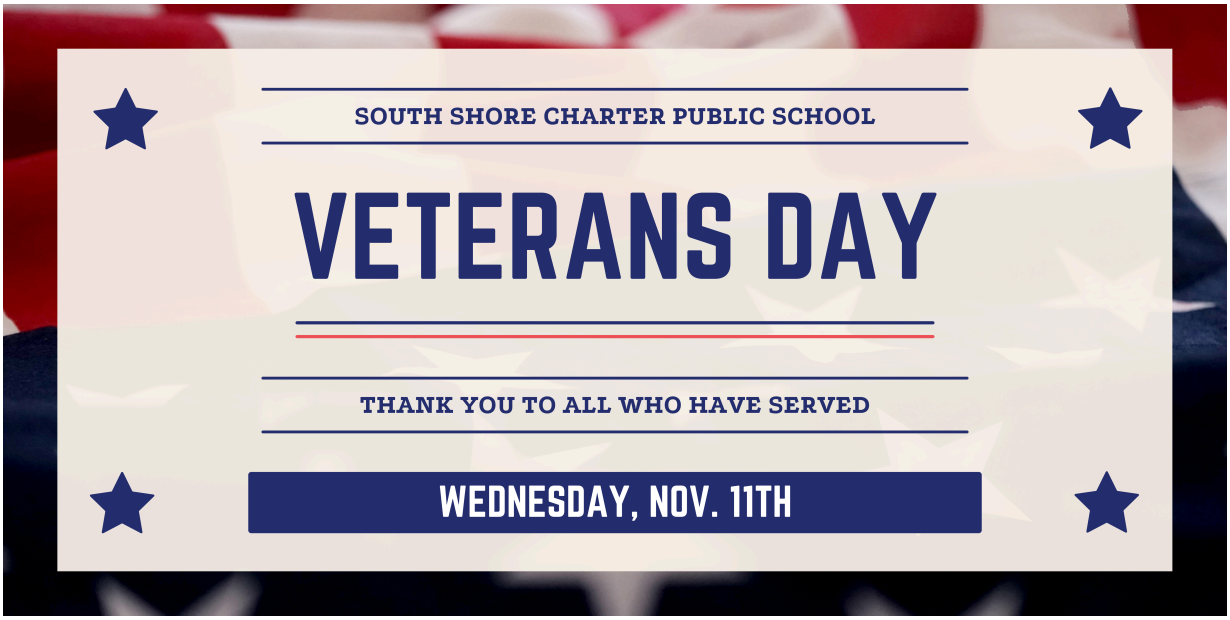


A Message from Joe

As the seasons turn and the leaves fall, our sports teams have wrapped up a successful fall season. Our high school teams qualified for conference and state tournaments, while our middle school teams competed against fellow charter schools and celebrated the return of our middle school soccer program. We had 8 all-league selections and one coach of the year. We are proud of the dedication and accomplishments of all our student-athletes. Each coach was also asked to reflect on their team's season.

Varsity Boys Soccer

“I would like to begin by saying how wonderful it was coaching these young gentlemen this year. Being my first year doing so I didn't know what to expect, but they made it very easy to get the hang of it. I want to congratulate all involved on a wonderful season. We may have fallen short of our ultimate goal, but players always competed from start to finish. From day one, all players were prepared, and practiced hard daily.

Once game day was here they approached it professionally and were ready to carry out whatever strategy was at the helm for the game. From our goalie, to our backers, mid-fielders to our strikers, all played beyond expectations and left it all out on the pitch. We had games where we led from start to finish, demonstrating their ability to not relax from having a lead and kept up the pressure up until the final whistle. We had games where we had to come back and fight for a win or a tie, showing that they never gave up on themselves or the game. Additionally, I want to congratulate Annas Rhimes, Tches Pierre, and goalie Issac Kim on their all-league selections. Again, I can't stop praising this team for their perseverance and work ethic. We finished with a 5-6-1 record and ultimately lost in the first round of the conference tournament. We have a lot to be proud of. Congratulations on a wonderful season!”

- Coach Will Collin and Marc Siracusa



Varsity Girls Soccer

“The girls varsity soccer team wrapped up its season on Friday in the MIAA State Tournament at Lee High School, finishing with an overall record of 6-5-1. Earlier in the postseason, the team advanced to the MCSAO quarterfinals, where they battled Collegiate Charter of Lowell in a hard-fought double-overtime match before falling 2-1.

Throughout the season, the girls demonstrated tremendous growth, hard work, and perseverance. They consistently pushed themselves, supported their teammates, and competed with determination regardless of the circumstances. Many players logged every minute of every game, leaving everything on the field and demonstrating an incredible level of commitment to the team.

A special shoutout to this year's league All-Stars: Jillian Commesso (senior), Gia Barbour (junior), and Amelie Wing (sophomore). Congratulations to Jillian Commesso on being named League MVP!

The season was defined not only by the team's accomplishments on the field, but also by the growth, resilience, and dedication displayed by every player. Congratulations to the entire team on a memorable season, and thank you to the families and supporters who cheered them on along the way!”

- Coach Matt Goodell (2026 MCSAC South Division Coach of the Year)



Varsity Girls Volleyball

“The varsity volleyball team celebrated an exciting and memorable season, qualifying for the playoffs for the first time in three years! With a combination of new talent and returning veterans, the team demonstrated tremendous growth, determination and resilience, especially toward the end of the season.

Finishing with a 7–7 record (.500), the team earned spots in the conference and MIAA tournament. Although the postseason ended with two losses, the team’s final matches showcased its strongest effort of the season, with players fighting for every point and refusing to give up. A special shout-out to Maddy for stepping into a leadership role and taking the initiative to plan and organize the setup for the team's final match. Congratulations to Arielle Ace and Fara Beaulieu on earning All-League honors.

This season was about much more than wins and losses. It was about building confidence, embracing challenges, learning from mistakes, staying positive through adversity and working together toward a common goal. The team's growth and perseverance have laid the foundation for even greater things ahead.

As we celebrate the season, we are reminded that success isn't measured by the scoreboard alone, but by how much we grow along the way. ‘A positive mindset doesn't mean you never face challenges; it means you believe you can overcome them, learn from them and come back stronger.’ This team has shown that potential and its future is bright. This is just the beginning for this awesome group of student-athletes!”

- Coach Julianna Riconda



Cross Country

“The SSCPS middle and high school cross-country teams had a great season! We had a mix of returning runners and athletes who were completely new to the sport. Many of our middle school runners began their cross-country careers this season, and it was exciting to watch them build confidence, challenge themselves, and improve throughout the weeks. Our high school team also had some impressive accomplishments, including Trevor Koenecke taking first place overall at the divisional meet and Catherine Nolan finishing first in the girls' race! Throughout the season, our athletes worked hard during practices, challenged themselves at meets, and continued to grow as runners.

Both teams had the opportunity to finish their seasons at championship meets. A special shout out to Finnegan Connolly for representing the middle cross country team at the charter championships. Once again Trevor and Catherine impressed for the high school with 6th and 11th place finishes competing against over fifty runners in each race. One of my favorite moments from the high school championship was watching our runners gather near the finish line after completing their own races to cheer on their teammates as they finished. It was a great reminder that while cross-country is often considered an individual sport, there's still a strong sense of teamwork and encouragement. I'm proud of what our athletes accomplished this season, and it was a pleasure getting to know and coach them. I hope they continue to challenge themselves and take pride in their accomplishments, both on and off the course!”

- Coach Abby Dalton



Co-Ed Middle School Soccer

“This fall, for the first time in several years, SSCPS was able to assemble a middle school soccer team. In the past, there was not enough interest to form a team, but this year twenty 7th and 8th grade students joined. While some of the players initially had limited experience with the sport, they all demonstrated a core characteristic: enthusiasm for soccer and a desire to improve their game. Two SSCPS teachers stepped up to coach - Julie Bartus and Marisol Martinez, hoping to help facilitate the team’s development and camaraderie.

Practices were held two to three days a week after school, and we had eight regular season games. Throughout the season, the players learned to support each other, improved their communication on the field, and took on challenges and obstacles with less fear and trepidation. While we may not have won a game, they got better at every match and the coaches consider the season to be a success, regardless of the record. We are especially grateful for the support of the parents and families of the players who stepped up whenever it was necessary. Between providing water for the players, organizing team dinners, cheering them on at games, and helping to provide rides and carpool, this experience wouldn't have been possible without them. As coaches, we are thankful for this experience, and it has been inspiring to watch their collective confidence, skills, and resilience grow. We hope SSCPS will continue to field a middle school soccer team in the years to come!”

- Coach Julie and Coach Marisol



Congratulations to all players and coaches for a great season. A special thank you to all the parents and fans for coming out and supporting the Jaguars! On November 18th, the Fall Sports Awards will be held in the High School Great Room at 700 Longwater from 4PM-5PM.

Get ready, winter sports are right around the corner! Registration information for the upcoming winter season will be shared in next week's update. Don't miss your opportunity to sign up and be part of another exciting season of Jaguar Athletics!

Joe Kay
Athletic Director

School Calendar & Announcements

IMPORTANT REMINDER:

NO SCHOOL
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 11TH

VETERANS DAY OBSERVED

SSCPS WEEKLY CALENDAR

NOV 11 - NOV 18

Wed 11

Raise Craze Fundraiser

Veterans Day (No School)



Thu 12

Raise Craze Fundraiser

Board of Trustees Meeting at 700 Longwater and via Zoom - 5:30PM

Fri 13

Raise Craze Fundraiser

High School Homecoming Dance at the Cushing Center, Norwell - 7PM

Sat/Sun



Mon 16

K-5 Book Fair

Japan Trip Parent Meeting at HS Great Room - 7PM

Tue 17

Breakfast and Lunch Orders Due by 3PM

K-5 Book Fair

Parents Association Meeting via Zoom - 7PM

Wed 18

K-5 Book Fair

School Council Meeting Via Zoom - 6:30PM

Upcoming

Nov 19 - Grade 3 Field Trip To Plimoth Patuxet Museum

Nov 19 - Parent Literacy Seminar at 700 Longwater

Nov 20 - High School Music Production to UMass Lowell

Click here for the complete SSCPS Events & Athletics Calendar

SSCPS Events & Athletics Calendar

New Direct Phone Numbers at SSCPS

Starting the week of November 16th, the new direct phone numbers for each school will be as follows:

High School: 781-561-9866
Extension 300 (Karen)

Middle School: 781-384-2725
Extension 200 (Stacy)

Lower School: 781-982-4202
Extension 100 (Lisa)

Please note that calls can still be transferred between buildings. As a reminder, to notify us of any attendance changes like absences, tardies, etc. please email **attendance@sscps.org**. To notify us of any bus-related changes, please email **transportation@sscps.org**.

Bus Transportation | First View App

South Shore Charter Public School is partnering with First Student to launch **First View®**, a secure, easy-to-use app that keeps you connected to your student's trip progress in real time.

What You Can Do with First View

- See real-time vehicle location via GPS and track its progress
- Easily access vehicle details and updates regarding any changes
- Receive distance notification and automated arrival alerts when the vehicle is close
- Set-up family members and caregivers to receive trip email alerts
- Connect with a dedicated support team for your all app-related needs

Please use the button below to find all the information you need regarding First View, including instructions on how to download the app and a video manual to help you navigate the app. If you need any assistance, click **Contact Support** in the app (Mon–Fri, 7AM–5PM ET) for app-related questions or concerns.

If you have questions about your student's assigned trip or stop information, please contact **transportation@sscps.org**.

FIRST VIEW INFORMATION

SSCPS Seniors: Cap & Gown Orders Are Open!

Attention SSCPS seniors: cap & gown orders are now open on the Jostens website! Students only need the Basic Package which is $42.50. Please use **THIS LINK** to place your order online.

Orders must be received by Nov 20th to ensure that the cap and gowns are here by graduation.

Please see Mary Carter if you have any questions.

From the Dean's Desk

Service and Sacrifice: A Veterans Day Reflection

Dear SSCPS Families,

This Veterans Day, I want to share something personal with you. The photograph accompanying this message is of my grandfather, who served during World War I. More than a century later, his service remains part of my family's history and reminds me of the sacrifices made by generations before us.

Veterans Day is an opportunity to honor the men and women who have served our country. Some spent years away from their families. Some returned carrying wounds, both visible and unseen. Others made the ultimate sacrifice and never returned home. Their service deserves our gratitude, our respect, and our remembrance.

As I reflect on their sacrifices, I also find myself thinking about the opportunities we have to serve others in our own lives. Most of us will never be asked to make the sacrifices that military service can demand. But every day gives us opportunities to put the needs of others before our own.

For our children, that might mean helping a struggling classmate, including someone who feels left out, or standing up for someone who needs a friend. Sometimes it means giving up a little of what we want to do in order to help someone else.

These are small acts compared with the sacrifices of our veterans, but they matter.

Our Ultimate Jaguar values of Responsibility, Courage, and Respect remind us that being part of a community means looking beyond ourselves and caring for others.

This Veterans Day, I encourage you to share a story with your children, thank a veteran, or simply take a moment to reflect on those who have served.



To all the veterans in our school community and beyond, thank you for your service and sacrifice.

In gratitude,

Warmly,

Walter Duncan
Dean of Students K-5



Upcoming School & Community Events

Upcoming SSCPS Events

School Picture Retakes

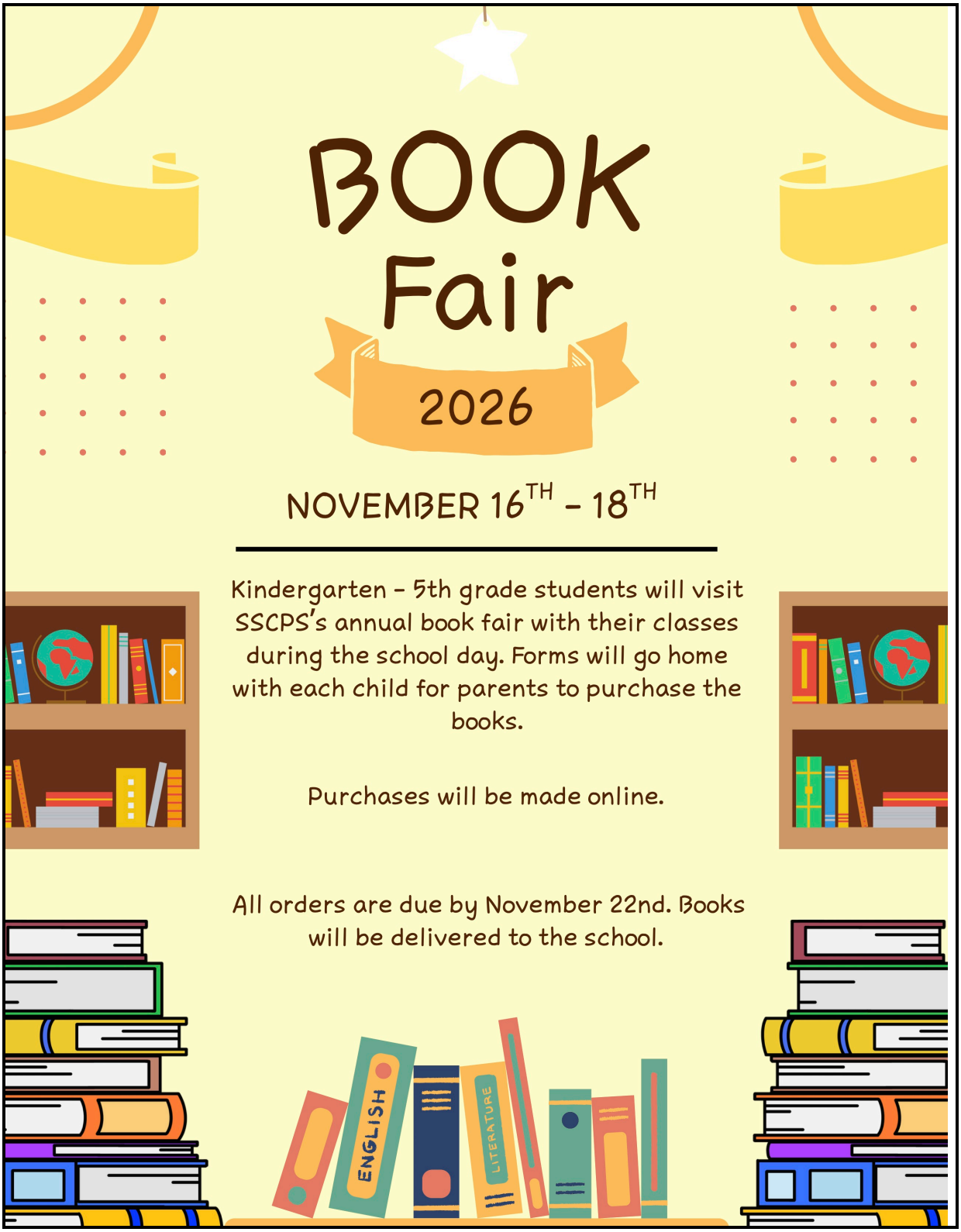
Picture Retake Day at SSCPS will take place on **Tuesday, December 8th** at both 100 Longwater Circle and 700 Longwater Drive — more information will be coming soon!

High School Homecoming Dance

HOMECOMING TICKETS


Show Your Jaguar Spirit!
HOMECOMING
2026
FRIDAY,
NOV 13TH
7:00 – 10:00 PM
CUSHING CENTER
NORWELL
OPEN TO SSCPS STUDENTS IN GRADES 9 – 12
NO OUTSIDE GUESTS
TICKETS
$25.00
PER PERSON
PURCHASE TICKETS ONLINE THROUGH FAMILY4ID
DRESS UP • DANCE • MAKE MEMORIES

K-5 Annual Book Fair



K-5 Craft Day | Volunteers Needed

We are looking for volunteers to help with this year's Craft Day event on **Wednesday, December 23rd**. If you are interested in volunteering on Craft Day please sign up **here** or

by using the button below. We are asking volunteers to plan for a craft for about 50 students. Due to the structure of the event, individuals may only register for one grade level.

Anyone that volunteers at SSCPS must complete a CORI, complete volunteer training, take the volunteer quiz and be fingerprinted. Please plan ahead and get your paperwork completed as soon as possible if you plan to come in and volunteer on Craft Day. **This sign up will close on Wednesday, December 16th to allow us time to plan**. Thank you for your consideration. We are all looking forward to this year's Craft Day!

SIGN UP HERE

Upcoming Community Events

Wentworth STEM Challenge: CODEClash

REGISTER HERE

Wentworth

STEMChallenge CODEClash

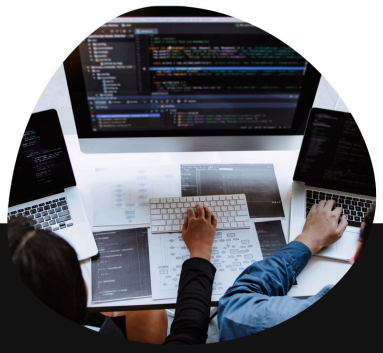
About the Program

Wentworth STEM Challenge: CODEClash invites high-school sophomores and juniors to put their coding skills to the test in a fun and hands-on competition. Participants will tackle real-world programming challenges, connect with faculty, and explore STEM pathways at Wentworth. ***Top three winners can walk away with a brand-new gaming device, scholarship to Wentworth's pre-college program, ImpactLab, and more!***

Program Information:

Grades: 10 and 11th grade
Date: Saturday, November 14, 2026
Time: 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM
Location: Wentworth Institute of Technology
This event is free to register!

ENTER TO WIN PRIZES



Register Here!

Register today at wit.edu/precollege or by scanning the QR code

Wentworth
Pre-college Programs

For more information, please contact Pre-college Programs by email at precollege@wit.edu or by phone at 617-989-4000.

On the Levels

High School | Students of Color Leadership Conference

On November 6th, four student leaders attended the 2026 Students of Color Leadership Conference in Cambridge, Massachusetts. Eileen Jean-Jules, Avery Lee, Marckellah Michaud, and myself had the incredible opportunity to connect with student leaders across various school districts across Massachusetts.

Throughout the conference, we heard from several inspiring speakers who shared their personal experiences and emphasized the importance of confidence and stepping outside of one's comfort zone. We met Danae Bucci, a news reporter for WCVB Boston and Tiffany A. Sanders, a Master Sergeant in the Massachusetts Army National Guard. Adam King, CEO of 1587 Sneakers and Shark Tank alum, talked about his experience as an entrepreneur of color and the challenges he faced while pursuing success. Additionally, Craig Aarons-Martin, leadership consultant and former superintendent at Bridge Boston Charter School, and Mike Rubin, former headmaster of East Boston High School encouraged us to seek new opportunities and take risks. They also mentioned that as people of color, it is very important to recognize the power of our voices as student leaders.

The conference inspired us to further develop our upcoming Kwanzaa Night hosted by the Black Student Union on Tuesday, December 8th. Through this event, we hope to celebrate African American culture and heritage while educating younger students about the history and seven principles of Kwanzaa. The conversations with our fellow student leaders encouraged us to incorporate additional interactive activities for cultural learning which will make Kwanzaa Night more engaging for our K-5 students.

We would like to extend our gratitude to our principal, Nadeen, for her endless support and commitment to creating opportunities for students at SSCPS. Her determination to see students succeed continues to make experiences like this possible. We would also like to thank Ahminchie Estime for arriving at school early at 7:00 a.m. and driving us to and from Cambridge.

We are grateful to have represented SSCPS at this conference and look forward to putting what we learned into practice.

David Anyanwu
President, Black Student Union
President, Student Board & Class of 2027







High School | Financial Aid Reminder

SOUTH SHORE CHARTER PUBLIC SCHOOL · CLASS OF 2027 FAMILIES

College can cost less than you think.

Fill out the FAFSA or MASFA to find out what aid you qualify for. Most applicants finish in about 30 minutes.

$0

Community college

Tuition and fees are free at Massachusetts community colleges for all students, regardless of family income. Up to $1,200 for books and supplies, based on income.

$0

Public four-year colleges

Pell Grant-eligible students pay no tuition or fees at all state universities and UMass undergraduate campuses, plus up to $1,200 for books. Some middle-income students get reduced costs.

MASFA

Can't file the FAFSA?

Some students who aren't eligible for the FAFSA may still qualify for state aid by completing the Massachusetts Application for State Financial Aid (MASFA).

Don't count yourself out.

Many students miss out on aid because they assume they won't qualify. Aid can help pay for tuition, fees, books, transportation, room and board, and other education costs. The FAFSA is also how you are considered for federal grants, work-study, and loans, and for school aid. The only way to find out what you qualify for is to apply.

Apply by May 1, 2027

Complete the FAFSA or MASFA by this date to be considered for free or reduced-cost public four-year tuition.

Get free help

Talk with your school counselor, or use the state's FAFSA assistance page.

Contact: Mary Carter, Director of Guidance, mcarter@sscps.org

MEFA

The Massachusetts Educational Financing Authority offers college planning and financial aid information for Massachusetts families.

mefa.org

Translated information is available in Spanish, Portuguese, Haitian Creole, Cape Verdean Creole, Chinese, and Vietnamese. Ask your counselor.

Enrollment Open House | Student Volunteers

SSCPS students took time last week to participate in the Enrollment Open House, giving attendees tours of the school, answering questions, and giving presentations about different aspects of student life at SSCPS. They were able to share information about a

number of different clubs and programs, from the Student Board to the Afterschool Enrichment Program, the Black Student Union, the Gender Sexuality Alliance, and more.

A very big thank you to our student volunteers for showcasing student life at SSCPS in such a wonderful way!









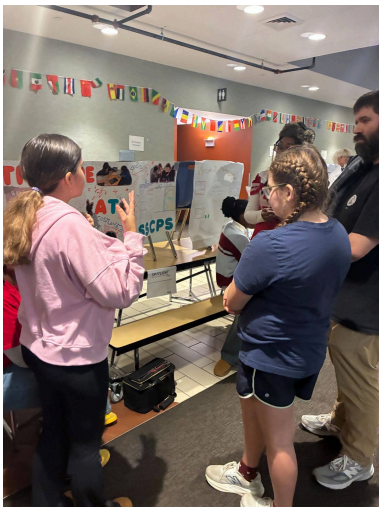

200
201
GSA
PEACE


NHS
Communities for all
NATIONAL
HONOR
SOCIETY
NHS TUTORING


ACS
Asian
Culture
Society
Our Goal:
To share
Asian Culture
& inform
SSCPS.
SSCPS
JAGUARS
TRACK & FIELD





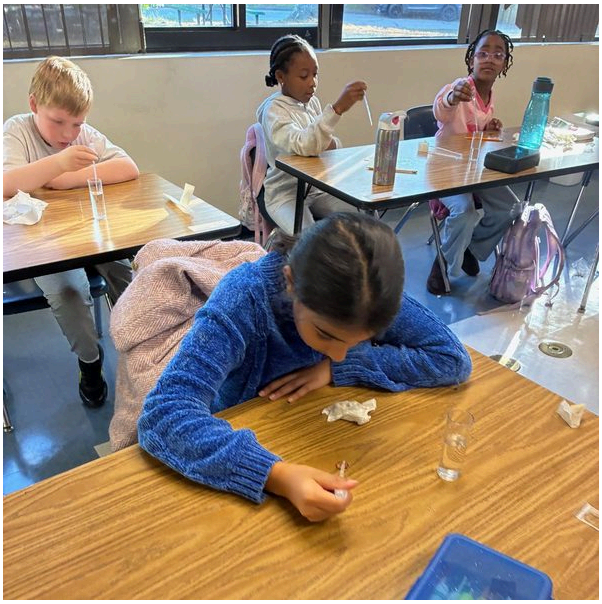


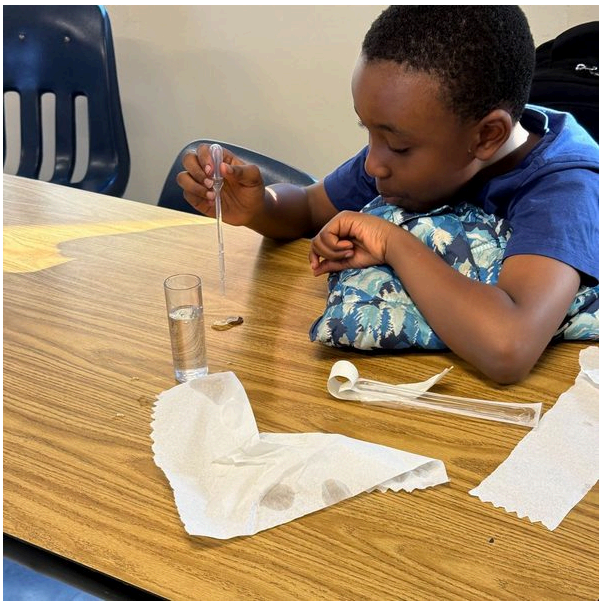
Afterschool Enrichment Program

Science Club

This past week in the Science Club, students explored some concepts relating to surface tension and properties of water. To explore a bit, students completed challenges that included them seeing how many droplets of water can fit on the head of a penny as well as getting staples to balance on the surface of the water. These ideas are being continued into this week as students are creating boats out of aluminum foil to see which boat can support the most weight.









From the Health Office

Health Office Reminders

Screening Opt-Out
As part of our school health program, the school will be conducting state-required student health screenings, which include:

- Height and weight measurements
- Vision screening
- Hearing screening

These screenings are conducted to help identify potential health concerns that may benefit from further evaluation.

If you have any questions, please contact the Health Office by email at **jkjelgaard@sscps.org**.

Illness
As a reminder, please do not send your child to school if they are experiencing diarrhea, vomiting, or a fever. Students must be symptom-free for at least 24 hours without the use of medication before returning to school.

Students who have been diagnosed with an infectious illness should remain home and may return to school after they have been on antibiotics for at least 24 hours, when antibiotics are prescribed for that illness.

Keeping sick children home helps protect your child, classmates, staff, and the broader school community from the spread of illness. Thank you for your cooperation in helping us maintain a healthy school environment.

Change of Clothes
If you have a student in Kindergarten, 1st grade, or 2nd grade, please make sure they have a weather-appropriate change of clothes kept at school.

Young children may occasionally need a change of clothing during the school day due to spills, accidents, or other unexpected situations. The Health Office has a very limited supply of extra clothing, and we may not always have clothing available in the appropriate size.

Please send your child to school with a complete change of clothes, including:

- Underwear
- Socks
- Pants
- Shirt

Please make sure the clothing is appropriate for the current season. We also encourage you to replace or update the clothing as the seasons change and as your child grows.

Medication
If your student has a diagnosis of asthma or a food allergy, the Health Office is required to have emergency medication available at school as appropriate for your student's needs.

Please contact the appropriate Health Office to make arrangements for an adult to deliver the medication to school. Students are not permitted to transport medication on the school bus.

In order for medication to be kept and administered at school, we are required to have a current medication authorization form and/or an up-to-date Allergy or Asthma Action Plan on file. All forms must be dated after July 1, 2026, to remain valid for the entire 2026–2027 school year.

Middle and High School Students
If your middle or high school student plans to self-carry an inhaler or EpiPen, a current medication authorization form must still be on file with the Health Office. The form must include written authorization from the student's healthcare provider permitting the student to self-carry and self-administer the medication.

Health Office Contacts
K-12: Jaime Kjelggard (**jkjelgaard@sscps.org**)
K-5: Erilin Martinez (**emartinez2@sscps.org**)
6-12: Barbara Folan (**bfolan@sscps.org**)

SSCPS Health Office

From the Food Services Department

2026-2027 Meal Ordering Information

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

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**.

Charlene Salamone
Food Services Coordinator

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.

Parents Association, SEPAC, & ELPAC

Raise Craze Fundraiser

The SSCPS Parent Association's fundraiser is ongoing! The funds raised help ensure that our kids are able to go on all their field trips and enjoy other enrichment activities throughout the school year. They also help pay for teacher appreciation celebrations and other Parent Association initiatives to help build our school community. The Parents Association has decided to **extend the end date to November 15th** to ensure everyone has a chance to participate.

If you haven't enrolled your student yet, it is very easy to do. You can send emails, texts and make Facebook posts directly from the Raise Craze website to help spread the word about our fundraising efforts. You and your student ask friends and family for donations via the online RaiseCraze platform while paying it forward to others through acts of kindness and gratitude while raising much needed funds. SSCPS' mission statement is **"Inspiring every student to excel in academics, service, and life"** and Raise Craze helps support this mission as "**students will spend time serving, not selling!**"

REGISTER: https://raisecraze.com/join

CODE: 271-469

1. Enter your student's name
2. Select at least 3 Acts of Kindness
3. Enter 5-10 email addresses of potential supporters. Raise Craze will send all emails, reminders and thank you notes. Emails will never be shared with third parties or used for marketing.

At A Glance:
Dates: October 19 - November 15
Our Goal: $35,000

Every student can participate in Raise Craze by completing Acts of Kindness (AOK) so we're aiming for 100% participation.

Need help getting started? View the **Raise Craze Instructional Video** or feel free to contact Janelle Goines at **sscpspafundraising@gmail.com.**

REGISTER NOW!

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**

School Documents:

FY27 School Calendar

2025-2026 School Calendar

Student and Family Handbook

Arrival and Dismissal Procedures
SSCPS By-Laws

6. **Massachusetts Department of Transitional Assistance**
7. **Community Service**
8. **Parents Association Website**

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