



Weekly Update | September 2, 2026

VOL. 9, ISSUE 1

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A Message From Matt

Welcome back!

The beginning of the school year always presents unique challenges, especially when it comes to transportation. We want to thank everyone for their patience and understanding as we work through numerous transportation requests and route adjustments.

We have added additional buses this year to support the needs of our students. Please pay attention to your assigned bus number as some bus routes have changed. We still have some students waiting for bus assignments, the transportation team is working hard to get those students assigned as soon as possible.

During the first few days the buses will be working to learn their routes, establishing consistent departure and arrival times. To help ensure a smooth, safe, and efficient transportation process, we kindly ask families to follow a few important guidelines:

Bus Route Changes:

We have received many bus and route change requests over the last few weeks. Each request will be reviewed and changes will be made if possible. Students must continue to

ride their assigned bus and route, or utilize car pickup, until they receive official confirmation of a change.

Afternoon Bus Changes:

If your child will not be taking their scheduled bus home in the afternoon, please notify us by emailing transportation@sscps.org no later than 2:00pm.

Drop-Off and Pick-Up:

For the safety of all students, please do not drop off or pick up your child in the adjacent parking lots or in the bus pull-out area in front of 100 Longwater Circle.

Coming soon will be the rollout of our bus app tracking system. We will look to begin this as soon as we have all students assigned and consistent bus routes established. Keep an eye on your email for information about this system.

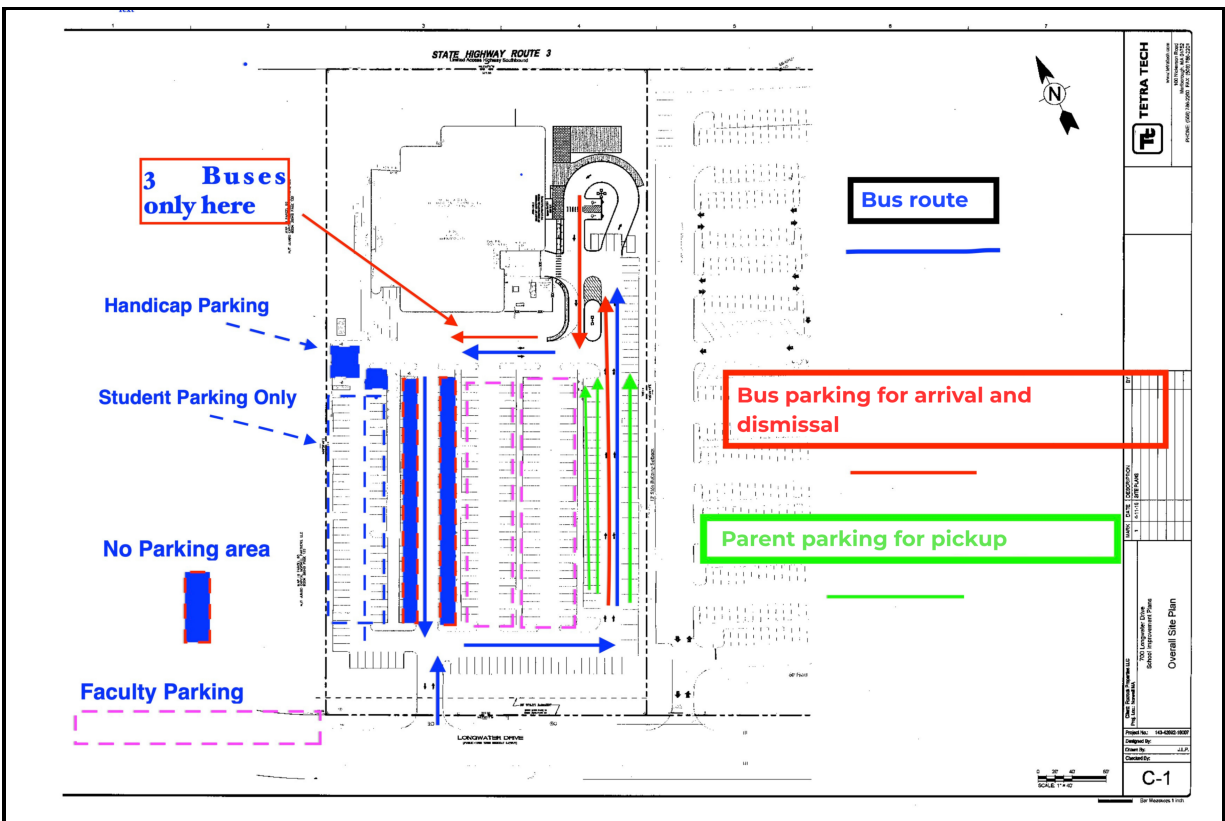
We truly appreciate your cooperation and continued support as we work together to provide safe and reliable transportation for all students.

Matthew Tondorf
Director of Student Services



BUS TRANSPORTATION INFO

Please refer to this map of the 700 Longwater Drive parking lot, bus route, and parent pick up line for the 2026-2027 school year.



Opening Day Special Volunteer: Dave Rogers!



School Calendar & Announcements

New Phone Number for 700 Longwater Drive

We now have a direct phone line to 700 Longwater Drive. Parents and students may now use the phone number **781-561-9866** to reach 700 Longwater directly.

The existing phone number for 100 Longwater Circle (**781-982-4202**) is still in use and can be called to reach 100 Longwater directly.

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,

SSCPS WEEKLY CALENDAR SEPT 02 - SEPT 09

Wed 02

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

Thu 03

Kindergarten Early
Release - 12PM

Fri 04

All School K-12 Early
Release - 12PM

Sat/Sun



Mon 07

Labor Day (No School)



Tue 08

Breakfast and Lunch
Orders Due by 3PM
Board of Trustees
Committee Meetings via
Zoom - 5PM

Wed 09



Upcoming

Sept 10 - Board of Trustees
Meeting via Zoom

Sept 15 - Breakfast and
Lunch Orders Due by 3PM

Sept 18 - Professional
Development Early Release

[**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

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@sspcs.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**](#)
7. [**Community Service**](#)
8. [**Parents Association Website**](#)

School Documents:

[**FY27 School Calendar**](#)

[**2025-2026 School Calendar**](#)

[**Student and Family Handbook**](#)

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



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