



SOUTH HADLEY PUBLIC SCHOOLS SUPERINTENDENT'S NEWSLETTER



October 9, 2026

Shared Vision
Celebrating Principals
MARC Assemblies

Upcoming Dates
Changes
Cyber Security Reminders



A Shared Vision for Student Success

On Wednesday night, our four building principals presented their 2026–2028 School Improvement Plans to the School Committee. These plans represent an important milestone in the work we have undertaken as a district to establish a clear, shared vision for improving student outcomes. Over the past year, we have followed a thoughtful and intentional process, beginning with the Superintendent's Entry Plan, followed by the Entry Findings Report, the development of our District Strategy for Improvement, the 2026–2028 District Improvement Plan, and now our four School Improvement Plans.

Throughout each step, there has been a clear through line connecting what we heard from our school community, what we identified as areas of need, and the strategies and actions we are putting in place. While each school has its own unique needs and priorities, all four School Improvement Plans are aligned with our districtwide goals and share a common commitment to student success. This marks the completion of our initial planning process, but more importantly, it represents the beginning of the work ahead. Our focus now turns to implementing these plans, monitoring our progress, and making meaningful improvements that positively impact the experiences and outcomes of all students.

We are committed to keeping our families, staff, and community informed as this work continues. We will provide regular updates on our progress, celebrate milestones, and share the impact of our efforts along the way.

You can view the principals' School Committee presentation [HERE](#), and the complete School Improvement Plans are available on each school's page of the district website.



During National Principals Month, we extend our appreciation to our principals for the many ways they lead, listen, support, and advocate for our students and staff.

Their leadership helps shape strong school communities and creates opportunities for every student to succeed. We are grateful for their dedication to South Hadley Public Schools.



Working Together to Prevent Bullying & Promote Belonging

Massachusetts Aggression Reduction Center (MARC) is a program housed at Bridgewater State

University that provides free or low-cost, research-based bullying and cyberbullying prevention programs, violence prevention strategies, and digital citizenship resources to K-12 schools, families, and communities.

This is the third year SHPS has partnered with MARC to bring relevant and age-appropriate assemblies to our students. For more information, visit [the MARC website](#).

Click [HERE](#) for some talking points at home.

Upcoming Dates

October 12:

No School/Indigenous People's Day

October 21:

School Committee Meeting
7pm (Hybrid) SH COA & Zoom

October 21-23:

Parent Conferences PreK-8th/Half
days

October 29:

Community Conversations

November 3:

No School/Election/Teacher PD

November 4:

School Committee
7pm (Hybrid) SH COA & Zoom

November 11:

Veterans Day/No School/Offices
Closed

November 18:

School Committee
7pm (Hybrid) SH COA & Zoom

November 25:

½ Day/Thanksgiving Recess Begins

November 26:

Thanksgiving/No School

November 27:

Thanksgiving Recess/No School

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**Upholding the Rights of
Immigrant Students to
Enroll in School.
Click [HERE](#) for
resources.**

Upcoming Changes:

Elementary School Transportation

At Wednesday evening's School Committee meeting, a presentation was shared outlining proposed changes to afternoon bus routes for Mosier and Skala Elementary Schools. These changes are being considered to address the ongoing delays in afternoon transportation, which have been impacted by the late arrival of buses, the limited time between school dismissal schedules, and the reduction of our bus fleet from 10 buses to 7 two years ago due to budgetary constraints.

We recognize the frustration these delays have caused for families and are working to develop a more consistent and reliable afternoon transportation schedule.

Today, we met with Five Star Transportation to continue working through the logistics of these proposed changes. There are still a few details that need to be finalized before we are ready to provide families with their updated transportation information.

Think Before You Click: Online Safety for Families

South Hadley Public Schools is alerting families to online scams that may impersonate schools or trusted organizations, particularly following recent cyber incidents in nearby districts. A letter went out to families outlining common scams, including fraudulent payment requests, requests for personal information, and fake data breach notifications. Families are encouraged to verify suspicious communications, use only MySchoolBucks for online payments, and report questionable messages to helpdesk@shschools.com or their child's school. The district confirms that it has not been affected by the reported incidents and reminds families that it will never request passwords, Social Security numbers, or banking information by email or text. Read the letter [HERE](#).

If you are hungry or concerned about meeting your family's food needs, let Neighbors Helping Neighbors, Inc. know.



They're here to help.
Click [HERE](#) for more.

413-437-7593
info@nhnfoodpantry.org