



## **Horticulture & Landscape Construction Shop**

**2025-2026**

**Grades 9-12**

Mr. Hart  
Mrs. Johnson  
Mr. Fitzpatrick

### **Shop Expectations & Policies**

#### **Learning Expectations (10 things that require zero talent)**

- Be on Time
- Work Hard
- Put in effort
- Show Ambition
- Have a good attitude
- Be passionate
- Use good body language
- Be coachable
- Do a little extra
- HAVE FUN!

#### **Uniform Policy:**

Uniform purchasing will be rolled out twice per year. The school district is currently creating a school wide ordering system for uniforms for the 2025-2026 school year. When we find out more information we will send out links. If students need to purchase safety glasses, hearing protection, hard hats, shop trucker hats/beanies they will need to purchase that through our Hort Gear Shop.

You are required to wear a proper shop uniform daily. If for some reason you do not have the proper uniform for the day, you may not be able to participate in particular shop activities. No/improper uniform will reflect your weekly work habits grade.

**Uniform:**

- Hearing Protection (Daily)
- Eye Protection (Daily)
- Hard Hat (Daily)
- Shop T-Shirt (Daily)
- Shop Hoodie (Temps < 60)
- Work Pants/J Jeans (Daily)
- Long Socks (Daily)
- Boots: Construction or Hiking (Daily)
- Light Jacket (Temps < 60)
- Winter Jacket (Temps < 40)
- Rain Jacket (When Raining)
- Sunblock (Highly Encouraged)
- Shop issued trucker hat/winter hat (no other hats)

\*No yoga pants, sweat pants, ripped clothing, or shorts

\*No sneakers, shoes, or sandals

\* There will be a time you will be required to work through some light rain showers. Please provide yourself with a light rain jacket. If there is any chance for thunder and lightning, we will not be performing any outdoor activities for the day.

\* During the fall/winter months, you are expected to dress accordingly for the weather. Our shop spends 80%-90% of the time outdoors. If you show up on a cold day not prepared for the temperature, you will not be able to participate in any outdoor activities.

\* Sunblock is strongly encouraged. This is an outdoor shop, students are allowed and encouraged to bring their own sunblock. If a parent or guardian permits the school to provide sunblock to the student, the school will do so. Instructors will encourage students to wear sunblock but it is the student's responsibility to apply sunblock, in order to avoid sunburns and take responsibility for their skin care.

\* No hoods allowed inside the building. Students are only allowed to wear issued shop hats. No personal hats are allowed.

**General Shop Safety / PPE Policy**

Students are required to complete all safety quizzes on Google Classroom once a year and must score 100%. These quizzes outline the safety rules of the shop and ensure all students are accountable for keeping themselves and others safe.

### **Expectations:**

- Safety of yourself and others is always the first priority.
- Eye protection must be worn when using any hand tools or equipment that creates flying debris.
- Hearing protection (earmuffs or foam earplugs) must be worn when operating noisy equipment or machinery.
- AirPods or other devices are not allowed under hearing protection.
- Absolutely no horseplay or fooling around.

### **Lost or Stolen PPE:**

Students are responsible for their PPE. If it is lost, stolen, or damaged, the student must purchase a replacement through our Shop Safety & Apparel Store. No exceptions.

### **Personal PPE:**

Students may bring their own eye protection, hearing protection, or hard hats, as long as they meet standards:

- Eye protection must be ANSI Z87.1 compliant.
- Hearing protection may be earmuffs or foam earplugs but may not play music.
- Hard hats and gear must be free of inappropriate stickers, logos, or markings.

### **Our PPE Costs:**

Eye Protection – \$3.00

Hearing Protection – \$9.00

Hard Hat – \$23.00

### **Mobile Device/Technology Policy**

South Shore Tech has implemented a new Cell Phone & Technology Policy for the 2025–2026 school year. Please review [this slide show](#) for details about the policy and important information on accountability.

Students will be issued a personal Chromebook by the school district's IT department. Each student is responsible for bringing their Chromebook to school every day and using it appropriately during school hours. Personal laptops or tablets are not permitted for use during the school day. If a student forgets their

school-issued Chromebook, it will count against their **Professionalism grade** in the Work Habits category.

### Google Classroom Policy:

We will be using Google Classroom in shop. You can find this expectation sheet and any other shop announcements/information, warm-ups, study materials, assignments, timecards, and google slides. You are responsible for checking google classroom daily for any important announcements, assignments, warm-ups, timecards, quizzes, ect.

### Grading Scale

<b>Exemplary (EX)</b>
<b>Advanced (AD)</b>
<b>Proficient (PR)</b>
<b>Developing (DE)</b>
<b>Unsatisfactory (UN)</b>
<b>No Credit (NC)</b>

### Work Habits: Daily Routines (Weight 50%)

*Work Habits: Daily Routines refers to the ability of being on time, in uniform/PPE, professional, courteous, and safe. This includes good punctuality, proper uniform/safety gear, completing timecards accurately, maintaining a strong work ethic, showing a great attitude, proper clean-up, and following best safety practices. The standards students will be graded on are **work ethic, professionalism, uniform/Safety, and timecard**. These grades will be recorded in a Work Habits class in PowerSchool.*

### Shop Grading: Job Skills & Assignments (Weight 50%)

*Shop Grading: Job Skills & Assignments refers to the ability to complete industry projects/skills correctly and effectively. The standards students will be graded in Job Skills & Assignments are **Plant Identification, Nursery & Landscape, Floriculture & Greenhouse Management, and Arboriculture & Tree Climbing**. These grades will be recorded under your specific grade and shop number in PowerSchool.*

### Attendance & Punctuality

Being on time and present is part of your Work Habits grade. **Unexcused tardies and absences will lower your Work Ethic and Professionalism grades. Excused absences, with proper communication through a parent/guardian or PowerSchool, will not affect your grade.** All students are required to make up any missed work, whether the absence or tardy is excused or unexcused.

### Student Accountability (Discipline)

As instructors, we don't want to be put in the situation where we have to give a student detention, but if the situation warrants one we will give one. Students will be required to stay after school at a selected time with their instructor for 1 hour. Situations that warrant a detention:

- Fooling around on/near equipment & machines
- Fighting or threatening
- Verbal Abuse
- Disrespectful to peers/staff
- Swearing
- Disruptive behavior
- Inappropriate Comments
- Safety Violations
- Purposely damaging shop equipment
- Vandalism
- Wandering away from designated areas without permission
- Cell Phone/Technology Violations

### FFA

Future Farmers of America (FFA) is a dynamic youth organization dedicated to preparing students for leadership and careers in horticulture/agriculture and related fields. Through FFA, our students gain hands-on experience, develop essential skills, and explore various aspects of the horticulture/agriculture industry.

Our students actively participate in FFA competitions, showcasing their talents and knowledge in Nursery/Landscape, Floriculture, and Industry Demonstrations. They have the opportunity to compete at both state and national levels, where they demonstrate their expertise and engage with peers from other FFA chapters. This experience not only enhances their practical skills but also fosters personal growth and teamwork.

### Mass FFA State Convention/CDE Events:

The Massachusetts FFA State Convention takes place at the start of April each year. Given the growing interest in FFA within our program, we've recently had to implement qualifying events for students aiming to join the Nursery/Landscape Team, Floriculture Team, or participate in Demonstrations.

In FFA Career Development Events (CDEs), the distinction between A and B teams typically relates to the level of experience or skill of the participants. Here's a general overview:

#### 1. A Team (4 Members):

**Primary Team:** Often referred to as the "A team," this group usually consists of the top-performing students who have demonstrated the highest level of proficiency and experience in the specific CDE.

**Competition:** The A team usually competes in the primary division of the event and is expected to have a higher level of preparation and expertise.

#### 2. B Team (4 Members):

**Secondary Team:** The "B team" is generally composed of students who may be newer to the CDE or who are still developing their skills. This team provides an opportunity for less experienced members to gain competition experience.

**Competition:** The B team often competes in a secondary or less competitive division, offering a valuable learning experience and a chance to develop skills for future events.

These designations allow programs to involve a broader range of students in CDEs and help in building overall team strength by providing experience and development opportunities for all members.

**\*PLEASE NOTE:** Previous participation in an FFA event does not guarantee a student a spot on future teams. Additionally, seniors are not eligible to compete on a B team. If instructors or administrators have concerns about a student's professionalism, a discussion will be held to determine if the event is suitable for the student to participate in.

### Qualifying for a FFA Team/Event

In FFA Career Development Events (CDEs), team placement between A and B teams is determined by evaluating each student's professionalism/teamwork, effort, skill level, and how well they competed on qualifying events. Study material is taught throughout the school year and offered for students to reference via google classroom. Other leadership events are offered and students will be selected based on their shop professionalism and accessibility.

If you would like more information on Massachusetts FFA and National FFA, please visit the links directly below:

[Massachusetts FFA](#)

[National FFA](#)

**Extra Help Policy:**

Students are to notify instructors if they need to stay after for extra help.

Students Signature:\_\_\_\_\_ Student's Name (printed):\_\_\_\_\_

Parent's Signature:\_\_\_\_\_ Date:\_\_\_\_\_