

# SOUTH SHORE CHARTER PUBLIC SCHOOL

## WEEKLY UPDATE

March 31, 2005 Vol. 3, Issue 5

### FROM THE HEAD OF SCHOOL

This has been a year of amazing growth for our school. It is gratifying to look in retrospect of where we were a year ago and where we are today. The growth of student numbers to capacity, the renovation of the new building, the move to our new location, the remodeled parent group into the Parent Association, new staff, the approval of the Department of Education of our Learning Services Program in the Coordinated Program Review, the 100% MCAS passing rate by the class of 2006 and all the individual and collective events that happen in and out of the classroom everyday make the School a wonderfully dynamic environment.

It is this energy that yesterday was recognized by the Massachusetts Board of Education which unanimously approved South Shore Charter Public School's charter renewal application for 2005-2010. Board chairman, James Peyser, praised the school for its strong efforts in providing an exceptional program to our students. This vote was the culmination of a yearlong process that the school needs to go through every five years to document its progress in offering a sound program, our faithfulness to our mission, and our viability as an institution. We passed all three of those evaluations without question. I extend my thanks to the work of all the teachers and staff of the school as well as the students and their parents for working hard to make the school as strong as it is and for working hard in their studies every day. In addition, we need to thank our volunteer Board of Trustees that oversees all aspects of the school and for whom the future of the school is a daily responsibility. All, working together will continue to help the school and its students to grow and prosper.

We can look ahead to our next event. On Friday, May 6, Lieutenant Governor Kerry Healy will officially dedicate our school building as the permanent home of South Shore Charter Public School. You will be receiving more details, but all of our families will be invited to this celebration that will include the culmination of National Charter School week and the official celebration of our tenth anniversary as a school. We have much to celebrate and we will want you all to join in that celebration.

Thanks to you all for all your work and support...Spring is here and the rejuvenation that the season symbolizes will give us impetus to join together in making our school even stronger. Plan to come together for the April 30 parent social, the May 6 dedication celebration, the May 14 carnival, June 4 graduation and the June 12 picnic...they should help to make this a memorable finish to an amazing year.

-Mike Munhall

<b>Thursday</b>	<b>3/31 4/01</b>	<b>Massachusetts Charter School Association Convention</b>	
<b>Friday</b>		<b>Worcester</b>	
<b>Monday</b>	<b>4/04</b>	<b>MCAS – 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Reading</b>	
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>4/05</b>	<b>MCAS – 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Reading</b>	
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>4/05</b>	<b>Marketing Project Bake Sale</b>	<b>Lunch</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>4/06</b>	<b>MCAS – 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Reading, Grades 4,7,10 Composition</b>	
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>4/06</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Parents Coffee with Mike</b>	<b>8:15am</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>4/06</b>	<b>Marketing Project Bake Sale</b>	<b>Lunch</b>

<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>4/06</b>	<b>Education Committee</b>	<b>3:30pm</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>4/07</b>	<b>Junior Parent Night</b>	<b>6:00pm</b>
<b>Friday</b>	<b>4/08</b>	<b>Level 3 Field Trip to BSO</b>	
<b>Friday</b>	<b>4/08</b>	<b>Quarter Ends Grades 9-12</b>	
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>4/09</b>	<b>*****SNOW DAY MAKE UP*****</b>	<b>8:15 – 11:45</b>

## FROM THE PROJECT DIRECTOR

The SSCPS community has just completed a number of impressive community service initiatives as part of Community Service Week.

Levels 1 & 2 performed a canned food drive to benefit families in the greater Boston area. The food drive initiative was aided by Nicole Keiley and Art Force. A group of Level 1 students will take part in a hop'athon to benefit Easter Seals.

Level 2's wood working project, led by Colin Gibney, produced a lovely blue bird house, which was installed at the Allen's Pond reservation habitat on March 17th. Level 3 took part in "Daffodil Days" which benefits the American Cancer Society. Level 3 students raised \$377.00 to fight cancer.

Level 4 took a whole day field trip down to Dartmouth, MA to the Allen's Pond reservation. Students installed 65 blue bird boxes in large seaside grassland habitats that are owned and operated by the Massachusetts Audubon Society. Gina Purtell, Director of the habitat said, "It was a real pleasure to see what everyone together could do." She also commented that our group did, in one day, what would have taken her three years to accomplish. She is the only full time employee and she can only devote one day a month to planting the boxes. The boxes were constructed by a vocational high school located in Dartmouth, MA. Gina Purtell has said that she looks forward to utilizing our participation in future projects.

Level 4's marketing project, lead by Jennifer Dulong, is also in the middle of a food and supply drive for the Quincy Animal Shelter.

Levels 5 & 6 accomplished a tremendous amount with two trips to the Greater Boston Food Bank on Thursday, March 17th and Monday, March 21st. Forty two students and seven chaperones sorted a total of 12,279 lbs. of food. 9,823 lbs. of food was salvaged for distribution to Boston area families. This amount of food translates in to 7,548 meals. This is a huge impact. These figures are provided by the Greater Boston Food Bank to all participants. SSCPS is making efforts to continue our new relationship with the Greater Boston Food Bank by sending students there on a monthly basis.

As a result of Community Service Week, our community has made a tremendous impact. Our initiatives have successfully aided families and the environment. Our community membership is strengthened by these efforts. I look forward to working with you all as we forge new connections and partnerships that link us to communities beyond our own. Kitty Hillson, Project Director khillson@sscps.org

## LUNCH ORDERS

Attached is the lunch order form for April due to the office no later than 3:00 on Thursday, March 31, 2005. Thank you.

## AUDITIONS

A new WGBH children's television show, *Hotspot*, is looking for 10-14 year olds who are friendly, extroverted, have a sense of humor, and are willing to try new things. *Hotspot* will feature a cast of six children who tackle challenges and solve problems ranging from learning to windsurf to inventing shoes that walk on water. The show is hosted by Hotspot, a funny animated dog, who issues the challenges to the children. No prior acting experience required. Auditions, which will be held on April 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> are by appointment only and may be scheduled at [www.nancydoylecasting.com](http://www.nancydoylecasting.com).

## **FROM THE HEALTH OFFICE**

### ***FACTS ABOUT BACKPACK INJURY***

Carrying an overloaded backpack can cause painful back and neck problem and injuries, possibly leading to long-term medical problems. Medical professionals advise that individuals carry no more than 10-15% of their body weight on their backs.

Examples:

A student weighing:

- ?? 50 lbs should carry no more than 7.5 lbs.
- ?? 80 lbs. should carry no more that 12 lbs.
- ?? 100 lbs should carry no more than 15 lbs.
- ?? 130 lbs. should carry no more than 19.5 lbs.

Please weigh your student and his/her fully loaded backpack. If you find it weighs more that 15% of his/ her body weight, help your student lighten the load.

### ***Tips on Wearing a Backpack Properly***

- ?? Distribute weight evenly. Put heavier items on bottom to keep weight off the shoulders.
- ?? Choose a backpack that has heavily padded shoulder straps and lumbar support. Padded shoulder straps offer cushioning for the trapezius muscles and the clavicle bones. The lumbar support cushions the lumbar spine and redistributes the weight to the legs.
- ?? Bend you knees when lifting a backpack.
- ?? Carry only the necessities. (Clean out the backpack at least once a week.)

## **FROM WORLD LANGUAGE**

Spanish students will be doing their Exhibitions of Mastery in the Spanish High School classes the weeks of April 4 and April 11 in the mornings. We are looking for parents who are Spanish speakers who will be willing to assist in the assessments of these exhibitions. Anyone willing and able to help please get in touch with Mary at ext.410.

## **ON THE LEVELS...**

### **SAYING OF THE WEEK:**

**LEVEL 1:** "Its raining cats and dogs."

**LEVEL 2:** "That's the last straw."

### **MCAS SCHEDULE FOR LEVEL 2 STUDENTS:**

?? Week of March 28<sup>th</sup> – Regular class and homework schedule. All students will be given a practice assignment during the week.

?? Week of April 4<sup>th</sup> testing conducted.

- o Grade 3 Reading - Monday 4/4, Tuesday 4/5 and Wednesday 4/6
- o Grade 4 Composition – Wednesday, 4/6

There will be not Level 2 homework the week of April 4<sup>th</sup>. Please remember that all students should have a good night's sleep and have eaten breakfast the day of the test.

**COLLEGE ACCEPTANCES** Congratulations to Carlyn Coyne, who was accepted to UMASS-Amherst.

**LEVEL 1, 2 & 3 PENNY DRIVE TO BENEFIT THE LIBRARY ENDS 3/31/05!** Look for the winning pod and total amount collected in next week's update.

### **JUNE'S POD IS HAVING A HOP-A-THON TO RAISE MONEY FOR EASTER SEALS!**

**WHEN: April 6<sup>th</sup> (during recess 12:00pm) WHO: Level 1 students WHERE: Blacktop at School**

Students will hop for three minutes. They may get pledges from family and friends for hopping. For more information contact June's Pod.

### **VELMA'S MILKWEED PROJECT IS PUTTING TOGETHER A BUTTERFLY GARDEN SEED PACKET AND BOOKLET.**

Which will be available for sale in April. Proceeds of sales will go to The Magical Moon Foundation. For more information contact Velma at ext. 302.

**COUNTER TOPS NEEDED** - Title 1 is looking for used (but decent) counter tops that you may be discarding (or your company would like to donate!) to put in their office on Level 3. Other materials considered. We plan to set them on top of file cabinets. Other ideas welcome. Thanks! Contact: Claudia - 781 925-9060

**HIGH SCHOOL TEACHER**, Megan Stoehr is seeking donations of recent political and economic magazines and newspapers for use in her class. Please contact Megan by email [mstoehr@sscps.org](mailto:mstoehr@sscps.org) or ext. 326.

## **PROJECT NEWS**

**SECRET RECIPES FOR THE COOKBOOK!** The Cooking Project is going to publish a cookbook and we would love to add some of your secret recipes to our book. Please send recipes to the Cooking Project in room 310. Thank you!!

**MARKETING PROJECT PLANNING DANCE APRIL 29<sup>TH</sup> 6-9:30PM!** (Originally scheduled for March 25<sup>th</sup>). The dance will be held in the SSCPS High School great room. Please note, the following day, Saturday, 4/30, is a school day. Tickets will be \$10 in advance and \$12 at the door. We would greatly appreciate it if parents would donate food and drinks. Please let Jenn know in advance if you are donating food items. Pizza will be available for purchase!

**MARKETING PROJECT** will be having a Bake Sale on Tuesday 4/05 and Wednesday 4/06 from 12:15 until 1:00pm. The sale will be held in Jenn's Room.

**ROCK MONKEY PROJECT** will be hosting another MOVIE NIGHT!! On Thursday, April 14th, the Project will be showing movies in the Village Green between 6:30 P.M. and 8:30 P.M. Healthy light snacks and drinks will be served for children in levels I - III. Come and drop off your kids so they can see The Incredibles (rated G) while you attend the parents association meeting, run some errands, or get some chores done. The cost is only \$5.00 for one child or \$10.00 for a family! Level V/VI teacher, Megan Stoehr, will be supervising the fundraiser.

## **PARENTS ASSOCIATION**

**PROJECT TASK FORCE** A Task Force comprised of students, parents, and administration will meet to discuss high school projects. This one-time meeting will be held on Saturday, April 9 at 8:30am (the first snow make-up day).

**LOOKING FOR ANOTHER VAN** We are looking at ways to acquire an additional van for use by projects, sports teams, transportation to the Y, and field trips. If anyone has a contact with area car dealers, contact Katherine Borsody, Level V parent, at 781-925-3431 or via e-mail at [borsody@earthlink.net](mailto:borsody@earthlink.net).

## **SAVE THESE DATES!!!**

### **APRIL 30th "COMMUNITY BUILDING" SOCIAL EVENT**

Come, meet and socialize with fellow parents from all levels- 7:00-9:30pm at SSCPS Complimentary lite fare and non-alcoholic drinks with a \$5.00 donation at the door. Cash bar for beer and wine. All faculty members are invited to come as "non-paying guests" of the community. All attending SSCPS '1st year parents' are entitled to a complimentary raffle ticket for the gift basket of their choice. Auction items include gift certificates, museum passes, TOOLS!!, 3- month fitness membership, CD Player, an antique German china set, a case of wine, and more. All proceeds benefit the SSCPS science lab. Come have appetizers, listen to music, mingle and get to know the greater SSCPS community in a casual, low pressure, fun setting. To volunteer food or raffle items, call KT Leary at 1-781-925-1257, or Debbie Shepard at 781-585-6023

### **MAY 14<sup>th</sup> SPRING CARNIVAL HOSTED BY SSCPS PROJECTS, 12-4 pm (early release Saturday)**

All projects are participating in this event. Look for more information in an upcoming Update.-The Carnival will include a Moonwalk, cookie decorating, 'White Elephant' table, games, kid creations, and much more. Contact Kathy Frederick 781356-2721 or Debbie Shepard 781- 585-6023 if you have donations or would like to help

**\*\*\*\*\* FIRST ANNUAL SSCPS FAMILY FUN DAY \*\*\*\*\***

**JUNE 12TH 11AM TO 5PM**

Join us for a family fun day at Camp Wing in Duxbury. This is a family social event including swimming, fishing, paddle-boating, rock-climbing, sports, and games. The cost is \$25.00 per family for the entire day, and all activities are free. Families should bring their own picnic fare; tables will be provided. Our goal is to welcome new and older SSCPS families to socialize, play and come together to strengthen our school community. Tickets and more information will be available in late April in the Update. Our last planning meeting will be on May 11th at 8:15 am at the school. All are welcome. Organizers/contacts: Laurie Rumpf 781-837-5494, Debbie Shepherd 781-585-6023 KT Leary 781-925-1257

## **COMMUNITY SERVICE**

**THE BIG HAIRCUT! FRIDAY, JUNE 3RD - GET YOUR SISSORS READY!**

**MARKETING PROJECT COLLECTING DONATIONS FOR THE QUINCY ANIMAL SHELTER!**

Collection boxes are located at the front and back doors of the school. Financial donations will be accepted in Jenn's Room (Room 203). Checks should be made payable to the Quincy Animal Shelter. Thank you!

**VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED** to help after school on Friday, April 15th moving classroom furniture so that the floors/rugs can be cleaned over vacation. If you can help, please contact Vinnie Zappi at 781-760-3429.

**VOLUNTEERS ARE ALSO NEEDED** to help Monday through Friday from 12:30-1:30 cleaning up after lunches. This is a great Community Service opportunity. If you are interested, please contact Kristine Shipps at 781-982-4202x106.

## **OPERATIONS**

**PARKING** Please refrain from parking your vehicle in front of the main and back entrances and leaving your car unattended to enter the school. If you need to enter the school, please park your car in the parking lot. These areas are marked as fire lanes during school hours. Also, do not park up on the grass along the right side of the front entrance. This area is not to be used for overflow parking.

**NO SMOKING!** Reminder that SSCPS is a SMOKE FREE ZONE. There is NO Smoking allowed on school property.

**LOST & FOUND** All items left in the Lost & Found area on Level II will be bagged and donated to Wellspring on Thursday, April 7th.

## **EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES**

On-call substitute teacher

Send cover letter, resume and list of references to Kristine Shipps, Business Manager.

**School Closings will be announced on:  
WCVB-TV Channel 5, WFXT Fox 25, WHDH-TV Channel 7,  
WRKO AM 680**

*Once opened for the day, school will remain open until the last student is picked up.*

**WEEKLY UPDATES ARE POSTED ON OUR WEBSITE AT [WWW.SSCPS.ORG](http://WWW.SSCPS.ORG)**

# Lunch Order Form

## Lunch for the month of *APRIL*

Due to the Office by 3pm THURSDAY, March 31, 2005

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_

Pod Teacher/Advisor \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_

Please **CHECK** off the day lunch will be ordered and **CIRCLE** your selection.

Week of (4/4-4/8)	<input type="checkbox"/> Monday Sub 1/2 sub Wheat	<input type="checkbox"/> Tuesday Pizza #_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Wednesday Sub 1/2 sub Wheat	<input type="checkbox"/> Thursday Pizza #_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Friday Salad -or- Box Lunch
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Week of (4/11-4/15)	<input type="checkbox"/> Monday Sub 1/2 sub Wheat	<input type="checkbox"/> Tuesday Pizza #_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Wednesday Sub 1/2 sub Wheat	<input type="checkbox"/> Thursday Pizza #_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Friday Salad - or - Box Lunch
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Week of (4/18-4/22) S C H O O L   V A C A T I O N   W E E K

Week of (4/25-4/29)	<input type="checkbox"/> Monday Sub 1/2 sub Wheat	<input type="checkbox"/> Tuesday Pizza #_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Wednesday Sub 1/2 sub Wheat	<input type="checkbox"/> Thursday Pizza #_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Friday Salad -or- Box Lunch
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Number of Subs/Wheat sub ordered	_____	X \$5
Number of 1/2 Subs ordered	_____	X \$3
Number of Pizza Slices ordered	_____	X \$1.50
Number of Box Lunch ordered	_____	X \$3.00
Number of Small Salad ordered	_____	X \$3.00

***Less Credit due*** \_\_\_\_\_

***Total Amount Enclosed*** **\$**\_\_\_\_\_

Cash or Checks may be made out to SSCPS.  
Milk IS included with the purchase of a meal or can be purchased separately for 25 cents.

**Use the Monthly Lunch Menu for specific Lunch selection.**

**Please Note:** If your Child has forgotten lunch, a Lunch (Peanut Butter & Jelly Sandwich and Milk) will be provided at the cost of \$2. A note from the Office will go home that afternoon for reimbursement.

Reduced Lunch of 40 cents a day\*       Free Lunch\*

\* Complete and return the Income Eligibility Form to use the lunch guidelines.