

SOUTH SHORE CHARTER PUBLIC SCHOOL

WEEKLY UPDATE

April 6, 2005 Vol. 4, Issue 1

FROM THE HEAD OF SCHOOL

There is always a risk of airing dirty laundry in public that there will be an inclination to think that everything in the school is not working well. That is not the reality whatever and the vast majority of students are working hard and treating one another well. However, there are some areas of the program that need improvement. The school has undergone tremendous change in one year. Adding 67% new students just to the high school can cause some adjustment opportunities. We are working to address some of those opportunities for improvement.

Tom Gorsuch and I had a discussion with the Level 5 and 6 students yesterday concerning our observations of the year to date. We talked about some of the wonderful things we have seen come from them: providing over 7,000 meals for needy families in the Boston area at the Boston Food Bank, the juniors achieving 100% passing rate on the MCAS, two students springing to help a classmate who was choking... And we also talked about things that haven't gone well this year: damaging the bathrooms, inappropriate language in the building, and being asked to leave a community service project because of misbehavior.

School is a learning place where students are allowed to make mistakes in their attempt to grow to maturity, but it is also a place where everyone needs to feel safe, supported, respected and able to work in an environment with minimal interruption. Most of our students are here because they want a good education in such an environment. To create such a situation all members of the community need to work together and examine how they contribute to the conditions around them. No one is a victim here; everyone is an instrumental part of how the school operates, everyone has an obligation as to how the school achieves a productive environment. Daily interactions with one another in the building create the environment in which we live for seven hours each day. Students and staff working together set the expectations for behavior. If a student sees a peer misbehaving, they need to, in a respectful manner, let that other student know that what she or he is doing is unacceptable. Teachers can always talk to students and issue punishments, but it is only when the students stand up for what they want to happen here that the community will be truly respectful. Similar to a family, schools need rules to operate well. We would like to see us being able to accentuate the good things that our students do and minimize the occasions were they choose to misbehave. As all members of the high school grades take more responsibility for the actions of the community as a whole, we will develop a community where everyone can feel fulfilled.

In an effort to make the school environment more conducive to learning we have announced the following for the entire school community:

1. Cellular telephones, beepers, and all personal listening devices (I-pods, Discman, etc) are not to be turned on, visible or used from 8:15 am to 3:00 pm. Schools all over the country are instituting rules to restrict the use of these devices because they cause regular and continuous disruption to classes, meetings and the learning situations of schools. Any of these devices seen by staff will be confiscated for the remainder of the day. ***If you have need to reach your child, you may call the school number (781) 982-4202 and leave a message with Maria or Ellen who will then relay it to your child. If your student needs to reach you, they may use the student phone at the front desk.***
2. Students are expected to treat one another, faculty and staff and any other person in the building, and the building itself, with respect and to comply with requests made of them by any staff member.

If these two things can be improved, the high school and its relationships with everyone in the community should improve. This will take work, some of the members of our community have gotten into some pretty disruptive patterns of behavior, but I feel that all of our students with the support of all the adults in the community can make the school a wonderful place to learn.

-Mike Munhall

Thursday	4/07	Marketing Project Bake Sale	12:00pm
Thursday	4/07	Junior Parent Night	6:30pm
Friday	4/08	Senior Portfolios Due	
Friday	4/08	Quarter Ends Level 5 & 6	
Saturday	4/09	Snow Day Make up	8:15 – 11:45
Saturday	4/09	Project Task Force Meeting	8:30am
Monday	4/11	School Council	3:30pm
Wednesday	4/13	Fundraising Meeting	8:30am
Thursday	4/14	Rock Monkey hosting “Family Movie Night”	6:30pm
Thursday	4/14	Parents Association Meeting	7:00pm

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THERE WILL BE NO APRIL VACATION ENRICHMENT PROGRAM offered due to cleaning and construction projects. These projects are scheduled to take place during the vacation week to prepare our school for the up-coming dedication of our building on May 6th. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause but it is necessary for us to complete our tasks at that time.

SODA POP RECORDS (a Level 4 project) is producing a spring concert called Meltdown to be held on Mary 11th at the Hingham High School auditorium at 6:00pm. It is similar to the Winter Solstice. Some featured acts will be the after school ensemble group Players and the Singers from the High School. In addition, each Level 3 and Level 4 class will be performing the class songs they composed with Andre in music class this year. We hope you will be able to attend!

LUNCH ORDERS

Enclosed please find the lunch order form for the remainder of April due to the office no later than 3:00pm Thursday, April 7. Thank you.

ON THE LEVELS...

SAYING OF THE WEEK: **LEVEL 1:** “Wolf in sheep’s clothing.” **LEVEL 2:** “Carpe Diem!”

PENNY DRIVE WAS HUGE SUCCESS WITH 654 POUNDS OF PENNIES COLLECTED! Velma’s Pod won with a total of 122 lbs. of pennies, 2nd place was Krista’s pod with 106 lbs. and in 3rd was Karen’s pod with 85 lbs. Thank you to all the students in Levels 1, 2 and 3 for their efforts to benefit our library!

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 or ext. 326.

PROM MONEY The Level 5 & 6 entertainment sub-committee is looking for money/donations to support our 2005 prom. We have chosen the theme of, "A Night in Hollywood," and we are looking for any decorations you may have. For more information please contact Nora Jordan or Mary Carter at Ext. 306.

PROM TICKETS ARE ON SALE NOW! The prom is on May 21st at the Sheraton Tara in Braintree, and the cost is \$45 per person and \$75 per couple. Tickets will be on sale at all lunches and breaks in the Level 5 & 6 Village Green. For more information please contact Nora Jordan or Mary Carter at Ext. 306.

DAY OF SILENCE: Get ready for the campus to be a little quieter. On April 13, 2005 SSCPS will join students across the nation in a Day of Silence to show their solidarity with lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender students who experience discrimination, harassment, and abuse - in effect the silencing in schools across the country. The Day of Silence, a project of GLSEN (Gay, Lesbian and Straight Education Network), will be held during school hours and over 40 students in Levels 4, 5 & 6 will participate in the Silencing by wearing stickers and passing out "speaking cards" that explain the reason for their involvement. SSCPS is proud of these students and supports this effort. For more information visit www.dayofsilence.org.

PROJECT NEWS

THE PLAYWRITING AND PERFORMING PROJECT has announced its 2005 Spring Production! The award-winning project will present David Ives' ALL IN THE TIMING, directed by Senior Heather Brady and Junior Debra Greene. ALL IN THE TIMING features four one act comedies in one hilarious evening. The plays are appropriate for all ages and can be enjoyed on many different levels. The production is set to open on Friday, May 13 at 7:30PM and close on Saturday, May 14 at 7:30PM. A venue and more information are to be announced at a further date. The production is also selling advertisements for its playbill and is searching for individuals to sponsor. Please look for more information on sponsoring/placing an AD in this weekly update.

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.

CONGRATULATIONS TO SEWING SUCCESS FOR THEIR HARD WORK! Sewing Success Project recently made four identical "Southern Belle" ball dresses for a play at the Cedar School in Hanover. The dresses were custom made to each girl, utilizing measurements that were provided to the project. The skill level of the Sewing Success Project continues to improve and reach new heights. The project will receive a donation in return for their efforts.

PARENTS ASSOCIATION

The next meeting is Thursday, April 14, 7-9. Agenda attached. Plans for next year are underway. Come and find out what all the committees have been up to and are planning for 2005/06. There is a Baby-sitting option available: The Rock Climbing Project lead by Megan Stoehr will be holding Family Movie Night that evening. The cost is \$5 for one child, \$10 for a family. They will be showing "The Incredibles" and providing a healthy snack.

If you cannot attend Thursday's meeting, please contact your grade representatives with your thoughts and ideas.

Grade Representatives:

K	Stacey Kirves	kirvfam@earthlink.net
1	Anne Veilleux	cashmere07@aol.com
2	Sonja Finney	sonjafinney@verizon.net
3	Bev Bruce	bruceleute19@msn.com
4	Harriet Guiney	pgt500@msn.com
5	Katherine Kardok	kardoks@juno.com
6	Lauri Bateman	jmm200@netzero.net
7	Donna Schiller	sea.stars@verizon.net
8	KT Leary	jesseleary@earthlink.net
9	Katherine Borsody	borsody@earthlink.net
10	Doug Hayes	doug@watchall.com
11	Donna Josselyn	thejosselyns@comcast.net
12	Ann Selig	seligfam@aol.com

TYING UP LOOSE ENDS! The next fundraising committee meeting is Wednesday, April 13th at 8:30am. Help us make the "Community Building Adult Social" on April 30th and the "Carnival" on May 14th successful!

WELCOME ALL NEW SSCPS FAMILIES TO THIS EVENT. Please come and share an evening with other SSCPS parents. If anyone would like to donate small items to the auction or make appetizers or desserts, please call or email KT at 781-925-1257 (even simple items such as a bottle of wine or a box of crackers is appreciated!) Do you have a business to promote by donating a small gift certificate? All proceeds benefit our science lab!

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).

LONGWATER TRANSPORT still has a few open seats on the bus that runs from Hull, Hingham, Cohasset, to SSCPS for the 05/06 school year. Call KT 1781-925-1257

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.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

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

BAKE SALE TO BENEFIT THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO Level 4 student, Jessica Woods, is having a bake sale on Saturday, April 9th to help fundraise and raise awareness about the war in the Democratic Republic of Congo. The sale will be held in the front lobby. You can make a difference and eat too!

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.

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

Lunch Order Form

Lunch for the month of *APRIL*

Due to the Office by 3pm THURSDAY, APRIL 7, 2005

Student Name _____

Pod Teacher/Advisor _____ Grade _____

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

Week of	<input type="checkbox"/> Monday	<input type="checkbox"/> Tuesday	<input type="checkbox"/> Wednesday	<input type="checkbox"/> Thursday	<input type="checkbox"/> Friday
(4/11-4/15)	Sub	Pizza	Sub	Pizza	Salad
	1/2 sub	# _____	1/2 sub	# _____	- or -
	Wheat		Wheat		Box Lunch

Week of SCHOOL VACATION WEEK
(4/18-4/22)

Week of	<input type="checkbox"/> Monday	<input type="checkbox"/> Tuesday	<input type="checkbox"/> Wednesday	<input type="checkbox"/> Thursday	<input type="checkbox"/> Friday
(4/25-4/29)	Sub	Pizza	Sub	Pizza	Salad
	1/2 sub	# _____	1/2 sub	# _____	- or -
	Wheat		Wheat		Box Lunch

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.

SSCPS ANNUAL SPRING CLEANUP DAYS

Saturday, April 9th and Saturday, April 30th

100 Longwater Circle

8:15am to 11:45am

A perfect community service opportunity!

Please come and help beautify SSCPS
for our Dedication Ceremony!

SSCPS is looking for donations of the following items:

Plantings

Large Flower Pots w/ Plantings for front and back entrances

Picnic Tables

Please bring your own garden/yard tools

**For info. call Kristine
@ 781-982-4202x106**



COMMUNITY BUILDING SOCIAL

You are invited to the S.S.C. P. S. “Community Building Social” on Saturday April 30th from 7:00pm -9:30pm. There will be a \$5.00 donation at the door, which includes light fare and non-alcohol beverages. A cash wine and beer bar will be available.

Come share great food, conversation and meet fellow parents! Theme baskets such as: ‘toolbox’, ‘gardening’, ‘welcome baby’, ‘sundae-bar’, ‘family fun’, ‘gourmet’ and ‘Yankee Candle’ will be raffled off. There will be a silent auction, which includes a week time-share vacation, a case of wine, a CD player, gift certificates, a set of antique German china, etc.

All proceeds benefit our future science lab. All faculty members are invited as non-paying guests. If you have any questions or would like to help out by bringing a hors d’oeuvre or baked goods, call K.T. Leary at 781-925-1257 or Debbie Shepherd at 781-585-6023.

We welcome new and older parents to come and mingle and get to know the greater SSCPS community!