



SOUTH SHORE CHARTER PUBLIC SCHOOL

WEEKLY UPDATE

October 13, 2004 Vol. 10, Issue 2

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

BEING GOOD NEIGHBORS

Poet Robert Frost in his work, "Mending Wall" repeats the phrase, "Good fences make good neighbors." This is an apropos statement considering our new residence here in Longwater Circle. We have moved into a neighborhood and brought about 300 cars with us. Those of you who have delivered or picked up your children at either end of the day know the congestion that has at time occurred on Longwater Circle and Longwater Drive. Our neighbors are having some difficulty adjusting to our presence here. We need to extend a hand to them and be "good neighbors." While the School has the right to be on Longwater Circle, being a good neighbor means we have responsibilities. These responsibilities involve and include: the school, the parents and the students. For the sake of brevity, I will focus on the issues around parents today.

Parents and families are adjusting to a new entity in our lives: SSCPS on Longwater Circle. It is a new location for the returning families and the new families. Everyone has been attempting to fit the travel time and location into their family schedule. Sometimes parents have been putting their schedule ahead of the school, their student, other students, other parents and our neighbors here in Assinippi Park. Regularly, some parents have been parking in neighboring property and having their student walk over to them disregarding the fact that all the property in the Park is PRIVATE. Parents have asked their children to walk into neighboring property where semi tractor-trailers are turning around. Sometimes they ask their child to walk through traffic zipping along on Longwater Circle. These are neither wise nor safe things to do.

The school sees three priorities for arrival and dismissal:

1. Student safety
2. Respecting neighbor property
3. Respecting other parents and staff

We have arranged a system of arrival that never allows a line to form on Longwater Circle. Dismissal has accomplished getting 468 students out of their classrooms and into cars or buses in less than fifteen minutes. Both of these are good accomplishments.

So what's the problem? The problem is that some parents are parking anywhere they like to pickup their student regardless of whose property they park on. The neighbors are getting irritated!

The School is asking:

1. That all parents to go through the car line to drop off or pick up their student.
2. That drivers not park on other property. (Weichart Relocation building is going to be fully occupied shortly and we will not have access to their parking during the day)
3. That those parents parking on school property and walking into the school with their children, control their children and not allow them to run ahead or between cars.
4. Those drivers who have picked up their child but have cars in front of them should not pull around those cars with there being a great possibility of students running between cars.

We do not want our neighbors to build walls but if some of our parents continue to disrespect neighboring property the neighbors could close themselves off to us. The school is making continuous overtures to the surrounding businesses to make partnerships with them and we are attempting to work out some arrangements. But all goodwill can go right out the window if respect is not practiced. The School needs parent help.

We like to teach the students that with rights come responsibilities. SSCPS has the right to be on Longwater Circle, but the members of our community have the responsibility to be good neighbors. Please be careful of children and do not park or use anyone else's property for your convenience.

Thank you for your help.

Thursday	10/14	Academic Warnings Issued Grades K-8	
Thursday	10/14	Parents Association Meeting	7:00 pm
Monday	10/18	School Council	3:30 pm
Wednesday	10/20	Annual Meeting and Board of Trustees	7:00 pm
Thursday	10/21	Parent Conferences Grades 9-12	6:00 pm
Thursday	10/21	Title 1 Parent Information Night	6:30 pm
Friday	10/22	Level 3 PE Field Trip	
Saturday	10/23	Jaguars Fall Festival	1:00-4:00 pm
		<i>Coming soon... "TOY AUCTION"</i>	

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FALL FESTIVAL TO BENEFIT THE JAGUARS – Saturday, October 23rd the Jaguars Basketball teams are having a Fall Festival from 1:00 to 4:00 pm to raise money for new uniforms. The Festival will be held in the front parking lot and will include pumpkin painting, costume contests, face painting, games prizes and much more! We are looking for donations of baked goods and both student and parent volunteers. The cost of admission is \$5.00 for students and \$7.00 for adults. For more information, contact Amanda Selig or Heather Brady
JAGUARS 04-05 GET FIRED UP!

WHERE'S WALDO? Calling all alums! The SSCPS Alumni Association is searching for its members. Current families who know of alums should ask them to contact the school. Rick Doane '98, along with Rich Levitt, Director of Development, are spearheading the effort.

DON'T FORGET – Sally Foster orders due on October 25th.

LUNCH ORDERS MUST BE RECEIVED ON A WEEKLY BASIS

Beverages (Milk, Chocolate Milk or Orange Juice) are \$.25 each and are not included in the price of a lunch. **Remember to return a weekly order form for each child no later than Thursday 3pm.** The school is looking for a part time person the coordinate this service. For more information, contact Kristine Shipp at ext. 106.

PARENTS ASSOCIATION

THE PARENTS ASSOCIATION MEETING IS THURSDAY, OCTOBER 14, 7:00-9:00PM. Committee Chairs are asked to attend tomorrow night's meeting to begin planning for the years' events. All parents are welcome to attend. If a parent cannot make the meeting, please take any concerns to your Grade Representative. The draft Code of Conduct will be reviewed during the meeting. Copies are available at the front desk and will be available at the meeting.

PARENTS STILL NEEDED FOR THE FOLLOWING POSITIONS:

School Council Members – one for Level 3 and one for Level 4 -
 Education Committee Member – one for Grades 7-12
 Vice Chair of the Parents Association

Thank you to the parents who have volunteered for the positions as follows:

School Council – Level 1 – Sue Pratt
 Level 2 – Josh Wright
 Level 5 & 6 – Kim Murphy
 Level 5 & 6 – David Hatch
 Education Committee - Levels 1-3 – Nancy Smalzel

LOOKING FOR HELP WITH HOSPITALITY DURING THE CHARTER RENEWAL SITE VISIT – Every 5 years a Charter school undergoes a review by an independent site visit team, which then makes a report to the Department of Education. This month we are hosting a review team from Tuesday, October 26 through Friday, October 29. We like to treat our visitors to refreshments from morning until late afternoon. If you can help with set up, cleanup or food donations contact Maria Sullivan @ 781/982-4202 ext. 100 or sullivanseven@aol.com. More specific details to follow.

EXTENDED DAY NEWS

AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM IS AT FULL CAPACITY - If you have a last minute emergency, please call our office at 781/982-4202 ext. 107 or during program hours at 617/750-1435 and we will try to accommodate emergency situations.

ON THE LEVELS...

SAYING OF THE WEEK

Level 1 "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you" **Level 2** "Birds of a feather flock together"

LEVEL 3 PE FIELD TRIP – The first PE field trip will be held on Friday, October 22nd and Level 3 is looking for parents who would be interested in chaperoning and helping to coach. We are going to the South Shore Sports Center in Hingham to play basketball and soccer. Please contact Claire if interested. Thank you.

SPANISH SAYING OF THE MONTH: October: Más vale tarde que nunca.

HIGH SCHOOL SCIENCE classes need laboratory equipment for demonstrations and student lab work. If anyone knows of the availability of any items, please contact Mark Veader or Pat Compagnone. Items of immediate need are: Triple beam balance or double pan balances with mass kits, Hardwood meter sticks with brass tips, Spectrum tubes (hydrogen, helium, neon), Spectrum tub power supply(ies), Spectroscopes or diffraction gratings, Spectrum Chart, Gyroscope Hooke's Law apparatus, Tuning Forks...

PROJECT NEWS

SODA POP RECORDS TALENT SHOW COMING SOONER THAN EXPECTED – The 3rd Annual Talent Show is being held on Friday, November 19th. Auditions are being held as follows: Level 1 - Tuesday, October 12th at 12:30pm; Level 2- Thursday, October 14th at 12:00pm; Levels 3 & 4 on Tuesday, October 19th at 12:30pm and Levels 5 & 6 on Thursday, October 21st at 12:30pm. Please tell your children to look around the school for sign up sheets.

THE JOURNALISM PROJECT is currently seeking a printer to publish our newspaper, which is currently getting off the ground. We would like to find someone who would do it for free or at a low cost. If anyone is interested in helping, please call Seth Jacobson at ext. 316. Thank you very much.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

PART TIME JANITOR/MAINTENANCE needed for school year. Hours are from 11:30am- 1:30pm Monday through Thursday and on Fridays from 7:00am to 2:30pm. Great opportunity for a parent to help maintain our new building. Hourly rate is \$9.00/hr. Responsibilities include cleanup from lunch and assisting with building maintenance.

PART TIME LUNCH COORDINATOR needed to coordinate the entire lunch program for the school. This is a 15-hour per week position. Hourly rate is \$9.00/hr. Responsible for receiving orders and payment, placing weekly order, distributing food after delivery, etc.

Send cover letter, resume and a list of references to Kristine Shipps, Business Manager Office #3.

BOYS BASKETBALL COACH NEEDED - For more information, contact Dr. Gorsuch at ext. 102.

COMMUNITY SERVICE NEWS

The annual Mass Audubon Walk for Wildlife will be held on Saturday, November 13, 2004, starting from the North River Wildlife Sanctuary in Marshfield. For more information contact Mass Audubon South Shore Regional Office at 781-837-9400.

SWIM ACROSS AMERICA FUNDRAISER – As members of the Weymouth Waves Swim Team, Natalie Glines, Charlotte Guiney and Catherine Paquin, will be competing in this fundraising campaign to raise money for their teams and for the Special Olympics swim programs. Natalie's personal goal is to swim 100 miles between now and March 1st. Sponsor sheets are available in Julia's pod or by contacting Natalie at 781/925-0074.

BUILDING OUR LIBRARY, ONE BOX TOP AT A TIME

Every General Mills cereal box top is worth 10 cents. Please tell your friends and relatives to save their box tops! To reach our goal of \$5000 we need to collect 50,000. A collection box is located at the front desk.

100 Longwater Circle ~ Norwell, MA 02061 ~ 781/982-4202

Website ~ www.sscs-ma.org