



SOUTH SHORE CHARTER PUBLIC SCHOOL

WEEKLY UPDATE

November 3, 2004 Vol. 11, Issue 1

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The Department of Education rechartering site team has come and gone. They examined virtually everything we do in the classroom and as an institution. In a few weeks we will be sent a copy of their written report that will outline their impressions of what they found. One thing they left us with on Friday was an impression the five of them uniformly picked up: *“the relationship between teacher and student here is amazing.”* These reviewers have visited many schools during their time in evaluating schools across the country. But beyond the academics and regulations they were here to assess, they found that we are a very civil community with a positive tone, unique among schools. We anticipate several recommendations from their report generally dealing with unifying the K-12 curriculum. They also mentioned that they noticed that the School’s 2003 Strategic Plan mentions several things regarding this goal.

The team’s visit was punctuated by the wonderful food provided by our parents. They were most appreciative of the bounty of food arrayed for them each day. Thank you parents for your support on this.

I am grateful for all the work the teachers and staff have done over the last nine years to make us ready for this inspection. The dedicated work of our teachers in preparing curriculum, developing themselves professionally, adjusting to a major move from Hull to Norwell and creating the environment here at school that allows students to thrive all will be mentioned in the report and will lift us toward rechartering.

The next step in the process of being rechartered for five more years is our receipt and response to the team’s report, then the presentation of our renewal application to the Massachusetts Board of Education in either January or February. I am confident that the Board will extend our charter and that we will be able to continue to grow and refine our program.

The school is taking a major step in technology. This week I gave the go ahead on the lease/purchase of 140 all new computers for the school. Under the guidance of Steve Deyesso, our new technology coordinator, we will be installing these in the new computer lab and all the classrooms over the next month. Along with the wireless hookups we should be running smoothly by the beginning of December. The school has also been the recipient of 26 HP laptop computers from MITRE Corp that will be used by the Learning Services team and other staff. All these new computers will take the school several steps beyond where we have been up to now with technology. The days of “taping” machines together are over!

One of the things that has made this purchase of computers possible is the creation of a new computer lab by two parents who are in the construction business. Brian Bateman and Mark Malnati spent three days of the last two weekends building the school’s new computer lab. Their donation of labor allowed us to afford the computers to fill this lab. Once again, parents have come to the aid of the school and program. Brian and Mark, the School is most grateful for your skillful and hard work, Thank you!

Mike Munhall

Thursday	11/04	Parents Association	7:00pm
Friday	11/05	1st Quarter Ends - Grades 9-12	
Friday	11/05	Interactive Dinner Theatre	6:00pm
Monday	11/08	Terra Nova Testing - Grades 1 and 2	
Monday	11/08	Executive Committee	6:00pm
Wednesday	11/10	Marketing Project Field Trip	
Thursday	11/11	Veteran’s Day – No School	

ANNOUNCEMENTS

TERRA NOVA TESTING CONTINUES –Students in Grades 1 and 2 will be testing the week of November 8th. Students should arrive at school well rested and have had a good breakfast.

JOIN THE PLAYWRITING & PERFORMANCE PROJECT IN AN ITALIAN RESTAURANT – A night of interactive dinner theatre set in the charming atmosphere of an Italian ristorante in the heart of Rome. The cuisine feature dishes from some of the South Shore’s favorite local restaurants. Friday, November 5th from 6:00 – 8:30pm. Admission is Children \$10, Students/Seniors \$12, and Adults \$15.

LATIN FOR A FEE – for middle/high school students. Anyone interested in an after school Latin I class to meet one day per week, please contact Pamela Hill at pkoiner@aol.com, 781/383-9461. The Latin program began last year with the extremely popular teacher, John McVarish, who will be back again this year.

LOST AND FOUND IS OVERFLOWING! If your child is missing any clothing (sweatshirts, sweaters, etc.) or other items, please look through the Lost & Found located near Level 2. These items will be donated soon to projects that are looking for warm clothing for their community service efforts.

PARENTS ASSOCIATION

MEETING ON THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 4TH, 7-9. Please forward concerns to you grade representatives if you cannot attend. Agenda went home last week: Voting on Proposed Changes to the Bylaws. Julia Silzer, Level 4 Coordinator, will be attending; updates from Committee Chairs, Education Committee, School Council, Board of Trustees, and Mike Munhall.

COMING 12/9 AND 12/10...A HOLIDAY BOOKSALE TO BENEFIT SSCPS. In partnership with Waldenbooks, SSCPS will be hosting a book sale with 20% of proceeds dedicated to our library. Buy books for your young reader or for gifts.

POD PARENTS STILL NEEDED FOR A FEW LEVEL 1 AND 2 CLASSES – Contact Anne Veilleux at 781/925-9285 or cashmere07@aol.com.

SCHOOL COUNCIL MEMBERS STILL NEEDED:

School Council Members – one for Level 3 and one for Level 4

PARENT VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: Are you able to contribute time to help teachers (level 2 and higher) who have requested parent volunteers? The jobs are varied and interesting. A regular commitment of 2 mornings or afternoons a month is preferred, but there is some flexibility. Please be prepared to help a teacher who is not your child's own teacher. Volunteerism is very important to the well being of our school, and our school community. Please contact Alida Hanson at 781-383-8288, or hansont1@comcast.net if you're available. Thank you.

LONGWATER TRANSPORTATION:

The bus has one opening starting next week for transport to Norwell from Hull or Hingham. Call KT at 781-925-1257 if interested. Thank you!

LUNCH ORDERS FORM ATTACHED – RETURN BY THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 4TH 3:00PM

ON THE LEVELS...

SAYING OF THE WEEK:

LEVEL 1: “Cold Feet”

LEVEL 2: “Like a bull in a china shop”

SPANISH SAYING OF THE MONTH FOR NOVEMBER: No todo lo que brilla es oro!

Level 3 Spanish would like to thank Karen Peterman for coming in once a week to help in the classes.

Gracias Senora Peterman.

FOOD DRIVE – June's Level 1 pod is having a food drive for people who are hungry. Please bring your canned goods (beans, soup, hot cereal, pasta, stuffing mix, cranberry sauce) to Room 306. Collections will be taken until November 16th. Thank you!

THANK YOU FROM LEVEL 4 Level IV would like to thank the anonymous person who repaired the Frog Pond picture by placing a piece of Plexiglas on the front. Thank you! We would also like to thank all the volunteers and parents who have chaperoned and done various deeds to keep the level running smoothly. We recently had a wonderful field trip to the Boston Common, where we were sent on a cleverly plotted scavenger hunt in which we used both Historical and Fine Arts knowledge to compete against one another. A fabulous day, thank you Marianne Buckley-Curran.

PROJECT NEWS

SEEKING DONATIONS FOR EASTERN SERVICE WORKERS ORGANIZATION OF FROXBURY– The Art Force Project is collecting new and/or like new warm hats, scarves, gloves and blankets. Please bring your donations to Room 308. For more information contact Nicole Keiley at ext. 317.

HELP THE CHILDREN'S BOOK PROJECT "RAKE TO HONDURAS!" Autumn is here and the leaves are falling. This year the members of the Children's Book Project are raking leaves to raise money for their project. For more information contact Project Leader, Howard Bean at ext. 301.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

?? **LEVEL 4 PART TIME AIDE**

?? **LEVEL 1 PART TIME LEARNING SERVICES AIDE**

?? **PART TIME JANITOR/MAINTENANCE**

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.

OVER 200 ITEMS OF CLOTHING AND FOOD WAS DONATED by the SSCPS community for the people of Gonaive and Port Paix, Haiti as they continue to struggle from the devastation caused by the recent hurricanes. Six students from John Costanzo's math class were responsible for sorting, organizing and bagging the donations. They are: Heather Hogan, Erick James, Rashid Jeremie, Zoe Estabrooks, Anne Nonnamaker. We will continue to take items and make sure they are distributed to the needy in Haiti. The Woodworking project has on its list of to-dos a donation box for our lobby. In the meanwhile you can leave your gifts outside the door to Room 22 on Level 3. Thanks to all for your generosity and thoughtfulness.

OPPORTUNITY FOR A HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT looking for a project to run for community service – see Claudia Darrow.

Lunch Order Form

Complete one form for each child
Lunch for the Week of **November 8, 2004**

Due to the Office by 3pm Thursday, November 4, 2004

Milk is not included with the meal and can be purchased each day for 25 cents

Student Name _____

Pod Teacher/Advisor _____ Grade _____

Please **Check off the day** lunch will be ordered and **Circle your selection**.

<input type="checkbox"/> Monday	<input type="checkbox"/> Tuesday	<input type="checkbox"/> Wednesday	<input type="checkbox"/> Thursday	<input type="checkbox"/> Friday
Sub	Pizza	Sub	Pizza	Sub
1/2 sub	# _____	1/2 sub	# _____	1/2 sub
Sandwich		Sandwich		Sandwich
1/2 sandwich		1/2 sandwich		1/2 sandwich

Number of Subs/Sandwiches ordered _____ X \$5

Number of 1/2 Subs/Sandwiches ordered _____ X \$3

Number of Pizza Slices ordered _____ X \$1.50

Total Amount Enclosed \$ _____

Cash or Checks may be made out to SSCPS

Reduced Lunch*
40 Cents a Day

Free Lunch*

Use the Monthly Lunch Menu for specific Lunch selections.

Lunch is ordered through Yanni's of Rockland.

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.

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