

SOUTH SHORE CHARTER PUBLIC SCHOOL

UPDATE

February 28, 2007 Vol. 2, Issue 3

FROM THE HEAD OF SCHOOL

Strategic Plan 2007-2010

Nearly a year ago the Board of Trustee and the school faculty and staff began the process of creating a new strategic plan for SSCPS. Such plans often take a while to put into working order. A strategic plan is:

A document used by an organization to align its organization and budget structure with organizational priorities, missions, and objectives. A strategic plan should include a mission statement, a description of the agency's long-term goals and objectives, and strategies or means the agency plans to use to achieve these general goals and objectives. The strategic plan may also identify external factors that could affect achievement of long-term goals.

SSCPS completed its first three-year strategic plan in 2006. That plan oversaw the purchase of the new campus, the renovation of the building, the move from Hull to Norwell, the addition of 114 students to reach full enrollment, the approval to increase enrollment to 540, the improvement in faculty salaries and benefits, the improved public image for the school, and improvements in the academic program.

The next strategic plan for 2007-2010 has goals that will help the school improve student achievement, address diversity issues of our population and complete the facility renovations. In the next few days you will be receiving a draft copy of the plan. Read it over. There are several meetings set aside for community feedback and if you cannot attend one of them you are welcome to email me your thoughts and recommendations about the plan. The Board of Trustees would then make final adjustments to the plan and adopt the plan at its March or April meeting.

Shopping for the School

In the next few days you will see a new link on the school's website for yellowbrickmall.com. This is a new fundraising service the school has joined that will help our community do its family shopping while contributing to the school. When you shop at stores such as Macys, Kohl's, Land's End, Best Buy, Lane Bryant, Walmart and many other companies, the school will receive a percentage of your purchase ranging from 1% to 12% as a donation. Neither the school nor Yellowbrickmall will know where you have shopped only that because you have used this link you will have helped the school. We are hoping this will be a good service for you and an aid for the school.

Mike Munhall

Friday	3/02	SEPAC	8:30am
Friday	3/02	Jaguars home vs. Prospect Hill Academy– ProShots Pembroke	6:00pm
Friday	3/02	High School 3rd Quarter Warnings mailed	
Saturday	3/03	High School Drama Festival – Norwell High School	9:00am
Tuesday	3/06	Parents Association	7:00pm
Wednesday	3/07	Education Committee	3:30pm
Wednesday	3/07	Krista's Project – Bake Sale	12:00pm
Thursday	3/08	Professional Development Early Release Day	12:00pm

ANNOUNCEMENTS

From the Parents Association - The SSCPS-maintained Online Parent Discussion Forum has been permanently shut down due to the transmission of computer viruses. It was a helpful tool in distributing school announcements, event information, and Parents Association news. A new SSCPS Internet discussion group has been created using GoogleGroups. It is a free service, it is a parent-run group, and it has been set up so that only members can post and view messages. If you would like to join this forum, please send an email to sscpsparents@googlegroups.com with the subject line: Sign me up! If you have any questions, please write to dwhitemyer@rcn.com

LUNCH ORDERS

Enclosed please find the lunch menu and order form for the month of March. Orders are due Thursday, March 1st, by 3pm. Thank you.

COLLEGE ACCEPTANCES

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FOLLOWING SENIORS:

Hannah Connolly - Drew University
Tammy Jeremie - Wheelock College
Sean Kayiales - UMass Dartmouth
Kiely Monterio - University of Rhode Island
Chika Odunukwe - Pine Manor College & Newbury College

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

I hope everyone had a great vacation. Hopefully you had a chance to relax.

The Spain trip went very well. Everyone had a great time, despite a weather delay and having to spend an extra night in a hotel courtesy of United Airlines. Thanks to Claire and Angie for putting the trip together and all the students and parents who went for a memorable experience.

The Lottery went well last Saturday and we accepted 75 new students for the fall. Most of these students were on Level 1 as we add a new classroom to that level. Sincere thanks to Pam for coordinating the lottery it is a tremendous amount of work that is done in a short period of time!

Cheryl Lawson met with the faculty on Tuesday afternoon to continue providing information on how to provide classroom assistance to students with Asperger's Syndrome and Autism. Cheryl will continue to work with the faculty on a consulting basis to provide assistance with these students.

High School warnings will be mailed on Friday, March 2nd. Please be looking for these in the mail over the weekend. If you have concerns regarding your child please contact your child's advisor and/or teachers.

The High School Drama Festival is this Saturday, March 3rd, at 9:00am at Norwell High. This year's play was written and being directed by Jimmy Beggan, a junior. It is entitled "AbsoluteZero. ". Please make an effort to come to the performance that is scheduled to begin about 10 AM. The play is approximately 40 minutes long. You need to arrive early as no one will be admitted once the play has started.

The Parent Association will meet Tuesday, March 6th, 7:00-9:00pm. I will be making a short presentation on projects/workshops. This is a topic we have been discussing both in School Council and Level Coordinators meetings

Education Committee meets Wednesday, March 7th, at 3:30 in room #100 to continue its discussion of Science and Technology curriculum.

A reminder that next Thursday, March 8th is a professional development day for faculty and thus is an early release day for students. Students will be released at 12 PM. Faculty will be reviewing the draft of the strategic plan.

The second trimester grades for K-8 close on Friday, March 9th. Progress reports will be distributed to students on Friday, March 16.

Dr. Tom Gorsuch

ON THE LEVELS

SAYING OF THE WEEK:

Level 1: "Sour grapes."

Level 2: "That's the last straw."

LEVEL 2 NEWS

The Speaking American contest was held on Level 2. Congratulations to the following students who will go on to the next level and compete in Boston on April 1st at the Boston Public Library.

3rd graders: Sophia Maniscalco and Megan McCallum

4th graders: Leah Whittemore, Kevin McGuinness, Liam Hartz, and Dominique Notarangelo

PARENTS ASSOCIATION

The next Parents Association meeting will be on Tuesday, March 6 from 7:00 to 9:00 PM at the school. The meeting agenda is attached to this week's Update. Also, the agenda and the minutes from the last meeting are both available for downloading from the PA website: <http://www.sscpspa.org>

SEPAC WORKSHOP

Topic: **An IEP for My Child**

When: Thursday March 22, 2007 from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm

Where: SSCPS – Music Room

Presenter: The Federation for Children with Special Needs

What will be covered: The Individualized Education Program is a written plan for an eligible child with a disability that is developed, reviewed, and revised in an IEP Team meeting following the federal special education law. It is the legally binding contract which explains how the student will receive access to the general curriculum as well as which supports and services will be provided for success in all areas of the school. Every child with a disability who receives special education services must have an Individual Education Program. This workshop takes parents step-by-step through the development of the IEP including how to articulate a vision, using evaluation to write annual measurable goals and how to measure their child's progress.

Prior reservation is required to determine the amount of materials needed. Please contact us by March 9th via email ciambrie@gis.net and reference "IEP workshop" in the subject or call 781-982-8964 and ask to speak to Mickey.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Part time 35 hours per week Learning Services Teacher's Aide

On-Call Substitute Teachers

On-Call Substitute Nurse

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

ECO-TIPS FROM THE SSCPS GREEN TEAM

Feeling Good about Looking Good:

Avoid the Top Ten Toxins in our Personal Care Products

A survey of 2,300 people found that the typical adult uses 10+ personal care products a day, exposing themselves to an average of 146 chemicals. Do your own survey . . . toothpaste, soap, shampoo, conditioner, hair gel, shaving cream, after-shave, deodorant, foundation, various makeup, lip balms, nail treatments, hand and body lotions, sunscreens, soap for hand washing during the day, etc. The list is long. The FDA does not regulate product ingredients, so some of our personal care products are among the most toxic items in our homes. Ironically, the ideal way for many toxins to enter our systems are through our skin or via the air we breathe, and they accumulate in our systems, adding to our total body burden. When shopping for health and beauty aids, read the labels. The top ten cancer-causing, neuro-damaging, endocrine-disrupting toxins are:

- Mercury – skin lightening creams, acne medications, spot removers, mascaras, artificial tears/eye drops, vaccinations
- Thimerosal – mascaras, vaccinations
- Lead acetate – facial cleansers, hair coloring
- Formaldehyde – nail polishes (particularly OPI polishes)

- Toluene – nail polishes (again, particularly OPI polishes)
- Petroleum distillates – mascaras and foundations
- Ethylacrylate – mascaras
- Coal Tar – therapeutic scalp shampoos (like T-Gel, the T is for Tar)
- Dibutyl Phthalate – nail polishes and strengtheners
- Potassium dichromate – HeadOn pain reliever/sleep aid

What else we can do is vote with our wallets. Try to purchase personal care products only from companies who have signed the Safe Cosmetics Campaign pledge, a pact signed by over 500 companies (but not one of the top 5 product manufacturers!) to produce their products with non-toxic ingredients. For more information, see the Campaign for Safe Cosmetics: <http://www.safecosmetics.org/companies/signers.cfm>

COMMUNITY SERVICE OPPORTUNITY

“**CARTRIDGES FOR KIDS**” – Used cartridges are being collected again this year to earn money for our School. There is a box in the main hallway next to the computer room. They accept ink cartridges and cell phones. We are happy to pick up if you have a large amount. Please call Luke, John or Grace Ryan with any questions at 781/925-9541.

WEEKLY UPDATES ARE POSTED ON OUR WEBSITE AT WWW.SSCPS.ORG

SOUTH SHORE CHARTER PUBLIC SCHOOL PARENTS ASSOCIATION

AGENDA 6 March 2007 / 7:00 – 9:00 PM

- | | | |
|-------------|--|--|
| 7:00 | Call Meeting to Order | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 7:00 – 7:05 | Review and Approve Minutes
<i>February 6, 2007 PA Meeting Minutes</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 7:05 – 7:10 | Announcements
<i>SSCPS Internet Discussion Forum / Google Groups</i>
<i>2007-2008 PA Election, Nominations/Volunteers Needed</i>
<i>Next PA Meeting, April 3</i> | <input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> |
| 7:10 – 7:30 | Committee Reports (as needed)
<i>Arts & Music Committee</i>
<i>Fundraising & Events Committee</i>
<i>Health & Safety Committee</i>
<i>Library Committee</i>
<i>Diversity Committee</i>
<i>Orientation/Welcoming Committee</i>
<i>Community Service Committee</i>
<i>PAC Committee</i> | <input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> |
| 7:30 – 7:35 | Student Representative Report
<i>Ryan Brenner</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 7:35 – 7:50 | Grade Representative Reports (as needed) | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 7:50 – 8:00 | Other Reports (as needed)
<i>Education Committee</i>
<i>School Council</i> | <input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> |
| 8:00 – 8:20 | School Report
<i>Mike Munhall & Tom Gorsuch</i>

<i>Draft 2006 – 2009 Strategic Plan; Presentation & Plan for Parent Response</i>
<i>Mike Munhall</i> | <input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> |
| 8:20 – 8:30 | Board of Trustees Report
<i>Dorothy Galo</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 8:30 – 8:45 | Old Business
<i>New Position: PA Representative to the Board of Trustees / Written Proposal</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 8:40 – 9:00 | New Business
VOTE: <i>Karaoke Night. Diversity Committee proposal for money appropriation</i>
<i>Cassie Proud</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 9:00 | Adjourn | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Lunch Menu – March, 2007

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
5 <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Turkey</i></p> With American cheese, lettuce, tomato and mayo	6 <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Cheese Pizza</i></p>	7 <p style="text-align: center;">Ham and Salami</p> With Provolone Cheese lettuce, tomato, pickle and oil	8 <p style="text-align: center;"><i>No Lunch</i></p> Early Release	9 <p style="text-align: center;"><i>PB&J Lunch</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>-or-</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Greek Salad</p> With Greek dressing and pita bread
12 <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Roast Beef</i></p> With American cheese and mustard	13 <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Cheese Pizza</i></p>	14 <p style="text-align: center;"><i>BLT</i></p> Bacon, Lettuce and Tomato with mayonnaise	15 <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Cheese Pizza</i></p>	16 <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Tuna Salad</i></p> With lettuce and tomato
19 <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Ham</i></p> With American cheese, lettuce, tomato, pickle and oil	20 <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Cheese Pizza</i></p>	21 <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Turkey</i></p> With American cheese and mustard	22 <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Cheese Pizza</i></p>	23 <p style="text-align: center;"><i>PB&J Lunch</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>-or-</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Tossed Salad</p> With Italian dressing and pita bread
26 <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Italian Cold Cuts</i></p> With Provolone cheese, lettuce, tomato, pickle and oil	27 <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Cheese Pizza</i></p>	28 <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Roast Beef</i></p> With American cheese and mustard	29 <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Cheese Pizza</i></p>	30 <p style="text-align: center;">NO SCHOOL</p>

2 % milk, chocolate milk, strawberry milk or orange juice is included with the purchase of lunch or may be purchased for 25 cents. If your child has forgotten a lunch, a Peanut Butter & Jelly Sandwich and Milk will be provided at the cost of \$2.00. A note from the office will go home that week for reimbursement.

Lunch Order Form
 Lunch for the Month of March, 2007
Due to the office by 3:00 pm, Thursday, March 1, 2007

Student Name _____

Pod Teacher/Advisor _____ Grade _____

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

Week of 3/5 – 3/9	<input type="checkbox"/> Monday Sub ½ sub Wheat	<input type="checkbox"/> Tuesday Pizza #_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Wednesday Sub ½ sub Wheat	<input type="checkbox"/> Thursday Early Release	<input type="checkbox"/> Friday PB&J Lunch - or - Salad
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Week of 3/12 – 3/16	<input type="checkbox"/> Monday Sub ½ sub Wheat	<input type="checkbox"/> Tuesday Pizza #_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Wednesday Sub ½ sub Wheat	<input type="checkbox"/> Thursday Pizza #_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Friday Sub ½ sub Wheat
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Week of 3/19 – 3/23	<input type="checkbox"/> Monday Sub ½ sub Wheat	<input type="checkbox"/> Tuesday Pizza #_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Wednesday Sub ½ sub Wheat	<input type="checkbox"/> Thursday Pizza #_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Friday PB&J Lunch - or - Salad
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Week of 3/26 – 3/30	<input type="checkbox"/> Monday Sub ½ sub Wheat	<input type="checkbox"/> Tuesday Pizza #_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Wednesday Sub ½ sub Wheat	<input type="checkbox"/> Thursday Pizza #_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Friday NO SCHOOL
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Number of Subs/Wheat ordered	_____	X	\$5.00
Number of ½ subs ordered	_____	X	\$3.00
Number of Pizza Slices ordered	_____	X	\$1.50
Number of Salads ordered	_____	X	\$3.00
Number of PB&J Lunches ordered	_____	X	\$3.00

Less credit due

Total Amount Enclosed

\$_____

Cash or Checks may be made out to SSCPS.

Choice of 2% milk, chocolate milk, strawberry milk or orange juice is included with the purchase of a meal or can be purchased separately for 25 cents.

Please note: If your child has forgotten lunch, a lunch of Peanut Butter & Jelly Sandwich and Milk will be provided at the cost of \$2.00. A note from the office will go home that afternoon for reimbursement.

First Annual Charter Cup

On Wednesday April 11, 2007 the student board will be hosting a Soccer championship between the high school classes.

We Need Your Support!

Tickets will be sold starting Friday, March 2, 2007 until
The day of the match.

Parents: \$5

Students and Teachers: \$2

All proceeds will benefit the high school student board.

We hope all levels will be there showing support for
their school.

Date: Wednesday, April 11, 2007

Time: 5:00 – 7:00pm

Location: South Shore Sports Center
Hingham, MA

