

SOUTH SHORE CHARTER PUBLIC SCHOOL

UPDATE

April 4, 2007 Vol. 4, Issue 1

ANNUAL FUND PHONE-A-THON

TUESDAY, APRIL 10TH

Wednesday	4/04	Education Committee	3:30pm
Wednesday	4/04	High School Prom Expo	6:00-9:00pm
Thursday	4/05	High School Report Cards Distributed	
Friday	4/06	SEPAC	8:30am
Friday	4/06	Level 3 Field Trip to Lowell	
Monday	4/09	Shelley's Pod Used Book Fair	
Monday	4/09	School Council	3:30pm
Tuesday	4/10	Annual Fund "Phone-a-thon"	6:30-8:30pm
Wednesday	4/11	Level 2 and Grade 2 Field Trip to BSO	
Wednesday	4/11	Senior Debate	
Wednesday	4/11	1 st Annual Charter Cup Soccer Championship – SS Sports Center	5:00-7:00pm
Thursday	4/12	Senior Portfolio's Due	
Thursday	4/12	Level 3, Level 4 and High School Chili-fest	
Thursday	4/12	Personnel Committee	6:30pm
Mon-Fri	4/16-4/20	Spring Vacation	
Monday	4/23	Classes Resume	8:15am

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Spanish Department is sponsoring a Chili Fest on Thursday, April 12 from 12:00 – 2:00pm. All are welcome! For more details, contact Pedro, Linda or Juvy.

LUNCH ORDERS

Enclosed please find the lunch order and menu the month of April. Orders are due Thursday, April 5th. Thank you.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Finally April! The snow is gone, I hope and vacation is right around the corner!

The faculty thoroughly enjoyed the Mass Charter Public School Convention. It was great to get an idea of what other Charter Schools do things. A special thank you to Mary Carter and also to Dorothy Scholz for their presentation on electronic portfolios at the Convention. Also, thank you to Joan Manchester, who was unable to be a presenter, but nonetheless contributed as well to the tedious work in getting the presentation ready. We are fortunate to have committed and enthusiastic staff to represent our school.

MCAS make-ups exams were on Monday and Tuesday of this week. The next round of MCAS exams are the Math, Science, and Social Studies exams in mid - May. More to come on these exams as we get closer to May.

High School report cards and progress reports will be distributed on Thursday, April 5 at about 2:30. Parents/guardians please take the opportunity to discuss your child's reports with them. If you have questions regarding the reports, please contact your child's teacher and advisor. Also, please sign and return a copy of the report card.

The Education Committee will meet this Wednesday, April 4, at 3:30 in room #100 to continue discussions on the Science and Technology/Engineering Curriculum and begin planning for next year.

Wednesday night is the "Prom Expo" from 6:00 to 9:00pm. Mr. Tux will be here to arrange for tux measurements for the prom, and there will be slightly worn prom dresses for sale at bargain prices.

School Council will be meeting on Monday, April 9 at 3:30 in Room 100. We will continue our discussion on projects and workshops, particularly related to design and accountability.

Recently, the school has been asked by the Boston University School of Medicine and the New England Research Institute to participate in an Oral Hygiene research project. Parents/guardians of kindergarteners, third and sixth graders have received permissions slips to allow their child to participate in the research project. As part of the project, a dentist from Boston University will come to perform an oral health screening of these students. This research is very important as oral good oral health has been shown to prevent more serious diseases, such as cardiovascular disease. Please consider being part of this research and return the permission slips by this Friday, April 6. The screening is scheduled to take place on Thursday, April 12.

Officer Bill Meagher from the Norwell Police Department will be conducting a bike safety presentation for levels one, two, and three this Thursday, April 5. Level 1 will see the presentation from 12:30 to 1, Level 3 from 1:00 to 1:30, and Level 2 from 1:30 to 2:00 PM. Many thanks to Cindy Ferguson fro Health and Safety Committee for arranging this important presentation.

Dr. Tom Gorsuch

ATHLETICS

TO SUPPORT THE PE/ATHLETIC PROGRAM: The 2nd annual 5k and fun run road race will be held April 28th. T-shirts will be given out to the first 100 to register! Applications will be available this Friday.

TRACK: Once again the athletic department is putting together a track team to get in shape and compete against other charter schools. It will be open to students in grades 6-12 and will consist of a middle school team and a high school team. Everyone interested in running or helping out should contact Will Glennon or stop by his office between 12-1 on Tuesday, Thursday and Friday.

GOLF: This past fall we had a very successful program for golf at the Ridder Country Club. We are now in the process of setting up the spring program and more information will be announced next Wednesday. All interested parties should email Will Glennon at wglennon@sscps.org.

ON THE LEVELS

SAYING OF THE WEEK:

Level 1: "Got up on the wrong side of the bed".

Level 2: "His bark is worse than his bite".

ATTENTION LEVEL 2 AND GRADE 2 – On April 11 the students will be going to the Boston Symphony Orchestra for the “Music That Inspires” Youth and Family Concert. For a program visit <http://www.bso.org/>

SPEAKING AMERICAN - Congratulations to all Level II students who participated in the Speaking American finals at the Boston Public Library this past Sunday. Sophia Maniscalco won first prize for the third grade level. Megan McCallum, Liam Hartz, Kevin McGuinness, Leah Whittemore, and Dominique Notarangelo all did a wonderful job with their speeches as well. Congratulations!

“WHAT’S THE BIG IDEA?” (a play through the Children’s Museum based on Innovators from Massachusetts) will be coming to the Charter School this Thursday to perform for Level 2 at 10:45am.

PARENTS ASSOCIATION

LAST CHANCE: PA 2007/2008 ELECTION

- This year the Parents Association election ballot can be filled out online. For those who don't have Internet access, paper ballots will be available at the school's front desk. Ballots will be available next week, with the election running through April.
- Parents are invited and encouraged to step up and volunteer for the next school year. If you are interested in being added to the ballot for one of the Parents Association officer, committee chair, or grade representative positions (listed below), please contact David Whitemyer (781.681.3586 / dwhitemyer@rcn.com) or your Grade Representative.
- Parents Association Core Group: PA Chair, PA Vice-Chair, PA Secretary, PA Treasurer, Grade Representatives K-through-12, Arts & Music Committee Chair, Fundraising & Events Committee Chair, Health & Safety Committee Chair, Community Service Committee Chair, Library Committee Chair, Diversity Committee Chair, and Welcoming Committee Chair.

THE HEALTH & SAFETY COMMITTEE has invited Officer Bob Meagher from the Norwell Police Department Bike Unit to visit our school on April 5th. Officer Meagher will be speaking with our students in Levels 1-3 about Bike Safety. Please ask your children what they learned about this important topic!

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

HAVE A NICE LAWN WITHOUT POISONING YOUR FAMILY & PETS

When the Forsythia blooms, weed seeds are beginning to germinate and insects end winter dormancy. But we’ve been sold a bill of goods (literally) in the search of the trophy lawn. The truth is you CAN have a gorgeous lawn without chemicals. Here’s how.

Lawn chemicals and children/pets/humans/birds/nature do not mix well. ***Pesticides and herbicides are intentionally toxic substances.*** We often forget this. Most contain a host of chemicals that have been linked to neurological diseases (including Parkinson’s, depression, anxiety, ADD and ADHD), male and female infertility, chronic fatigue syndrome, birth defects, and a number of childhood and adult cancers. These chemicals are tracked and air-lifted in to our homes, where they reside (and build-up) for years in our carpets and upholstery. Additionally, very little is known about the safety of secondary compounds which occur when these applied chemicals bond with naturally occurring compounds in our environment.

This week, we’re discussing weed control. Whether a new lawn or an existing lawn, weeds are a fact of life, and crabgrass is the nemesis of many a gardener. There are two categories of weed control: pre-emergent products which either inhibit or prevent germination, and control products which kill existing broadleaf weeds (very nasty chemicals!). Many weeds are annuals so they die in the winter, allowing pre-emergent controls applied in the Spring to be extremely effective. We recommend using a corn-gluten product for pre-emergent control. This is a very (!) effective plant germination/ development inhibitor, and as it’s a by-product of processing corn, it is harmless to people, pets, birds, and bugs (here’s a novel concept: most bugs are good!). You actually could eat the stuff and it wouldn’t hurt you. A side bonus is it also provides a healthy, organic

feed to your lawn. Downside? It smells a little like low-tide for a couple of days. The optimal time to apply a corn gluten product is WHEN THE FORSYTHIA AND DAFFODILS ARE BLOOMING. This is when the weed seeds are actively germinating. Many corn-gluten products are palletized for ease of application. You can usually get corn-gluten at specialty garden centers. A good local source is ten minutes from the school, at the Family Pet and Garden Center, 25 Washington Street (Route 53) in Pembroke. (781-829-2220) As with any product, follow the manufacturers instructions.

During the season, you could spend a few calories pulling the odd lawn by hand weed here and there. And to prevent later season weed-seed germination, follow these three tips:

- Increase your mowing height to 3 ½ to 4 inches to shade out weed seeds and to encourage lusher, healthier turf grasses
- Mow only when the blades of grass are dry to prevent diseases from starting/spreading
- Keep your mower blades SHARP – a lousy blade makes a lousy cut, and a lousy cut is a place for disease and fungus to start

Another option is to fret less and allow yourself to have a living lawn – <http://www.livinglawn.org/> Next week; we'll talk about insects and your lawn. In the mean time, just say 'No!' to all of those chemicals!

COMMUNITY SERVICE OPPORTUNITY

ON THURSDAY APRIL 12TH FROM 3-4 PM, THE LIBRARY COMMITTEE is hosting a work day for any students who would like to help sort, re-shelve, and catalog our library collection. Please come to the temporary library (the entrance is directly across from the Music Room), where we will be busy shuffling books and making room for new titles. Questions? Email Bev Bruce (bbruce@sscps.org) or Pam Hatch (pamela.hatch2@verizon.net) Parents are welcome along as well!

The 5th annual BIG HAIR CUT coming to you June 1st. Come join the brave cut ten or more inches in front of the whole school to the sound of cheers and the big count down! Your hair will be given to LOCKS of LOVE, an organization that makes wigs for children surviving cancer. Parental permission required. Get ½ your community service requirement fulfilled. **ALSO**-Middle to High School students are needed who are looking for community service and would be interested in *organizing* the Big Hair Cut this year-putting up signs, getting permission slips out-adding **spectacle** to the event...community service hours given commiserate with how much is done for the event. CONTACT - Claudia ex 212, room 24 on level II.

“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.

COMMUNITY INTEREST

Hull Girls Lacrosse signups are in process and if interested to please contact the following:

3rd + 4th graders: Michael S. Nuesse, msn.law@verizon.net

5th + 6th graders: Kim McGrath, kimbamcgrath@comcaset.net

7th + 8th graders: Jess White, jlw13@yahoo.com

THE SURFRIDER FOUNDATION, a non-profit environmental organization dedicated to the protection and enjoyment of the world's oceans and coastlines through conservation, activism, research, and education, is seeking student submissions of PAINTING, DRAWING, WRITING, and PHOTOGRAPHY that depict what the oceans, waves and beaches mean to you. If selected, your art/writing/photo/poem will appear in an upcoming issue of Surfrider's bi-monthly newsletter 'Making Waves'. The top 3 entries will be also awarded prizes of something cool from Billabong, Electric, Dakin, Reef and Nixon. To enter, place your work in the large envelope outside of the Title I office on Level 3. You must also fill out and attach a 'Consent for Permission' form (also found outside the office), making sure that a parent or guardian has signed it. Items submitted will NOT be returned, so make yourself a copy. The DEADLINE for submission is April 11th. Questions? Email Bev Bruce at (bbruce@sscps.org).

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

Lunch Menu – April, 2007

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<p>2</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Turkey</p> <p>With American cheese, lettuce, tomato and mayo</p>	<p>3</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Cheese Pizza</p>	<p>4</p> <p style="text-align: center;">BLT</p> <p>Bacon, Lettuce and Tomato with mayonnaise</p>	<p>5</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Cheese Pizza</p>	<p>6</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Tuna Salad</p> <p>With lettuce and tomato</p>
<p>9</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Ham</p> <p>With American cheese, lettuce, tomato, pickle and oil</p>	<p>10</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Cheese Pizza</p>	<p>11</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Italian Cold Cuts</p> <p>With Provolone cheese, lettuce, tomato, pickle and oil</p>	<p>12</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Cheese Pizza</p>	<p>13</p> <p style="text-align: center;">PB&J Lunch -or- Tossed Salad</p> <p>With Italian dressing and pita bread</p>
<p>16</p> <p>-----</p>	<p>17</p> <p style="text-align: center;">V A</p>	<p>18</p> <p style="text-align: center;">C A T</p>	<p>19</p> <p style="text-align: center;">I O N</p>	<p>20</p> <p>-----</p>
<p>23</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Ham & Salami</p> <p>With Provolone cheese, lettuce, tomato, pickle and oil</p>	<p>24</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Cheese Pizza</p>	<p>25</p> <p style="text-align: center;">BLT</p> <p>Bacon, Lettuce and Tomato with mayonnaise</p>	<p>26</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Cheese Pizza</p>	<p>27</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Tuna Salad</p> <p>With lettuce and tomato</p>
<p>30</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Turkey</p> <p>With American cheese, lettuce, tomato and mayo</p>	<p>5/1</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Cheese Pizza</p>	<p>5/2</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Roast Beef</p> <p>With American cheese and mustard</p>	<p>5/3</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Cheese Pizza</p>	<p>5/4</p> <p style="text-align: center;">PB&J Lunch -or- Greek Salad</p> <p>With Greek dressing and pita bread</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 April, 2007
Due to the office by 3:00 pm, Thursday, April 4, 2007

Student Name _____

Pod Teacher/Advisor _____ Grade _____

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

Week of 4/9 – 4/13	<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 4/16 – 4/20	<input type="checkbox"/> Monday	<input type="checkbox"/> Tuesday	<input type="checkbox"/> Wednesday	<input type="checkbox"/> Thursday	<input type="checkbox"/> Friday
----- V A C A T I O N -----					

Week of 4/23 – 4/27	<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 4/30 – 5/4	<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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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/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.

1st Annual Charter Cup Order Form

The High School will be hosting a championship soccer game on Wednesday, April 11, 2007 at the South Shore Sports Center in Hingham, MA from 5:00pm to 7:00pm.

We are hoping that all levels will come and support our school. Admission is \$2.00 for students and teachers of SSCPS and \$5.00 for all others.

If you are interested in attending please fill out this order form and send it in with your child to school. A Charter Cup representative will be in each level at 8:15am to collect order forms. You will then receive your ticket(s) in one-week time.

Every ticket automatically enters you in the half time raffle. We will be raffling off an authentic soccer jersey.

Name: _____ Pod/Advisor: _____

Number of student/teacher tickets ordered: _____ x \$2.00

Number of other tickets ordered: _____ x \$5.00

Total amount enclosed: \$ _____

(Please make checks payable to SSCPS.)



Thank you for your support!
High School Fundraising Team