

# SOUTH SHORE CHARTER PUBLIC SCHOOL

## UPDATE

January 9, 2008 Vol. 1, Issue 2

### 2008: NEW BEGINNINGS AND “C” WORDS

We are nine days into the month and there is so much going on at SSCPS and the country as a whole. 2008, a leap year, is also a year that voters will elect a new president and SSCPS will choose a new Executive Director and Director of Learning Services and Assessment. The search for a new Learning Services Director has already begun and the Interview Team, chaired by Tom Gorsuch, will be interviewing the semi-finalists on February 11 and 12. On January 17<sup>th</sup>, the Board of Trustees will discuss and finalize the time-line for the search process for a new Executive Director. The proposed ten member Search Committee will be chaired by Board member Frank White. In addition to Frank, there will be parent, student, faculty, and administrative representatives on the Committee. Once the time-line and process has been finalized, I will post the information on our web-site. The Board intends to appoint the new Executive Director at its annual meeting, May 22<sup>nd</sup>.

When I was appointed as the Interim Executive Director, the Board of Trustees asked me to work closely with faculty, staff, students, parents, and Board members to learn as much as I could about the curriculum and structure of the school. During my interview and at our first faculty and staff meeting, I indicated that there were three “c” words that were important for me as an administrator: communication, collaboration, and consistency. I also added that there was a fourth “c” word that organizations always had to avoid and that is complacency. In my short tenure here, the lessons that I have learned about SSCPS is that it is indeed a very special place that honors diversity, builds community, and challenges students to do their best and become independent and creative thinkers. In addition to its strong academic and college preparatory program, I quickly learned that there are two additional areas where SSCPS excels: the visual & performing arts and environmental science. At next Tuesday’s Open House, I plan to share my “findings” with prospective students and their families. I encourage all of you to invite neighbors who are looking for a school like ours to attend our last Open House before the enrollment deadline.

There is a fifth “c” word – change. Thoughtful and well-considered changes are important to any organization. Sometimes, circumstances beyond our control necessitate change. Over the past several months, SSCPS administrators and staff have been examining our current structure and daily schedule, identifying areas where we excel and our strengths, and areas that can be improved upon. One change that we have reached consensus upon is having Level IV and the high school follow the same daily schedule next year. This change will make it possible for Level IV students to accelerate and take high school courses. A second change is to require all incoming grade nine students and new high school students to attend a week-long New Student Institute in late August. A third change is in the annual goal setting meetings between the student, parent/guardian, and his/her academic advisor. Beginning in grade seven, an academic plan for the year will be developed at the fall meeting. In developing the plan, the student’s goals through high school will be discussed and incorporated into the plan. The plan will be reviewed several times during the year and updated annually.

In future updates, I will share more ideas and possible changes that may take place. As always, the voices of parents and students are most important to us. The Parent Association meets monthly, on Tuesdays. The next parent’s meeting is Tuesday, February 5<sup>th</sup> (primary election day). Also, in response to the positive feedback to our Level Coffee Hours, we have scheduled a second one for each level. The dates are: Level 1 – Monday, January 28; Level 4 – Monday, February 11; Level 2 – Monday, March 2; Level 3 – Monday, March 10; High School – Monday, March 24. All meetings begin at 8:30am and will be held in the Music Room.

*Prue Goodale*

*“... while we flatter ourselves that things remain the same, they are changing under our very eyes from year to year, from day to day.”--Charlotte Perkins Gilman*

*“Change does not necessarily assure progress, but progress implacably requires change. Education is essential to change, for education creates both new wants and the ability to satisfy them.” – Henry Steele Commager*

Wednesday	1/09	School Council	3:30pm
Wednesday	1/09	Development and Facilities Committee	4:00pm
Wednesday	1/09	Financial Aid Night for Senior Parents	7-9pm
Saturday	1/12	Level 1 and 2 Social	1-3pm
Monday	1/14	Education Committee	3:30pm
Tuesday	1/15	Enrollment Open House	5-7pm
Wednesday	1/16	Professional Development Early Release Day	12:00pm
Thursday	1/17	Finance Committee	6:00pm
Thursday	1/17	Board of Trustees	7:00pm
Thursday	1/17	SEPAC Workshop	7-9pm
Friday	1/18	SEPAC meeting	8:30am

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**LEVEL 1 and 2 SOCIAL SATURDAY, JANUARY 12<sup>TH</sup> 1-3PM AT SSCPS – Join us for an afternoon of fun with music, face painting and friends. Bring the whole family and a peanut free snack to share. Admission is free! Contact Kerry Griffin at 781-878-3762 with any questions.**

**NEW TRANSPORTATION OPPORUNITY** - Accepting applications for transportation to South Shore Charter Public School. The tentative list of towns to be covered is: Whitman, Abington, Hanson, East Bridgewater, Rockland, Hanover and Brockton. Pending the necessary insurance and registry formalities I hope to begin service on Wednesday, January 2, 2008. If you would like further information or for an application packet please feel free to contact Tricia O'Brien c/o KC Transportation email [kctransportation@hotmail.com](mailto:kctransportation@hotmail.com) or call 781-753-6738.

## LUNCH ORDERS

Enclosed is the Order Form and Menu for the month of January. Orders for January are due Thursday, January 10th.

## ART NEWS

To recap our progress before we left for vacation the high school students *wowed* everyone with their **Fashion Walk**. The talented students created apparel from unusual material. They worked in materials ranging from tarps, shower curtains, duct tape, bubble wrap and candy wrappers. Thank you to all the people and students that made it possible, including **Andre's** music students, **Keith Barry and Daniel Alexander** and **Pedro** who filmed our pieces and will have his project edit the DVD of the show.

The year is starting off with lots of excitement as we enter into one of the state's premiere competition, **The Boston Globe All Scholastic Art Show**. The show invites entries according to school population. This year we are able to submit 9 pieces. The three middle school students that will represent us will be **Anne Nonnamaker, Christy Lee and Casey Hague**. Their pieces will be separate collage self portraits. The 6 high school students will be **Emily Doolittle** (design/apparel), **Eliza Lunny** (drawing), **Samantha Wholley** (drawing), **Jimmy Beggen** (design/apparel), **Anna Hill** (drawing), and **Andres Butler** (design/apparel) In addition to these entries the seniors are eligible to submit up to two portfolios apiece. The following seniors will be submitting portfolios to the Globe, **Samantha Wholley, James Beggen, Ahdemn MacLean, Eliza**

**Lunny, Bridget Hatch, Caroline LaFauci, and Emily Doolittle.** The school is very proud of the work and effort these students have put into to making these pieces.

To make the portfolio submissions professionally representative of the students work, parent and professional photographer, **Christopher Harting**, volunteered his time and talent to photograph the work. Christopher spent an entire day to accurately capture these pieces. Thank you very much for all that you do for us here at SSCPS!!

In addition to the Boston Globe Scholastic Art Show, one of our high school juniors has been nominated to attend **Worcester All State**. **Worcester All State** is a two day art experience for high school juniors exhibiting a high level of talent. The competition is fierce, open to any junior in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts with only 149 spots available. Congratulations to **Anna Hill** who will represent us by sending in a portfolio and interviewing for one of the coveted spots.

We will be looking forward in February and March to our annual **Artsonia Linoleum Print Contest** which is open to any **high school or middle school student**. Also available for the middle school students this year will be the **National Middle School Association's Month of the Young Adolescent**.

## **FROM THE ATHLETIC DIRECTOR**

**High School Basketball:** Tonight will be the first away game for the Jaguars vs. Academy of the Pacific Rim. The games will be played at the Hyde Park High School Gymnasium beginning at 7:00 pm with the girl's game. Both squads are 0-2 and will be looking for their first victories either tonight or at the Hingham Middle School on Sunday evening against Boston Collegiate Charter School beginning at 6:15 pm.

**Middle School Basketball:** The boy's team is now 2-0 with an exciting overtime victory of Edward Brooke Charter School of Roslindale last night. Eighth Grader Austin Matthews tied the game with a lay-up with three seconds left in the game and Jake Botello hit a key three-pointer in overtime to help with the victory. The girl's team was also victorious last night led by Becca Garber. The next game for both teams will be Sunday at home (Hingham Middle School 4pm and 5pm) against Advanced Math and Science Charter School of Marlboro.

## **PRINCIPAL'S REPORT**

**MIDYEAR EXAMS FOR THE HIGH SCHOOL ARE COMING UP THE WEEK OF JANUARY 21ST.**

Schedule for midyear exams:

**Wednesday, January 23rd**

8:30 – 10:00 – Block A

10:30 – 12:00 – Block B

12:00 – Dismissal

**Thursday, January 24th**

8:30 – 10:00 – Block C

10:30 – 12:00 – Block D

12:00 – Dismissal

**Friday, January 25th**

8:30 – 10:00 – Block E

10:30 – 12:00 – Make-up exams

Attendance will be taken during advisory at 8:15. Students will then proceed to morning meeting and then to their appropriate classroom for the first exam. Students who do not have a first exam may report to school at 10:00 for the second exam. They must sign into the school at that time. Students who do not have a second exam may leave at 10:00 following the first exam. They must sign out at this time. Students must remain in the exam room until all students have completed the exam. Students should bring something to work on if they finish the exam early. All high school students are expected to leave the building at 12:00. On Friday, all high school students are expected to leave the building at 10 AM following the exam.

The **FINANCIAL AID NIGHT** for seniors will be this Wednesday, January 9, from 7-9PM. This meeting is extremely important for families of graduating seniors and families of juniors may be interested in getting a head start of the financial aid process. Please plan to join us.

**HIGH SCHOOL EXHIBITIONS OF MASTERY** are scheduled for the week of January 14th.

**ENROLLMENT OPEN HOUSE** is on Tuesday, January 15th, from 5 – 7 PM. Please pass this information on to family and friends who are interested in the school. We are looking for parent volunteers to help out. Please contact Janet Coletti of the Parents Association Welcoming Committee

**PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT EARLY RELEASE DAY** on January 16th will be used for work on completing the Project/Workshop curriculum and staff training on the Soliloquy reading program. Students will be dismissed at 12 Noon.

**REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE CORE KNOWLEDGE FOUNDATION** will be visiting us from January 16th – 18th. They will be primarily focusing on the pilot reading program being implemented on Level I. *Dr. Tom Gorsuch*

## ON THE LEVELS

### SAYING OF THE WEEK:

Level 1: "The more the merrier."

Level 2: "Everything is ship shape."

**LEVEL 1 CLOTHING DRIVE** – June's Pod is having a clothing drive. It is January 9<sup>th</sup> – February 14<sup>th</sup>. We need hats, gloves, mittens, boots, snow pants, scarves and coats. The box will be in Level 1 next to the stage. Thank you, Matt Freitas & Harrison Carter, Project Journalists

## NOTES FROM THE GREEN TEAM

1. Limit your shower time. Even a one or two minute reduction can save you 700 gallons.
2. Never pour water down the drain if there's another use for it, such as watering your plants or garden.
3. Instead of letting the water run while cleaning your veggies, rinse them in a pot with water.
4. Freerice.com is a free website where for every word you spell correctly, the website donates 10 grains of rice to countries in the U.N to help stop world hunger.
5. Save a tree and send an electronic greeting. Instead of buying a card, which wastes trees, you can send a card over e-mail. A great website to go to is <http://www.e-cards.com>.

(Tips from Anne Nonnamaker, Level IV FourScore Project)

Sound interesting to you? The SSCPS Green Team is getting reorganized! This group is a collection of parents, teachers, and students interested in environmental issues. Please contact Amy Ruder for more information at [aruder@sscps.org](mailto:aruder@sscps.org)

## PARENTS ASSOCIATION

### Calling all cooks, bakers and purchasers!!

We will be hosting a teacher luncheon on January 16. This is a 1/2 day for the students.

There about 70 staff members that comes to the luncheon.

If anyone would like to donate a main dish, side dish, dessert, beverages or anything else you like to make or bring, please email Karen Boyle directly at [klb.rjc@verizon.net](mailto:klb.rjc@verizon.net) or call 781-792-1872.

Thanks again. The teachers really enjoy these luncheons.

Karen Boyle

## SEPAC COMMITTEE

### SEPAC WORKSHOP - ADD/ADHD, THURSDAY, JANUARY 17, 2008 - 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM

ADD/ADHD an Overview - How do you know if a child you know has ADD? In this workshop, focus is on children with Attention Deficit Disorder. What it is, what it is not, with discussion including: symptoms,

diagnosis, and intervention. Coping with struggles that arise in the home and in school are presented. Various treatments including: medication, behavioral, emotional and organizational skills are discussed.

**Presenter: Alan Jacobson, Ph.D. - Outpatient Director of the Providence Center.**

Alan Jacobson is a licensed psychologist and certified school psychologist whose experience includes consulting to area school and community groups for the past eight years. Alan is presently the Outpatient Director of the Providence Center treating adults, children, and adolescents in individual, group and family therapy.

Alan is a noted and sought after speaker in the Community Consultation Program. He is also known as a columnist for the Patriot Ledger newspaper in which he writes a column concerning mental health issues.

If you are interested in attending this workshop or have any additional questions please email Beth Toma at [JToma85103@aol.com](mailto:JToma85103@aol.com).

## **EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES**

Full Time Director of Learning Services - Start date July 1, 2008

Responsible for overseeing Sped, Title I, ELL and Academic Support Services.

Cover letter, resumes and three references due by January 29, 2008.

On-Call Substitute Teachers

On-Call Substitute Teacher Aides

Email cover letter, resume and list of references to Kristine Shipps, Business Manager, [kshipps@sscps.org](mailto:kshipps@sscps.org)

## **COMMUNITY SERVICE OPPORTUNITY**

“**CARTRIDGES FOR KIDS**” – Thank you for all of the cartridge and cell phone donations made to Cartridges for Kids this year. We were able to package and send off many boxes in return for money for our school. We will continue to collect again next year and would be happy to pick up any donations over the summer. Thanks again, Luke, John and Grace Ryan (781) 925-9541.

Home Goods, the retail store in Queen Anne's Corner behind the school, is collecting donations of gently used or new blankets, linens and towels to benefit the Massachusetts Coalition for the Homeless. The end date for donations is January 13th, so you'll have to act quickly to participate. What a wonderful way to warm up the new year for people less fortunate.

## **COMMUNITY INTEREST**

**CAMP FAIR – Saturday January 26<sup>th</sup> 1-4pm at Derby Academy (56 Burditt Avenue Hingham)**

**Admission is free. For more information email [campfair@derbyacademy.org](mailto:campfair@derbyacademy.org) or call 781-749-0746 ext.29.**

**CHOO-CHOO TRANS** – Livery service currently transporting students to and from SSCPS to the Plymouth area has seats available. For more information or a quote for transportation, visit [www.choochootrans.com](http://www.choochootrans.com) or email [choochootrans@gmail.com](mailto:choochootrans@gmail.com).

### **ABITIBI PAPER RETRIEVER RECYCLING**

This is an easy way for you to recycle your paper every week and help us raise money for projects/workshops.

#### **What Can Be Placed in the Retriever Bin?**

Newspapers, Magazines, Office Paper, School Paper, Catalogs, Mail, Paperback books, Shredded Paper (must be in clear plastic bag & tied with holes poked into it)

#### **Please Do Not Place these items in the Retriever Bin:**

Plastic, Glass, Metals, Trash, Cardboard, Phonebooks

The UPDATE is published on a weekly basis and is distributed on Wednesdays through email to the entire community and is posted on our website at [www.sscps.org](http://www.sscps.org). If your family would like to receive a paper copy please email a request to [palgera@sscps.org](mailto:palgera@sscps.org) or contact Kathy at 781-982-4202 ext. 100.



**SST IS PROUD TO PRESENT:**

**NEGOTIATION GENERATION**

**Take Back Your Parental Authority Without Punishment!**

**WHETHER YOU'RE RAISING TODDLERS OR TEENAGERS—  
SOME BEHAVIORS ARE NON-NEGOTIABLE**

**Wednesday January 16<sup>th</sup>, 2007**

Once upon a time, parents were parents and children were children. Today, our fast paced lives and changes in the popular culture have children claiming more independence than they can handle. Parents are losing their authority, negotiating with their children about everything from what to wear to school to when to go to bed at night. All this negotiating is exhausting and it doesn't teach children how to handle the intense pressure to grow up too quickly.

Lynne Reeves Griffin helps you reclaim your position of authority with a proactive approach to raising your children. By establishing clear boundaries for what is and isn't acceptable behavior, you'll win the tug-of-war with your children—and forge a stronger, more loving bond because of it.

- Influence your children's behavior—without controlling it
- Predict and prevent challenging behavior
- Let go of time-outs, groundings, spankings, and other punishments
- Teach by example—show *and* tell your children how you expect them to behave

With true stories from more than twenty years of parent counseling, the author reveals the real struggles parents face in raising today's children—and tells you how to step out of the negotiation generation and step back into control.

**Lynne Reeves Griffin** is the author of *Negotiation Generation: Take Back Your Parental Authority Without Punishment* (Penguin, 2007) and the novel, *Life Without Summer* to be published in winter 2009 by St Martin's Press. She lectures, writes, and consults with parents, teachers and health care professionals about issues affecting families and is a frequent radio and television guest expert. Lynne lives with her husband and two children in Massachusetts. For more about Lynne's work, visit her website [www.LynneGriffin.com](http://www.LynneGriffin.com).

\*\*It is important that you call to register or return the registration form prior to the overview as space is very limited.\*\*

**Fee: \$20.**

**For more information please call South Shore Therapies at (781) 335-6663**

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**Registration Form:** Negotiation Generation: Lynne Reeves Griffin  
7:00 PM Wednesday January 16<sup>th</sup> 2007

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Total number of attendees: \_\_\_\_\_ Amount Enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

**Send to: South Shore Therapies:** 163 Libbey Industrial Parkway; Suite 302  
Weymouth, MA; 02189

## Lunch Menu – January, 2008

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
31 <b>No School</b>	1 <b>No School</b>	2 <b>BLT</b>  Bacon, Lettuce and Tomato with mayonnaise	3 <b>Cheese Pizza</b>	4 <b>Greek Salad</b>  With Greek dressing and pita bread
7 <b>Turkey</b>  With American cheese, lettuce, tomato and mayo	8 <b>Cheese Pizza</b>	9 <b>Italian Cold Cuts</b> With Provolone cheese, lettuce, tomato, pickle and oil	10 <b>Cheese Pizza</b>	11 <b>Tuna Salad</b>  With lettuce and tomato
14 <b>Roast Beef</b>  With American cheese and mustard	15 <b>Cheese Pizza</b>	16 <b>No Lunch</b>  Early Release <b>Professional Development</b>	17 <b>Cheese Pizza</b>	18 <b>Tossed Salad</b>  With Italian dressing and pita bread
21 <b>No School Martin Luther King Day</b>	22 <b>Cheese Pizza</b>	23 <b>BLT</b>  Bacon, Lettuce and Tomato with mayonnaise	24 <b>Cheese Pizza</b>	25 <b>Tuna Salad</b>  With lettuce and tomato
28 <b>Ham</b>  With American cheese, lettuce, tomato, pickle and oil	29 <b>Cheese Pizza</b>	30 <b>Chicken Salad</b>  With lettuce and tomato	31 <b>Cheese Pizza</b>	2/1 <b>Greek Salad</b>  With Greek dressing and pita bread

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. For Level 1 a Lunchable and Milk will be provided for the same cost. A note from the office will go home that week for reimbursement.

**Lunch Order Form**  
**Lunch for the Month of January, 2008**  
**Due to the office by 3:00 pm, Thursday, January 10, 2008**

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_

Pod Teacher/Advisor \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_

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

Week of 1/14 – 1/18	<input type="checkbox"/> Monday Sub ½ sub Wheat	<input type="checkbox"/> Tuesday Pizza #_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Wednesday <b>No Lunch</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Thursday Pizza #_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Friday Salad
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Week of 1/21 – 1/25	<input type="checkbox"/> Monday <b>No School</b>	<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 1/28 – 2/1	<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 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
<i>Less credit due</i>			_____
<b>Total Amount Enclosed</b>			\$_____

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.*