

SOUTH SHORE CHARTER PUBLIC SCHOOL

UPDATE

September 12, 2007 Vol. 9, Issue 2

IN THE NEWS . . .

It has been a busy week at SSCPS. Kudos to parents Kerry Griffin, Denise Demaggio and their helpers for organizing a great picnic. It was wonderful to see so many students, parents, and staff members in attendance. The picnic is a great way to kick off the new school year and for everyone to get to know each other or renew friendships. I hope that this becomes an annual event!

Kudos to our talented high school musicians and their fantastic teacher, Andre Kim for providing everyone with outstanding entertainment! Special thanks to Ted Hirsch and Eric Greene for reminding everyone – especially the new folks (me included) – why South Shore Charter Public School is such a great place. Of course, the sprinkler system going off near the end of the event added to the excitement and, as one parent said to me, “it was so charter school.” And we thought we everything was under control since there was no rain!

More good news: we have been notified that the grant submitted by Kristine Shipps and Ted Hirsch to support our service learning projects was approved! The \$7000 grant will be used to support service projects connected to our curriculum. Well done, Kristine and Ted!

I am also pleased to report that we had an excellent turnout for our Open House/Back to School Night for parents of students in Levels 2, 3 and 4.

Coming attractions next week . . .

Professional Development Day, Monday, September 17th (no school for students). This is the third of six sessions of the “Studying Skillful Teaching” course. In addition, eleven of our staff members will participate in physical restraint training off-site in Sandwich.

Wednesday, September 19th: Open House/Back to School Night for Level 1 and high school parents.

Thursday, September 20th: First Board of Trustees meeting of the year: 7:00 p.m.

The Board will be asked to approve the 2007-2010 Technology Plan, a school wellness policy, a whistleblower policy, and update its pregnancy policy. The full agenda for the meeting is posted on the website. All meetings are open to the public and we invite you to attend.

Mark your calendars . . .

Fall Festival, Saturday, September 29th from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Annual Auction: Saturday, October 20th from 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.

Prue Goodale, Interim Executive Director

Quote for the week: “The pessimist sees difficulty in every opportunity. The optimist sees opportunity in every difficulty.” --- Winston Churchill

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|-----------|------|---|-------------|
| Wednesday | 9/12 | Auction Committee planning meeting | 1:30pm |
| Thursday | 9/13 | Sally Foster sales begin | |
| Friday | 9/14 | SEPAC meeting | 8:30am |
| Monday | 9/17 | Professional Development Day – No school for students | |
| Wednesday | 9/19 | Level I and High School Parent Night | 6:00-7:30pm |
| Thursday | 9/20 | Level III Field Trip to Southwick Zoo | |
| Thursday | 9/20 | Welcome Committee meeting | 6:30pm |
| Thursday | 9/20 | Finance Committee meeting | 6:00pm |
| Thursday | 9/20 | Board of Trustees meeting | 7:00pm |

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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. If your family would like to receive a paper copy please email a request to palgera@sscps.org or contact Kathy at 781-982-4202 ext. 100.

MBTA Student Passes – Any grade 7-12 student who may be interested in purchasing a student discounted T-Pass please see Kristine Shipps for more information.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Picture day went great. Thanks, everyone, for your efforts with that. We hope to see the pictures back in a few weeks. Please note that retake and project picture day will be on October 18.

The “Welcome Back to School Family Picnic” was last Thursday, and was really a lot of fun. Thanks Kerry Griffin, Denise DeMaggio, Lisa Ann Moffit, Annette Golden, Kim & Norman Bershere for all the work in organizing the evening, Nicole and her Level II Art Force for their craft table and Andre and his talented music students, Daniel Alexander, Kyle Algera, Keith Barry, Caitlyn Ford, Carly Hayes, Jackie Perry, John & Luke Ryan, and Tee & Mike Smith for putting on a *great* performance.

Again, parent volunteers are needed for School Council and Ed Committee. School Council meets on the 1st Wednesday of each month at 3:30 in room 100 and consists of 3 students, 3 parents, 3 teachers and myself. School Council will focus on school culture issues, school improvement, and review of school policies as it relates to the Student Handbook. Please see me if you would like to contribute to this important committee. Ed Committee is composed of the Level Coordinators and two parents. We meet on the third Monday of the month at 3:30PM. Ed Committee will focus on curricula issues, especially related to Projects/Workshops and Social Studies.

Back to school night for Level 2, 3, & 4 was this past Tuesday, September 11 from 6-7:30 PM. Thanks for the great turn out. Parent Night for Level I and the High School has been rescheduled to next Wednesday, September 19th from 6-7:30PM.

Sally Foster fund raiser is starting Thursday. See Claire Overlee on Level III for details.

The next session for Research for Better Teaching course in Understanding Skillful Teaching for the faculty will be on the Professional Development Day, next Monday, September 17. This is part of the professional development focus this year. Our other efforts in professional development will be on curriculum development for projects and Social Studies.

Dr. Tom Gorsuch

ART NEWS

Good start to the school year! Level III students worked cooperatively to create 3 Dimensional story book scenes, each student choose a specific part. The work is displayed in the front lobby's glass cabinets, along with last year's translucent butterflies, created by the same level. Please check out the student work and expect more to come...look for our big splash on World Peace Day, Sept. 21st.

This year we welcome back Emily Lincoln to Level II as art teacher, as well as, Kathryn Hahn to Level Me. Marianne F. Buckley Curran will continue with Level III, IV and the High School Workshop. The team is excited about this year, each teacher bringing different strengths to the program. Any questions please call the Art Department at x304.

LUNCH ORDERS

Enclosed please find the Menu and Lunch Order for September. All orders are due Thursday, September 13, 2007 at 3:00pm.

ON THE LEVELS

SAYING OF THE WEEK:

Level 1: "An apple a day keeps the doctor away."

Level 2: "Beauty is only skin deep."

HOMEWORK CLUB

Levels II and III

Starting September 25

3:00-3:55 on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays

\$3.00/ session, scholarships available

To enroll please fill out an enrollment form available at the front desk.

COLLEGE FAIR FOR SENIORS at UMass Dartmouth on Sunday, September 16th from 2:00-4:40pm. For more information contact Mary Carter.

PARENTS ASSOCIATION

SSCPS YOU CAN STILL JOIN the online SSCPS Parents Discussion Forum at GoogleGroups. There are currently more than 100 SSCPS parents signed up. It's a great forum for sharing thoughts and ideas related to the school and our community, and for keeping up with Parents Association announcements and news. If you'd like to sign up, simply send an email to sscpsparents@googlegroups.com and write "Sign Me Up."

Early Morning Drop-Off Program

This program has been reorganized to begin at 7:00 a.m. each school day morning. Level II Aide Geoff Overlee is the teacher. The cost is \$15 p/week for the first child, \$7.50 p/week for siblings. To register please contact gemagr@comcast.net with child name & grade, parent name(s), and day/evening phone numbers. No email? Call me at 781-963-7363 before 9:00 p.m. Thanks.

Gema Gray, Level III parent.

CHARTER SCHOOL ADVOCACY COMMITTEE ANNOUNCEMENT

-- PARENTS NEEDED --

-- PUBLIC HEARING FOR PROPOSED CHARTER SCHOOL LEGISLATION --

The following is an important e-mail message from Marc Kenen, Executive Director of the Massachusetts Charter Public School Association:

"On Tuesday, September 25th the K-12 Education Committee of the Legislature will hold a public hearing in Gardner Auditorium in the State House on proposed Charter School Legislation.

We understand that the Superintendent's Association will be pushing hard their proposal to limit district funding for charters to \$5,000 per student so it's very important that we have a large turnout of parents and supporters. Testimony on our proposed legislation to raise the 9% district cap on charters will also be heard that day.

As in the past, we are able to reimburse you for transportation for parents to the state house. The hearing will begin at 1:00. We're asking everyone to stay at least until 2:00, later if you can. We also encourage you to come early and visit with your local reps and senators before the hearing starts. Let me know if you need help setting up appointments.”

It is very important that we have a large turnout of parents to attend the hearing and show their support for charter schools. I am coordinating car pools. I am willing to reserve a bus if we have enough of an interest. Some folks might work downtown and plan on attending the hearing. I am open to any suggestions. Please contact me no later than September 17th if you are available to attend.

www.masscharterschools.org Judy Kaplan - Level II parent J_SKaplan@yahoo.com (h) 781-925-9151

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Level I Part Time 50% (20 hours per week) Teachers Aide

Level IV Part time 50% (20 hours per week) Teachers Aide

On-Call Substitute Teachers

On-Call Substitute Teacher Aides

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

COMMUNITY SERVICE OPPORTUNITY

COMMUNITY SERVICE OPPORTUNITY FOR SEPTEMBER - Our first community service activity of the year will be participating in Coast Sweep again. It will be taking place on Saturday, September 15th, from 9-11 a.m. We will be meeting at the bathhouse on Nantasket Ave. and Nancy Kramer, our local coordinator, will have all the supplies we need (data cards, pencils, trash bags, disposable gloves).

This year marks the 20th anniversary of Coast Sweep and SSCPS has been a part of this effort for many years, beginning when we were located right on the beaches of Hull. It is sponsored locally by Coastal Zone Management and Urban Harbors Institute at UMass, Boston, but Coast Sweep is an international campaign organized by the Ocean Conservancy in Washington, D.C. Volunteers clean coasts of oceans, rivers, and lakes, while recording data on this marine debris. The information gathered is used to help reduce future marine debris problems. Last year 358, 617 volunteers in 68 countries removed 7 million pounds of debris from the oceans, rivers, and lakes of the world! And SSCPS was 35 of those volunteers! This is a fun, easy, and meaningful community service activity to get us going on our required hours - I hope to see many of you there! Katherine Kardok 781-659-7540

“**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

COMMUNITY INTEREST

Hurry only 5 openings left

NEW SSYMCA MIDDLE SCHOOL AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM

HELD HERE AT SSCPS FROM 3:00p.m.-6:00p.m. Monday through Friday

Has 5 Openings. Please call Steve Litcoff at 781-829-8585x262 for registration information

GIRL SCOUT PARENT MEETING -There will be a mandatory Girl Scout Parent Meeting held at the school on Thursday, September 27, 2007 at 7:00 p.m. This meeting is for all parents who have a girl who is registered as a girl scout for this coming 2007-2008 year. (Daisy, Brownie, Junior, Cadets). This will also be a registration meeting for Juniors or Cadet's. Our Daisy and Brownie troops are full. If you have any questions, please contact, Stacy Rousseau at (781) 961-4071 at home or cell (781) 727-9784 or by e-mail at faemoon3@gmail.com or Michelle Amicangelo at (781)878-7710 at home or cell (781) 799-8098 or by e-mail at michelleamicangelo@verizon.net. Thank you.

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

Lunch Menu – September, 2007

| Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
|--|---------------------------|---|---------------------------|--|
| 3 Labor Day No School | 4 <i>Cheese Pizza</i> | 5 BLT Bacon, Lettuce and Tomato with mayonnaise | 6 <i>Cheese Pizza</i> | 7 Tuna Salad With lettuce and tomato |
| 10 Chicken Salad With lettuce and tomato | 11 <i>Cheese Pizza</i> | 12 Italian Cold Cuts With Provolone cheese, lettuce, tomato, pickle and oil | 13 <i>Cheese Pizza</i> | 14 PB&J Lunch -or- Tossed Salad With Italian dressing and pita bread |
| 17 NO SCHOOL Professional Dev. Day | 18 <i>Cheese Pizza</i> | 19 Roast Beef With American cheese and mustard | 20 <i>Cheese Pizza</i> | 21 Tuna Salad With lettuce and tomato |
| 24 Ham With American cheese, lettuce, tomato, pickle and oil | 25 <i>Cheese Pizza</i> | 26 BLT Bacon, Lettuce and Tomato with mayonnaise | 27 <i>Cheese Pizza</i> | 28 PB&J Lunch -or- Greek Salad 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. A note from the office will go home that week for reimbursement.

Lunch Order Form
 Lunch for the Month of September, 2007
Due to the office by 3:00 pm, Thursday, September 13, 2007

Student Name _____

Pod Teacher/Advisor _____ Grade _____

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

| | | | | | |
|------------------------|---|---|---|--|--|
| Week of 9/17 – 9/21 | <input type="checkbox"/> Monday No School | <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 |
|------------------------|---|---|---|--|--|

| | | | | | |
|------------------------|--|---|---|--|---|
| Week of 9/24 – 9/28 | <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 |
|------------------------|--|---|---|--|---|

| | | | |
|--------------------------------|-------|---|--------|
| 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, or snackable and Milk will be provided at the cost of \$2.00. A note from the office will go home that afternoon for reimbursement.