

SOUTH SHORE CHARTER PUBLIC SCHOOL

UPDATE

November 7, 2007 Vol. 11, Issue 1

SSCPS – A PLACE WHERE LEARNING COMES ALIVE!

Another action packed week at SSCPS. First, we received some wonderful news in the mail from the Massachusetts Department of Education. Ten members of the Class of 2008 have qualified for the Abigail Adams Scholarships based upon their MCAS scores. There are few schools in the Commonwealth that have 28% of their graduating seniors qualifying for the 4 year full-scholarships at Massachusetts public colleges and universities! Congratulations to Daniel Alexandre, Kelly Barber, Keith Barry, Stephen Barton, James Beggan, Robert Bowker-Kelly, Joseph Demore, Emily Doolittle, Pat Landis, Samantha Wholley. All of us at SSCPS are so proud of your accomplishments.

Next week, on **Wednesday, November 14th**, SSCPS will be inducting students into the **National Honor Society**. Parents are invited to join the faculty and staff at this important ceremony. To be inducted students must met GPA requirements, leadership and community service standards. The program begins at 1:30pm in the High School great room.

Yesterday, I sent our faculty and staff the following email message:

“Good Tuesday morning all!

Each day that goes by, I continue to be impressed by the commitment of all of you to the children and our charter school.

Thanks to Ted and Level I, II & III staff for showing off our school on Thursday to teachers from the Park Street School in Boston. They are using the Core Knowledge Curriculum and wanted to spend some time observing and talking with our teachers. Of course, they left impressed by all that we do.

Thank you all for helping us prepare our school for the Open House, thanks to those who found the time on Saturday to join us so that we could tell our story to potential students and their families. Bev Bruce sent me a lovely email sharing some of the positive feedback from families that toured our building.

Thank you to Bev Bruce and the library committee for the wonderful Book Fair. It was very evident how excited our students were about the book selections and purchasing as many as their family and budget could afford. I plan to put in my order for the two grandkids today.

Yesterday morning, we had central office staff from Holbrook, Randolph, Rockland and Weymouth meet with Ted, Tom and me to discuss our changing populations and professional development needs. It was a very productive first meeting and we plan to meet again on Monday, December 10 – same time, same place.”

OPEN HOUSE

Despite the windy and rainy weather on Saturday, 74 potential students and their parents attended our first Open House. We greatly appreciated all of the teachers, parents, students, and administrators who participated in the tours, answered questions about our programs, and welcomed potential new students. Although we are only two plus months into the new school year, our recruiting process for new students has begun. The best ambassadors for our school are our student and their parents. Please continue to spread the good news about SSCPS and let families interested in learning more about our school know that **our next Open House is Tuesday, January 15th from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.** Of course, families can always contact me or any member of the SSCPS staff to learn more about our school.

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

This afternoon, at 4:00 p.m. there is a joint meeting of the Development and Facilities Subcommittees. The purpose of the meeting is to review the blueprints for the final phase of the build out of our facility, the cost estimate for completion and determine how the two subcommittees will work together on our \$3 million capital campaign. As always, our meetings are posted and open to all. Over the weeks and months ahead, you will be hearing more about our campaign and how you can help us achieve our goal.

NOVEMBER BOARD MEETING

The Board of Trustees will be meeting on Thursday, November 15th. All Board meetings are open to parents, students and the public. The agenda items for the meeting include a presentation by Level III students on their school store and how they have implemented our new Wellness program; an overview of the school's Safety and Security protocol including our new Immediate Crisis Response book; and a proposed change to our student parking policy. Most of the meeting, however, will be focused upon the recent MCAS results. Tom Gorsuch and Ted Hirsch will present their MCAS analysis, describe their work with teachers on how to use the software program TestWiz to interpret the data to make adjustments in curriculum, instruction and assessment practices, and share with the Board revisions to the 2007-2008 School Improvement Plan to improve student performance and instruction. We invite all of you to attend this important meeting.

The success and strength of SSCPS over its thirteen year history has always been the resiliency of its staff, students and parents!

Prue Goodale

Our greatest glory is not in never failing, but in rising up every time we fail. - Ralph Waldo Emerson

Wednesday	11/07	School Council	3:30pm
Wednesday	11/07	Development and Facilities Committee Joint Meeting	4:00pm
Thursday	11/08	High School Grades distributed	
Friday	11/09	Professional Development Day – No school for students	
Monday	11/12	Veteran's Day Observed – No School	
Tuesday	11/13	Original Works orders and artwork due	
Tuesday	11/13	Title I Parent Meeting	8:30am
Wednesday	11/14	Level III Parent Coffee	8:30am
Wednesday	11/14	National Honor Society Induction Ceremony	1:30pm
Thursday	11/15	Sally Foster Orders ready for pick up	3:00pm
Thursday	11/15	Title I Parent Meeting	3:30pm
Thursday	11/15	Finance Committee	6:00pm
Thursday	11/15	Board of Trustees	7:00pm
Thursday	11/15	SEPAC Workshop	7:00pm
Friday	11/16	SEPAC meeting	8:30am

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PICK UP / DROP OFF BUS SAFETY - One of the bus companies called the school to report that on several occasions when the bus is in front of the building either loading or unloading students, parents have been driving past the bus to park in front of it as it is loading or unloading students. As you all know, you cannot pass a school bus when it is loading or unloading students. The bus company will begin to take down license plate #'s of the vehicles that are doing this and report vehicle info to the police. Please drive safe and remember that when a school bus is stopped and loading and unloading students, you cannot pass it.

TITLE 1 PARENT PROGRAM

To: Parents of Title 1 students are invited to:

- Meet Title 1 staff
- Learn about Title 1 and SSCPS tutorial programs
- Learn strategies to strengthen your child's reading and math skills

When: Tuesday, November 13 @ 8:30-9:30 a.m. OR

Thursday, November 15 @ 3:30-4:30 p.m.

Where: Large Meeting Room (beyond Level IV, past the tan Level IV lockers)

*Childcare provided. Please call Tania Phillips at 781-982-4202, extension 204 to reserve childcare space.

SALLY FOSTER ORDERS HAVE ARRIVED and will be ready to be picked up on Thursday November 8th at 3pm: Thank you in advance for your cooperation! Sally Foster Chair people: Samantha Doyle and Kaitlin Shippis

ABITIBI PAPER RETRIEVER RECYCLING

SSCPS has joined the Abitibi Paper Recycling Program to raise awareness about the importance of recycling, allowing us to help our environment, and to raise money to support all of our K-12 project/workshops.

Did you know that you can recycle newspaper, magazines, shopping catalogs, paperback books, office & school papers and mail: 24 hours/7 days a week at our school? Did you know also that we earn money for paper dropped off at our green and yellow Abitibi Paper Retriever bin located in the front of our building?

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

Over the next few weeks, we will be gearing up to promote this fundraiser with area businesses in the office park. Hopefully, we will be able to generate a lot of interest in recycling and raising more funds for our projects/workshops.

UPCOMING EVENT...

PRESENTATION AND SURVEY ON BULLYING FOR SSCPS FAMILIES

Dr. Elizabeth Englander, a professor of Psychology at Bridgewater State College, is the founder and director of the Massachusetts Aggression Reduction Center (MARC) <http://www.bridgew.edu/MARC/>. As part of a SSCPS comprehensive K-12 anti-bullying program, she will be speaking to parents on **December 11th at 9 am** to raise awareness, and to provide support and education about bullying and cyber bullying.

The presentation will last about 1 1/2 hours and will be held in the Music Room. Please enter through the front doors and sign it at the front desk. Please look for parking at the school. If you cannot find a space, please park closest to the school next door at the Weichert Realty lot.

Please take a few minutes to complete a short survey about your perceptions of and experiences with bullying at SSCPS. Your responses will help the school to continue to develop programs and strategies that contribute to a safe and respectful learning environment. Your answers will be kept anonymous.

You can access the survey at the link below:

<http://www.zoomerang.com/survey.zgi?p=WEB22738DQ6DB7>

Please complete the survey by December 4, 2007.

If you need assistance, or don't have Internet access, Alicia Radl will be available to help families complete the survey. Please contact her at 781-982-4202 ext 206 or aradl@sscps.org to make an appointment.

Thank you for taking the time to complete the survey!

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Congratulations to the ten seniors who received A John and Abigail Adams Scholarship for their performance on the MCAS exams. These scholarships provide a four year tuition waiver to any Massachusetts college or university. It is a tribute to the effective effort not only of the students, but also the faculty for preparing the students for the exams.

Level III visited The Wheelock Family Theater last Friday to see "To Kill a Mocking Bird". The kids, and adults, really enjoyed themselves. Thanks to all who chaperoned this outing.

The high school visited the Museum of Science CSI (Crime Scene Investigator) Exhibit last Wednesday. It was a great time and the students got to play amateur investigators. Thanks to all who helped with this event.

Thanks to all parents and faculty who represented the school for our enrollment open house this past Saturday. Considering the bad weather, we had a good turn out with about 74 students and their families.

High School report cards will be distributed to the students on Thursday, November 8th at 2:30.

School Council will meet this Wednesday, 11/7/07, at 3:30 in room #100 and will be discussing the School Improvement Plan and a new student parking policy.

The next professional development day for faculty will be this Friday, November 9th. They are continuing their course in Understanding Skillful Teaching.

Monday, 11/12 is the holiday recognizing Veteran's Day. Thus with the students off Friday because of professional development, I hope everyone will enjoy the long weekend!!!

Dr. Tom Gorsuch

SCHOOL COUNCIL

Keeping Our Children Safe - Learn About Internet Use and Safety

Attorney Mary Lee of the Plymouth County District Attorney's Office will make a presentation to the SSCPS parents and guardians on **November 27th** at 7:00 p.m. about Internet Use and Safety. Attorney Lee's presentation is intended to supplement MARC's anti-bullying presentation scheduled for December 11th and will not duplicate information! Many of our children have a false sense of security on the Internet so please join Attorney Lee to learn about:

- types of technology;
- anonymity, frauds, scams and privacy issues;
- typical internet activities by children, including MySpace, YouTube, blogging and cheating;
- Internet safety tips for children;
- criminal law and real life consequences for certain on-line activities such as threats; and
- what to do and who to contact if your child has a problem on the Internet.

If you have any questions about this presentation, please direct them to J_SKaplan@yahoo.com. Thank you.

FROM THE ATHLETIC DIRECTOR

SKI/SNOWBOARD CLUB:

Ski/Snowboard Club applications are now available for grades 7-12. Please see Will Glennon for more information.

BASKETBALL:

High School basketball practice will begin the week of November 12th – 16th

Middle School basketball practice will begin the week of December 10th – 14th.

ART NEWS

Our annual fund raiser from **Original Works** which provides each student with the option of purchasing their art on potholders, tiles, books, mugs, etc. is again available this year. Students will be coming home with their art, order forms and information the week of November 5th. Order forms, money and art work is due back to the Pod teacher on November 13th. If you have any **questions please call Marianne @ x304**. Also, if you have someone at home that would like to participate, extra paper can be sent home with your child.

LUNCH ORDERS

Enclosed is the Menu and Lunch Order Form for the month of November. Orders for November are due Thursday, November 8th at 3pm.

ON THE LEVELS

SAYING OF THE WEEK:

Level 1: "The early bird gets the worm."

Level 2: "Don't put all your eggs in one basket."

LEVEL II NEWS!

The South Shore Publications Project will be selling its first edition of the Fun Book and Comic Book on November 20th. Each book will cost \$.25 and proceeds will go to charity.

Level II Field Trip to the Science Museum on Wednesday, November 14th. One parent per pod is needed to chaperone.

Grade 3 Roman Plays will be held on Wednesday, November 21st. All families are welcome to attend our performances. The play starts at 10:45am for parent and guests. We hope you can join us!

LEVEL IV PROJECT LOOKING FOR RECIPES! One of the Level IV projects is required to create a product, make it and sell it. Bobby Lehrer, Stacey O'Leary, Josh Sanchez, and Adam Thermitus all agreed on making a school cookbook. The last SSCPS cookbook was produced in 2002. It is time for new families of SSCPS to submit their favorite recipes. In order to create our book, we need your recipes! There will be a drop box at the front desk. Please add your first and last name, the name of the recipe and all the details on how to make your recipe. The box will be out until Thanksgiving break. Breakfast, lunch, snack, dinner and dessert recipes will be accepted. We are looking forward to working with your recipes.

Thank you! Stacey, Bobby, Josh and Adam

ATTENTION STUDENTS GRADES 7-12 - SPLASH! 2007: ESP'S LARGEST EVENT OF THE YEAR

Splash [Student Registration](http://studentregistration.mit.edu) is now available! The Splash Catalog can be viewed @ <http://esp.mit.edu/>

What is Splash?

One weekend in November, over one thousand high school and middle school students converge on the MIT campus, where MIT students and community members teach them short classes on just about anything you can think of! During Splash, students can "get their feet wet" with a short introduction to any number of subjects — things they always wanted to learn, or topics they never knew existed. Or they can "dive head first" into an in-depth seminar or intensive workshop. They can even do some of both! Splash runs from **Saturday, November 17 (starting in the morning) to Sunday, November 18, around 7 PM.**

PARENTS ASSOCIATION

BOOK FAIR UPDATE

The book fair went very well this week. By now you should have received your child's wish list and an order form. Please complete the order form and return it with payment by next Thursday, November 15. There are envelopes in each classroom as well as one at the front desk. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Melissa Freitas at 781-337-9724 or Pam Hatch at 781-293-1915

BOOK FAIR WISH LISTS

The following teachers submitted wish lists of books that they would like to have for their class:

Level I - Kassandra, June, Nora, Karen

Level II - Krista, Nicole, Kendra

Level III - Angie, Claire, David

Level IV -Katie

If you would like to purchase a book off of one of these lists - please email me at MelissaFreitas@msn.com and I will let you know what books they are looking for. Also - keep in mind that all of the teachers would appreciate a gift for the classroom so even if they did not submit a list, we strongly encourage you to purchase a gift for your child's teacher.

Thank you in advance for supporting the SSCPS Library.

SEPAC COMMITTEE

SEPAC Committee will be hosting "Basic Rights" Workshop presented by Carolyn Moore on Thursday, November 15th from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm at SSCPS in the auditorium. The focus of this workshop is for families who may have a student receiving services under Special Education.

This workshop was presented last year and was very successful. If you did not come last year please join us this year.

Please RSVP if you would like to come or if you have any questions regarding the workshop to Beth Toma at JToma85103@aol.com.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

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

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

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

COMMUNITY INTEREST

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

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.

Lunch Menu – November, 2007

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
5 <i>Turkey</i> With American cheese, lettuce, tomato and mayo	6 <i>Cheese Pizza</i>	7 <i>Ham and Salami</i> With Provolone Cheese lettuce, tomato, pickle and oil	8 <i>Cheese Pizza</i>	9 NO SCHOOL Prof. Dev. Day
12 NO SCHOOL Veterans Day	13 <i>Cheese Pizza</i>	14 <i>BLT</i> Bacon, Lettuce and Tomato with mayonnaise	15 <i>Cheese Pizza</i>	16 <i>Tossed Salad</i> With Italian dressing and pita bread
19 <i>Ham</i> With American cheese, lettuce, tomato, pickle and oil	20 <i>Cheese Pizza</i>	21 No Lunch Early Release	22 NO SCHOOL <i>Thanksgiving Day</i>	23 NO SCHOOL
26 <i>Italian Cold Cuts</i> With Provolone cheese, lettuce, tomato, pickle and oil	27 <i>Cheese Pizza</i>	28 <i>Roast Beef</i> With American cheese and mustard	29 <i>Cheese Pizza</i>	30 <i>Tuna Salad</i> With lettuce and tomato

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 November, 2007
Due to the office by 3:00 pm, Thursday, November 8, 2007

Student Name _____

Pod Teacher/Advisor _____ Grade _____

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

Week of	<input type="checkbox"/> Monday	<input type="checkbox"/> Tuesday	<input type="checkbox"/> Wednesday	<input type="checkbox"/> Thursday	<input type="checkbox"/> Friday
11/12 – 11/16	NO SCHOOL	Pizza #_____	Sub ½ sub Wheat	Pizza #_____	Salad

Week of	<input type="checkbox"/> Monday	<input type="checkbox"/> Tuesday	<input type="checkbox"/> Wednesday	<input type="checkbox"/> Thursday	<input type="checkbox"/> Friday
11/19 – 11/23	Sub ½ sub Wheat	Pizza #_____	Early Release	NO SCHOOL	NO SCHOOL

Week of	<input type="checkbox"/> Monday	<input type="checkbox"/> Tuesday	<input type="checkbox"/> Wednesday	<input type="checkbox"/> Thursday	<input type="checkbox"/> Friday
11/26 – 11/30	Sub ½ sub Wheat	Pizza #_____	Sub ½ sub Wheat	Pizza #_____	Sub ½ sub Wheat

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

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.