

SOUTH SHORE CHARTER PUBLIC SCHOOL

UPDATE

November 28, 2007 Vol. 11, Issue 4

A VERY SPECIAL GIFT TO SSCPS HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

Today is a memorable day for a number of our student drivers. Thanks to the extraordinary generosity of Lucy and Don Wightman, our high school students with drivers licenses or permits are taking the 4 ½ hour Advanced In-Control Driving class at South Weymouth Naval Air Station this morning or this afternoon. As you know, the Wightman's daughter Torri was killed in an automobile accident two years ago. In her memory, the Wightmans established the Torri Wightman Safe Driving Fund and each year, the fund will pay for our student drivers to take this advanced driving class. As far as we know, we are the first school in the Commonwealth, if not the country, that offers this program. A number of local television stations and newspapers are covering the training today so please look for this special story on-line, on the local newscasts, and in the papers.

All of us at South Shore Charter Public School wish to thank the Wightmans for thinking of other young people and finding a way to help them be responsible and safe drivers.

Prue Goodale

God, give me grace to accept with serenity the things I cannot change, courage to change the things I can, and wisdom to know the difference.
Reinhold Niebuhr

REMINDERS:

LAST OPPORTUNITY TO COMPLETE THE BULLYING SURVEY. Yesterday, an Assistant District Attorney from Plymouth County conducted two excellent workshops on cyber bullying: one in the afternoon for staff and in the evening for parents. Bullying and internet safety are major problems across the country. At SSCPS, parents and teachers have planned a number of events on these important topics. HOWEVER, we need feedback and data from parents about the situation here at SSCPS. Please take five minutes to complete the survey. The deadline to complete the survey is December 4th.

PARENT MEETING: TUESDAY, DECEMBER 4 AT 7:00 P.M.

SAVE THE DATE:

**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 12TH ~ SSCPS ANNUAL WINTER SOLSTICE CONCERT
6PM ~ HINGHAM HIGH SCHOOL**

Friday	11/30	K-8 1 st Trimester grades distributed	
Monday	12/03	High School Parent Coffee	8:30am
Tuesday	12/04	Governance Committee	5:00pm
Tuesday	12/04	Parents Association	7:00pm
Wednesday	12/05	Professional Development Early Release K-8 Parent / Teacher conferences by appointment	12:00pm
Wednesday	12/05	Development and Facilities Committee meeting	4:00pm
Thursday	12/06	SEPAC Workshop	7:00pm
Thursday	12/06	8 th Grade Parent Information Night	7:00pm
Friday	12/07	SEPAC	8:30am
Friday	12/07	High School Semi-Formal	7-10pm

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ONLINE AUCTION IS AVAILABLE – VISIT WWW.SSCPS.ORG AND CLICK ON THE ONLINE AUCTION LINK UNDER EVENTS FOR YOUR CHANCE TO BID ON ITEMS.

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 9am** to raise awareness, and to provide support and education about bullying and cyber bullying.

The presentation will last about 1 ½ 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

K-8 first trimester progress reports and report cards will be distributed this Friday in the afternoon.

Thanks to Judy Kaplan for all her work in putting together the presentation by Atty. Mary Lee from the Plymouth DA's Office. Her talks to both the faculty and parents on issues related to Internet safety were valuable and timely. We are currently in the process of scheduling a visit from the DA's office to talk to students in grades 5-8 about Internet safety and the high school about identity theft issues as well as other Internet related concerns.

Please remember that on Tuesday, December 11, Prof. Elizabeth Englander from the Bridgewater State College Massachusetts Aggression Reduction Center (M.A.R.C.) will be here to present on the topic of bullying and anti bullying programs. Please take the time to fill out the online survey regarding bullying and let us know if you will attend Prof. Englander's presentation. The link to the survey is on the school's website at www.sscps.org.

Level II parent coffee was held Wednesday, the 28th, at 8:30 AM. Thanks to all the parents who attended. The feedback and discussion was most helpful.

Next Wednesday's (December 5) early release is scheduled so that parent/teacher conferences can take place from 1-4 PM for grades K-8. These conferences are scheduled to be ten minutes long. Parents in K-8 please call Mariclare at 781-982-4202 x159 to set up appointments. If you cannot make any of those times, please contact your child's teacher(s) directly to set up another time to meet or for a phone conference. Please remember that because of confidentiality concerns, student progress cannot be discussed through email.

Quarter 2 high school warnings will be mailed on Tuesday, December 11.

Dr. Tom Gorsuch

FROM THE HEALTH OFFICE

The kindergarten vision and hearing screenings have been completed. Letters to parents will be sent this week regarding any student who requires further evaluation. Please call if you have any questions or concerns contact Susan Dupras at sdupras@sscps.org.

ATTENTION PARENTS OF THE 9TH GRADE HEALTH CLASS

The adjustment counselor and the school nurse will be presenting a Depression Awareness/ Suicide Prevention class for the 9th grade students. The class will be held on three consecutive Wednesday's in December during Advisory. Each student will attend one class. If you do not want your child to attend or have any concerns please call the school nurse @781-982-4202 x104.

ART DEPARTMENT NEWS

Hopefully everyone has had a chance to view the **high school art** students' work at **Starbucks on Rt. 3A in Hingham**. The work is scheduled to come down this Friday. I have had many favorable comments about the display which has been up since Nov. 1st.

A large part of art is to tap into the creativity that we all have inside. Some assignments given to the students at all levels here are meant to be a bit open ended in order to get the student to reach in and generate art from their store house of ideas. Some projects are created by taking something that we are accustomed to seeing and reinventing it, giving it a different spin. You may judge for yourself to see how successful the **high school** students were in **reinventing the wreath**. The assignment was to create a themed wreath using non traditional materials. The wreaths will be displayed in the lobby behind the front desk.

Also as you venture into the school, the **Level IV students** are in varying stages of completing their **collage self portraits**. See if you can identify the students as they see themselves. The bulletin board outside of Level IV classrooms is starting to accumulate some interesting faces!

FROM THE ATHLETIC DIRECTOR

BASKETBALL:

Middle School basketball will begin with meetings and practice the week of December 10th.

High School basketball has begun and the first home game is scheduled for December 9th vs. Foxborough Regional Charter School at Hingham Middle School beginning at 6:15pm.

LUNCH ORDERS

Enclosed is the Menu and Lunch Order Form for the month of December. Orders for December orders are due Thursday, November 29th at 3pm.

COLLEGE ACCEPTANCES

Congratulations to Bridget Hatch on acceptance to Johnson and Wales University. Bridget was also awarded the Presidential Scholarship worth \$5,000 per year.

ON THE LEVELS

SAYING OF THE WEEK:

Level 1: "Don't cry over spilled milk."

Level 2: "One rotten apple spoils the whole bunch."

HOMEWORK CLUB

LEVELS II AND III

2nd Trimester

- Offered November 27th through March 6th
- Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays 3:00-3:55
- \$3/session; full scholarships available
- Registration forms available at front desk
- Contact Tania Phillips with questions, ext. 204

PARENTS ASSOCIATION

The next Parents Association meeting will be held Tuesday, November 4 from 7:00 to 9:00 PM. The agenda is included at the back of this week's Update

PROPOSED PA BYLAW AMENDMENTS ONLINE: Proposed amendments to the PA bylaws are available online for downloading and viewing. At the June 2007 Parents Association meeting an ad hoc committee was created and tasked with reviewing the existing bylaws and presenting any recommended amendments at an autumn 2007 PA meeting. Those recommended amendments were presented and explained at the November 6, 2007 PA meeting. In keeping with the adoption clause of the current bylaws, any revisions to the bylaws must be proposed at a regular meeting at least one month prior to a vote being taken, to allow all SSCPS parents and guardians an opportunity to review them. A motion, discussion, and vote will take place at the December 4, 2007 meeting to amend the existing bylaws: <http://www.sscpspa.org>

SEPAC COMMITTEE

Workshop, December 6, 2007, 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm

"The Basics of Encouragement"

The workshop will focus on the "language of encouragement" and how important it is to find the right words to provide "in" courage. Many children (and adults) engage in what Ron calls "catastrophic" thinking... They tend to ruminate and obsess making "mountains out of mole hills." They also tend to fall apart because they only see what they did wrong and they are blind to what they did "right."

For these individuals, positive, sloppy feedback doesn't work as an encouragement because it's too vague and/or they simply can not "accept" it. Thus, a conversation needs to be had with these children about this.

As meaningful adults in their lives, we need to find ways to give them "believable" positive to specific feedback. The Adlerian Psychologists such as Rudolf Dreikurs, Don Dinkmeyer, etc. call this Encouragement. Please RSVP via separate email to Beth Toma JToma85103@aol.com you would like to attend.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Interim Director of Learning Services Part Time (3 to 4 days per week as needed)

Level I Part time 88% (35 hours per week) Teachers Aide

Part Time Girls High School Basketball Coach

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

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.

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.

SOUTH SHORE CHARTER PUBLIC SCHOOL PARENTS ASSOCIATION

AGENDA • 4 December 2007 / 7:00 – 9:00 PM

- | | | |
|-------------|---|--|
| 7:00 | Call Meeting to Order | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 7:00 – 7:05 | Review and Approve Minutes
<i>November 6, 2007 PA Meeting Minutes</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 7:05 – 7:10 | Announcements | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 7:10 – 7:25 | Special Presentation
<i>Regarding analysis of SSCPS MCAS results: Ted Hirsch</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 7:25 – 7:45 | Committee Reports (as needed)
<i>Fundraising & Events Committee</i>
<i>Health & Safety Committee</i>
<i>Library 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"/> |
| 7:45 – 8:00 | Board of Trustees Report
<i>Frank White</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 8:00 – 8:15 | School Report
<i>Prue Goodale</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 8:15 – 8:30 | Grade Representative Reports (as needed) | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 8:30 – 8:35 | Other Reports (as needed)
<i>Education Committee</i>
<i>School Council</i> | <input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> |
| 8:35 – 8:50 | Old Business
<i>Discussion & Vote of Ad Hoc Committee Bylaw Amendments – Gema Gray</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 8:50 – 9:00 | New Business | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 9:00 | Adjourn | <input type="checkbox"/> |

ATTENTION!



Do you have a child that is the age of 3 to 5? Well, the High School Childhood Development Workshop of South Shore Charter Public School is looking to put together an afternoon program called “**Mothers Day Out**” from 1:30-3:00 on Thursdays. We have 11 people in our workshop and are looking to take on 10 **potty trained** children per session. If you are interested there will be an **information meeting**, **Tuesday December 11th**, at **1:30-2:30 in room 103**. If you have any questions please contact the workshop.

E-mail: moms.dayout@yahoo.com

Phone: 781-982-4202

Ext: 324

Room: 103

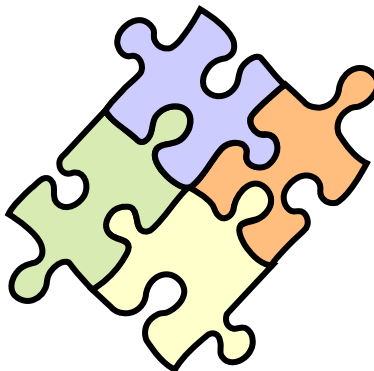
WE NEED THE FOLLOWING!

Craft Supplies	Newspaper	Mirror
Paint	Kid scissors	Keyboard
String	Plant seeds	Computer mouse
Tape	Big mat	Phone
Glue	Lincoln logs	Books
Crayons	Big puzzles	Chalk/chalk board
Felt	Toy Vehicles	Briefcase
Pasta	Jewelry	Notebook
Play dough	Purses	Kitchen set
Brushes	Sunglasses	Fake food
Glue sticks	Costumes (plastic)	Fake pots/ pan
Paper plates	Runway	

Any other kid-friendly donations are also welcome.

<http://www.hot-new-toys.com/recalled-toys.htm>

**Please refer to this list when donating toys.
These are the items in the hazard recalled toys from China.



Lunch Order Form
 Lunch for the Month of December, 2007
Due to the office by 3:00 pm, Thursday, November 29, 2007

Student Name _____

Pod Teacher/Advisor _____ Grade _____

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

Week of 12/3 – 12/7	<input type="checkbox"/> Monday Sub ½ sub Wheat	<input type="checkbox"/> Tuesday Pizza #_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Wednesday Early Release	<input type="checkbox"/> Thursday Pizza #_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Friday Salad
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Week of 12/10 – 12/14	<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 12/17– 12/21	<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 Early Release
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Week of
12/24 – 12/28 ----- V A C A T I O N -----

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.

Lunch Menu – December, 2007

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
3 Ham With American cheese, lettuce, tomato, pickle and oil	4 Cheese Pizza	5 No Lunch Early Release Professional Development	6 Cheese Pizza	7 Greek Salad With Greek dressing and pita bread
10 Turkey With American cheese, lettuce, tomato and mayo	11 Cheese Pizza	12 Italian Cold Cuts With Provolone cheese, lettuce, tomato, pickle and oil	13 Cheese Pizza	14 Tuna Salad With lettuce and tomato
17 Roast Beef With American cheese and mustard	18 Cheese Pizza	19 BLT Bacon, Lettuce and Tomato with mayonnaise	20 Cheese Pizza	21 Early Release Vacation Begins
24 V A	25 C	26 A T	27 I	28 O N

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.