

SOUTH SHORE CHARTER PUBLIC SCHOOL

UPDATE

December 12, 2007 Vol. 12, Issue 2

A BRIGHT SHINING STAR

Our thoughts and prayers go out to the family of Alison Hayes. We are all saddened and diminished by the loss of our effervescent student whose smile would brighten everyone's day. Her valiant and courageous battle with cancer over the past four years was truly remarkable and an example of the strength of the human spirit. SSCPS will not be the same without her.

The words from her obituary are most moving and so true: "She was a talented artist, a cantor at St. Ann's in Hull, a constant smiler and optimist, and was a true shining light for her family, friends, and the new friends she met at Tufts NEMC Floating Hospital." Her star is now shining brightly down upon us all. To honor Alison, donations can be sent to The Alison Hayes Benefit/Rockland Trust, P.O. Box 614, Hingham, MA 02043 or Tufts NEMC Floating Hospital for Children, Attn: Cancer Center/ Dr. Wolfe, 750 Washington Street, Boston, MA 02111.

WINTER SOLSTICE CONCERT

When we learned of Alison's passing, there was some discussion about whether we should consider postponing our concert. Very quickly, however, we came to the conclusion that the show must and should go on.

Music has always been important to Alison and her sisters Carly and Hannah. Through music we are able to connect with our feelings and express ourselves. Our music teachers have put together a wonderful program and the staff has enjoyed listening to them rehearse the past few weeks! We hope that you will be able to join us this evening at 6:00 p.m. at Hingham High School.

PERSONNEL CHANGES

December 28th will be the last day for our Director of Learning Services, Ron Larivee. Ron will be "retiring" and we wish him all the best in his next endeavors. We appreciate all that Ron has done for the Learning Services Department over the past three years and his commitment to SSCPS.

We are pleased to announce the appointment of Jo Feldman as our Interim/Part-Time Special Education Director for the remainder of the year. Jo has an extensive background in Special Education at all levels. She has been a Team Chairperson, School Adjustment Counselor, and a K-12 Coordinator of Special Education. Jo has been assisting us with some Special Education projects and student records administration. Our Learning Services staff has enjoyed working with her and the interview committee unanimously recommended her for the part-time position. Jo will be working three or four days a week and will be responsible for Special Education services only. Until a full-time person has been chosen (starting date of July 1, 2008), Tom will oversee the ELL program and I will oversee Title 1. Her first official day on the job will be Tuesday, January 2nd.

DECEMBER BOARD MEETING

The agenda for the December 20th Board of Trustees' meeting will be posted later in the week. Three important agenda items will be the search processes for the Executive Director and Learning Services Director, a report from the Governance and Nominating Committees on the four candidates for openings on the Board, and an update on fundraising and the 2008 Annual Campaign. All Board meetings are open to the public and I hope that you will be able to attend.

Prue Goodale

"Too often we underestimate the power of a touch, a smile, a kind word, a listening ear, an honest compliment, or the smallest act of caring, all of which have the potential to turn a life around." – Leo Buscaglia

Wednesday	12/12	Annual Winter Solstice Concert – Hingham High School	6:00pm
Friday	12/14	Level 4 Social	6-10pm
Monday	12/17	Education Committee	3:30pm
Wednesday	12/19	HispaFest 2007	
Thursday	12/20	Physics Field Trip	
Thursday	12/20	Finance Committee	6:00pm
Thursday	12/20	Board of Trustees	7:00pm
Friday	12/21	SEPAC	8:30am
Friday	12/21	Early Release	12:00pm
		December 24 – January 1 – Holiday Break	
Wednesday	01/02	Classes Resume	8:15am

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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 or call 781-753-6738. All applications must be received by Friday December 21, 2007

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Thanks to Mary Carter and the Student Board for organizing School Spirit Week in the high school last week. It was impressive to see so many of the students involved in the day-to-day themes. Friday's pep rally was really memorable as well; the basketball teams were welcomed to a new season with true Charter spirit, the various games were hilarious, and the freshman really made an impression beating the seniors in the round of "Are you Smarter than a Freshman?"

Thanks also to Mary Carter and the Student Board for their time preparing for the semi-formal held at the Cushing Center in Norwell Friday night. Roughly seventy of the high school students attended and they voted seniors Nick Sisson and Samantha Wholley this semi-formal's Mr. & Ms. Charter. The detail officer from Norwell Police Department wanted it noted that the students were polite and well mannered, as did the Director at the Cushing Center when she commented that she "loves having the South Shore Charter students use the facility" as they are always so polite and respectful. It is refreshing to get such comments as a principal.

High School warnings were mailed home yesterday to parents of students who are not making effective progress in one or more of their classes. Please take the time to review these with your students. Please contact the subject teacher directly with any questions or concerns at the school; #781-982-4202.

We had the Level I coffee this morning and had a number of parents come to talk about their experience of the level. These coffees have been a valuable experience for the administration and we look forward to holding more of these in the spring. We will let everyone know the schedule for these after the break. Thanks to all the parents for their participation and support.

Level II went to the Museum of Fine Arts yesterday. The students really had a great time. Thanks to all the parent volunteers for chaperoning this trip.

The Winter Solstice Concert is tonight at Hingham High School at 6:00pm. The students have been working hard on getting ready for this annual Charter tradition. 'Hope to see everyone there.

Level III made their annual trek to the Frog Pond last Friday and had a terrific time. The ice was perfect. Level IV is at the Frog Pond today. The kids seemed really excited to be going.

The Spanish Department is working hard on organizing the Hispafest which will take place next Wednesday afternoon. This will be a fun day for all, getting a better feel of Spanish culture.

The Education Committee will be meeting next Monday, December 17 at 3:30 in room #100.

Best wishes to our performers at the Winter Solstice tonight. I am sure it will be an enjoyable evening!

Dr. Tom Gorsuch

LUNCH ORDERS

Enclosed is the Lunch Order Form for the remainder of December. Orders for December orders are due Thursday, December 13th at 3pm. Also enclosed is the Order Form and Menu for the month of January. Orders for January are due Thursday, December 20th.

ART NEWS

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 are on displayed n the front lobby behind the secretary's 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!

Original Works should be in for disbursement on Dec. 13/14. Please call Marianne @ 304 if you **do not want your child** to receive your order.

FROM THE ATHLETIC DIRECTOR

Middle School Basketball will begin next week. Forms and information will be available for potential players to take home. Both teams are open for students in grades 6-8 that are in good standing. For more information contact Will Glennon at wglennon@sscps.org.

ON THE LEVELS

SAYING OF THE WEEK:

Level 1: "Let the cat out of the bag."

Level 2: "It's on its last legs."

CRAFT DAY SCHEDULE:

Level 1: Thursday December 20th 1:30pm-3pm

Level 2: Friday, December 21st 9:30am – 11:30am

Level 3: Friday, December 21st 10am-12pm

HOMEWORK CLUB

Level 2 Art Force Project will be having a Holiday Sale of key chains, ornaments, jewelry, bookmarks. Proceeds to benefit the Quincy Animal Shelter and replenish supplies. The sale will be held on December 13th and 20th.

PARENTS ASSOCIATION

The Parents Association website has been updated with the minutes from last week's PA meeting and with information regarding the early morning drop-off program. <http://www.sscpspa.org>

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.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Level I Part time 88% (35 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

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. 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.

HISPAFEST 2007

SECOND HISPANIC AMERICAN COMMUNITY FESTIVAL

PRIMER FESTIVAL COMUNITARIO HISPANOAMERICANO

Celebrating diversity in our community!

**SAVE THE DATE:
Wednesday, December 19th
12 noon- 3pm**

Hola amigas y amigos!

We are very excited to announce our major Spanish event of the year: The Second Hispanic American Community Festival (HispaFest '07.) Although the festival is just in its second year, we will have a greater number of participants, performances, exhibits, presentations, and other surprises. We already can "hear" and "feel" the increasing excitement of our students as we walk throughout the hallways and see the rehearsals: music performances, dances, posters, and curious young people everywhere. We can also hear rumors amongst our faculty and administrators...they want to know everything about the festival. We are definitely getting ready!!

Students! Chicas y chicos! :) - You are the soul of the festival. We can't wait to see you smile, sing, jump, dance, be happy, as we all celebrate diversity in our community. We are very, very lucky to have you in our lives. This is our best Spanish gift for the year Muchas gracias por su participación y su interés en el festival.

Profes, colegas y personal! Teachers, colleagues, staff, administrators! - Thanks again for all your kind support and flexibility. We know we are very privileged to have such a wonderful staff to count on. This might also be a great chance for you to brush up your Spanish. I know that many of you can speak Spanish fairly well. Please join us in the festival and celebrate with your students and co-workers! We know you can't wait to have some Spanish fun too!! :

Padres y tutores! Parents and guardians! - We ask you to please support your children as they prepare for the festival. Some of them will be cooking a delicious Spanish dish and might need your help with obtaining the right ingredients and using the kitchen. Some others will be dancing or playing music and might need some "loud music" time at home. In any case, please join them in their excitement and help them prepare for the festivity. That would be very much appreciated!

MUCHAS A GRACIAS A TODOS!! THANK YOU ALL VERY MUCH!!

NOS VEMOS EN EL FESTIVAL!

-THE SPANISH DEPARTMENT

ATTENTION!



Do you have a child that is the age of 2 to 5? Well, the High School Child Development Workshop of South Shore Charter Public School has put together an afternoon program called “**Mothers Day Out**” from 1:30-3:00 on Thursdays. We have 10 students in our workshop and are looking to take on 10 **potty trained** children per session. If you are interested, please contact the Child Development Workshop at moms.dayout@yahoo.com.

E-mail: moms.dayout@yahoo.com
Phone: 781-982-4202
Ext: 324
Room: 103

Supplies Needed!

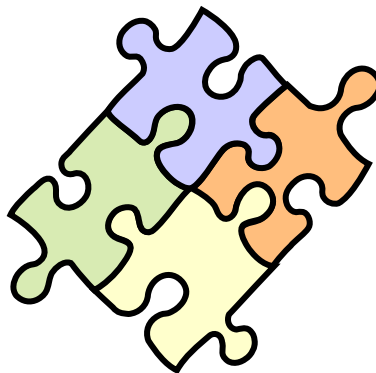
Craft Supplies
Paint
String
Tape
Glue
Felt
Pasta
Brushes
Glue sticks
Paper plates

Newspaper
Kid scissors
Plant seeds
Big mat
Lincoln logs
Big puzzles
Toy Vehicles
Jewelry
Purses
Sunglasses

Costumes (plastic)
Mirror
Keyboard
Computer mouse
Phone
Books
Briefcase

<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.



South Shore Charter Public School
Early Morning Drop-Off Program
Second Trimester

The Early Morning Drop-Off Program has been up and running since the beginning of the school year and has proven very successful – both for the families benefiting from the service and for the teacher, Geoff Overlee.

The program is for children in all grades K-12 and begins at **7:00 a.m.** each school morning in Velma's Level I pod. Please note that only children who have been signed up for this program and paid in advance will be allowed to enter the building at 7:00 a.m. All other children will be subject to the regular opening times of the school.

The cost for the program is \$15.00 per week for the first child per family. The additional cost for siblings is \$60.00. This will allow Geoff to purchase some materials to make the mornings more enjoyable for the children and avoid using Level I materials.

2nd Trimester Details:

Payment Due	Period Covered	Cost for 1st child	Cost per sibling
Dec 7, 2007	Nov 26 - Mar 14	\$210.00	\$60.00

In cases of hardship, limited scholarships may be available depending on the response for the program. Please ask Gema Gray for details. Please complete the registration form below (one per family), attach a check/money order payable to "Geoff Overlee" and hand the form and payment to Geoff by the due date of Friday, December 7, 2007. If possible, please also confirm your registration and payment with Gema Gray at gemagray@comcast.net.

Parent Name: _____

Email: _____

Telephone (day): _____ **Telephone (eve):** _____

Child(ren) Details:

Name: _____ Grade: _____

Name: _____ Grade: _____

Name: _____ Grade: _____

Allergies, medical concerns or additional information about your child(ren):

Amount of payment enclosed: _____

Lunch Order Form
 Lunch for the Month of December, 2007
Due to the office by 3:00 pm, Thursday, December 13th, 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
12/17– 12/21	Sub	Pizza	Sub	Pizza	Early
	½ sub	#_____	½ sub	#_____	Release
	Wheat		Wheat		

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 – January, 2008

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
31 No School	1 No School	2 BLT Bacon, Lettuce and Tomato with mayonnaise	3 Cheese Pizza	4 Greek Salad With Greek dressing and pita bread
7 Turkey With American cheese, lettuce, tomato and mayo	8 Cheese Pizza	9 Italian Cold Cuts With Provolone cheese, lettuce, tomato, pickle and oil	10 Cheese Pizza	11 Tuna Salad With lettuce and tomato
14 Roast Beef With American cheese and mustard	15 Cheese Pizza	16 No Lunch Early Release Professional Development	17 Cheese Pizza	18 Tossed Salad With Italian dressing and pita bread
21 No School Martin Luther King Day	22 Cheese Pizza	23 BLT Bacon, Lettuce and Tomato with mayonnaise	24 Cheese Pizza	25 Tuna Salad With lettuce and tomato
28 Ham With American cheese, lettuce, tomato, pickle and oil	29 Cheese Pizza	30 Chicken Salad With lettuce and tomato	31 Cheese Pizza	2/1 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. 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, December 20, 2007

Student Name _____

Pod Teacher/Advisor _____ Grade _____

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

Week of 1/31 – 1/4	<input type="checkbox"/> Monday No School	<input type="checkbox"/> Tuesday No School	<input type="checkbox"/> Wednesday Sub ½ sub Wheat	<input type="checkbox"/> Thursday Pizza #_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Friday Salad
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Week of 1/7 – 1/11	<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 1/14 – 1/18	<input type="checkbox"/> Monday Sub ½ sub Wheat	<input type="checkbox"/> Tuesday Pizza #_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Wednesday No Lunch	<input type="checkbox"/> Thursday Pizza #_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Friday Salad
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Week of 1/21 – 1/25	<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
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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

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.