



*Update*  
**June 17, 2009**  
Vol. 6, Issue 3

*Independence ~ Knowledge ~ Community*

**THERE IS STILL TIME TO TAKE THE SSCPS ANNUAL SATISFACTION SURVEY.  
THE SURVEY IS AVAILABLE UNTIL FRIDAY, JUNE 26TH  
VISIT [WWW.SSCPS.ORG](http://WWW.SSCPS.ORG) TODAY!**

### *Events on Friday, Follow-Up and Lines of Communication*

Certainly, this has been a year full of unexpected events and occurrences. I would like to thank the community for pulling together and helping us get through last Friday's event. Through it all we have come together and the focus in school has been on the students and their work, exams, final presentations and the celebrations that come with the successful completion of the year. I want to thank the students for their concentration, the faculty for their professionalism, the administrators for their grace under pressure, and the families for their trust.

Over a year ago, we signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Norwell Police and updated our Crisis Protocol policies and procedures. Kristine Shipps, our Business Manager and head of Human Resources, and Alicia Scafidi attended a state-wide full-day conference on crisis intervention and protocols. This fall, we met with officers from the Norwell Police Department to go over our practices and procedures in the event of an emergency or crisis at the school.

Although we had taken all of these steps, it never is "real" until you have something occur that has never happened before at your school. First, I want to commend our administrators for how well they handled the situation on Friday and the Norwell Police Department. Chief Ross and his officers, as always, respond immediately whenever we contact them. As many of you know by now, I was out-of-state on Friday. After the police were contacted and had interviewed the teacher, the administrators placed calls to me and to the chair of our Board of Trustees, Bob Gass. By mid-afternoon, a letter to parents had been drafted and run off to send home with the students. As Dr. Connolly stated in the letter that was reviewed by me and Mr. Gass, "at no time were students or staff in any danger."

In the days since the letter went out, we have received feedback from some parents asking why we did not use the Alert Now message system on Friday to notify parents to expect a letter regarding an incident at school. A phrase that I often use with staff and that the state uses when asking grant recipients to write about the outcomes of the programs is "lessons learned." In hindsight, I realize sending an Alert Now message on Friday would have been helpful. Because we have received feedback from parents this year about Alert Now messages not going through this year and we have been working with the company to address the problem, we opted not to do one on Friday. Also, when the letter was sent out on Friday, the Norwell Police were still investigating everything and no charges had been filed other than the issuance of a no trespassing order. Our contact with the police, who are in charge of the situation once they come on scene, indicated that everything that we had done was appropriate and they concurred with the statement that "at no time were students or staff in danger."

The situation since Friday has not changed and there have been no new developments that would require any additional precautionary measures. The police presence on Monday was not due to safety and security concerns but rather concern about the media interfering with the regular operation of school. In fact, there were cameramen trying to take pictures of students in the school using zoom lenses. The Deputy Chief and I agreed on Sunday evening to have a police presence on campus Monday because reporters would likely be at the school with their crews. Since Monday was a difficult day due to the news crews and I asked for an officer again on Tuesday. In fact, the past three days have been very "smooth" and attendance has been normal for this time of year.

Again, I want to thank all of our students and parents for their confidence in us and their recognition that we will always put the safety and security of all members of our school community first. Thank you for your support, feedback and constructive criticism. We plan to spend time next week to review the situation, discuss the “lessons learned”, and put into place whatever additional steps are required in the event that we have another situation like this again.

***Fond farewells ...***

In everything that one reads about student achievement and success in school, there is agreement that what makes the greatest difference is the teacher. On behalf of the Board of Trustees and the school administration I would once again like to thank our teachers and support staff for all that they do for our students. What makes SSCPS different from other public schools is indeed our three legged stool: the dedicated and committed teachers, our awesome students, and supportive and caring parents. On Friday, we will have a luncheon for our staff and hold our last faculty meeting for the year. At that time, we will be saying goodbye to a number of staff members. We wish all the best to the following staff members who will not be returning next year: Pedro Alonso, Jean Boyce, Lucille Butler, Geri Calos, Mary Ellen Cole, Joe Curran, Jessica Lincoln, Ashley Lorange, Elise Lovejoy, Dorothy Scholz, and Max Yarmolinsky.

***Best wishes for an enjoyable, relaxing and productive summer***

The faculty, staff, Jim, Ted, Jo, and I would like to wish all of our students and their families a healthy, productive and enjoyable summer. Once again this summer, the Parents Association has planned some fun events. The first is SSCPS Night at the Brockton Rox, Friday, June 26<sup>th</sup>. The Goodales plan to be there cheering for the Rox and we hope to see many of you on the 26<sup>th</sup> – a great way to “officially” begin the summer. Thanks again to Kerry Griffin for coordinating the event! The second activity is the play group program at SSCPS where current SSCPS parents invite our new kindergarten students and their parents to SSCPS for some fun on our playground equipment and introductions to our school community.

In between the summer reading and family trips, we would love to have you stay connected with us. If you want to drop by and say hello, our summer hours are 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., Monday – Thursday. We will be closed on Fridays.

***Prue Goodale***

*"A summer's sun is worth the having."- French Proverb*

<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>06/17</b>	<b>Level IV Dance</b>	<b>6:00-9:00pm</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>06/18</b>	<b>Last day of school for students – Early Release</b> See below for Level Event Schedule	<b>12:00pm</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>06/18</b>	<b>Finance Committee</b>	<b>5:30pm</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>06/18</b>	<b>Board of Trustees</b>	<b>7:00pm</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>06/23</b>	<b>Governance Committee</b>	<b>5:00pm</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>6/25</b>	<b>Progress Reports Mailed</b>	

**WEEKLY UPDATES ARE EMAILED AND POSTED ON OUR WEBSITE  
AT [WWW.SSCPS.ORG](http://WWW.SSCPS.ORG) EVERY WEDNESDAY – TO RECEIVE A PAPER COPY PLEASE  
CONTACT PAM ALGERA EXT. 103 OR EMAIL [PALGERA@SSCPS.ORG](mailto:PALGERA@SSCPS.ORG)**

## **DAY OF SCHOOL SCHEDULE THURSDAY, JUNE 18TH**

### **Level I**

**Level I Breakfast - Dismissal 12:00pm**

### **Level II**

**Awards Ceremony 10:30am – Dismissal 12:00pm**

### **Level III**

**Awards Ceremony 10:30am – Dismissal 12:00pm**

### **Level IV**

**Awards Ceremony 10:30am – Dismissal 12:00pm**

### **High School**

**Final Exam – Block E – Dismissal 10:15**

**Final Exam Make Ups – 10:30-12:00pm**

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **PAINTING HELP NEEDED THIS SUMMER**

SSCPS needs volunteer help this summer painting classrooms, bathrooms, and common areas throughout the building. We would like volunteer assistance from parents or responsible high school students that have experience painting. Please email Mark Flanagan at [mflanagan@sscps.org](mailto:mflanagan@sscps.org) or reach him at x105 if you can help.

**ALL LIBRARY BOOKS MUST BE RETURNED BY THE END OF SCHOOL ON THURSDAY, JUNE 18<sup>TH</sup>.** Currently, we have 20 families that have outstanding library books that need to be returned. Our library is small and limited in our offerings, please make every effort to return the books, replace them, or reimburse the school so we can purchase a replacement. We have relied on the honor system and we respect that books will be returned when borrowed.

### **Attention - Families in Hull, Hingham, and Cohasset.**

We are fortunate to have a reliable and safe bus service run from Hull, Hingham, and Cohasset to the SSCPS in Norwell. If you are interested in having your child(ren) ride 1-way or round trip, this is the time to make arrangements. Deposits and contracts are due by June 15th. For prices, contracts, and additional information; please contact: Amy Lemkin, [amylemkin@gmail.com](mailto:amylemkin@gmail.com), 781-801-5557.

**Support our Veggie Van and purchase this special T-shirt.** We have a limited quantity of t-shirts available for \$10 each. We now have smaller youth sizes and adult XL. Contact Tara Turner at [tturner@sscps.org](mailto:tturner@sscps.org).

### **We are looking to go it again! Wanted! a donated DIESEL van!**

It would need to be one of the following:

#### **FORD**

1986-89 6.9L diesel (some have aftermarket turbos which are good)

1990-1993.5 7.3L NON powerstroke

1994-1997/8 1st generation powerstroke

1999-2002 2nd generation powerstroke

**Chevrolet** 1980s-2002 (unless it has a Duramax engine)

If you or if you know of someone who may be interested in please contact Tara Turner at 781-982-4202 x 331 or [tturner@sscps.org](mailto:tturner@sscps.org).

## HEALTH OFFICE

Please pick-up any medication your child may have in the health office before the end of the year. All medication that is left in the health office after June 18<sup>th</sup> 2009 will be disposed of.

Lynn Bethal (SSCPS parent) DPH Director of Oral Health, has completed the Smart Smiles dental screening program. If your child participated in the program on June 5th a letter with the results was sent home with your child. Thank you Lynn for bringing this great program to our school. We hope to see you again next year!!

## 7-12 PRINCIPAL REPORT

As the school year winds to a close, it is appropriate to give thanks for all the support this school community gives. Time and time again this community has rallied to work together to resolve a situation placed before it. Rather than take time to thank individuals and risk leaving deserving people off the list, I would like to thank the entire South Shore Charter School community.

On a personal level, I want to thank everyone for inviting me into this community. I have worked in other schools and districts where words like community are used to describe the school and its people, but I have never experienced the close knit feel that is South Shore. Whether it is the day to day events that occur in the operation of the school, the many meetings outside of school involving students, parents, faculty, and staff, working with the Board of Trustees, Parent Association, or Education Committee, or social events like Founders' Day and the Auction, the commitment and dedication to the school and its mission by our community inspires us all, and it is this selfless dedication and commitment that helps us to persevere and leads us to want to serve others.

It is clear that our model for educating students K – 12 is worth championing. We have an excellent educational program that prepares our students to be successful in academics, service, and life. As we take time this summer to rest and prepare for the new school year, all of us should give thanks to being a part of this very caring and very special school community.

### Shout Outs

Congratulations to our graduating seniors:

**Alyse Algera**  
**James Dooner**  
**Kelly Garber**  
**Anna Hill**  
**Jordan Kellem**  
**Ashley O'Neill**  
**Kimi Salawu**  
**Andrew Tyler**

**Ryan Brenner**  
**Yuji Dubuisson**  
**Katina Goodridge**  
**Vanessa Jean Baptiste**  
**DaNice Marshall**  
**Kyle Prediger**  
**Thomas Smith**  
**Rebecca Zakrzewski**

**Jennifer Carmin**  
**Radley Emile**  
**Carly Hayes**  
**Jeffrey Jorgensen**  
**Olivia Mignosa**  
**Luke Ryan**  
**Kathleen Sullivan**

*Jim Connolly – (781)982-4202 – jconnolly@sscps.org*

## ON THE LEVELS

### SAYING OF THE WEEK:

Level 1: "Two heads are better than one

Level 2: "Bury the hatchet."

### BEFORE SCHOOL AND AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAMS FOR 2009-2010 SCHOOL YEAR!

Information and applications for the before school program with Judy Pritchard and the after school YMCA program are available in the front lobby or by contacting the Business Office at ext. 106.

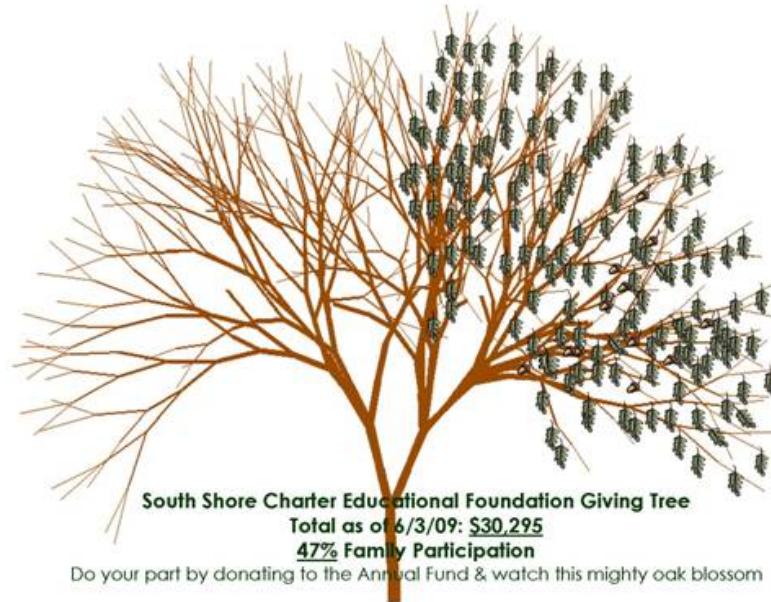
**VELMA'S MILKWEED PROJECT** visited the Magical Moon Farm in Marshfield and delivered the proceeds of the "Over the Moon for Marigolds" fundraiser. After weeding and replanting the memorial sunflower garden we planted for Alison Hayes last year, the children spread straw in the chicken yard, walked among the chickens, played on the climbing rope swings and decorated gingerbread men which they then devoured. A special thanks to Colleen Whittemore for help with acquiring the marigolds."

Artist and founder of the Magical Moon, Donna Green, accepted our check for \$500 with tears of gratitude in her eyes. She asked me to thank you all for your generosity. The beauty of the Magical Moon Foundation Farm is surely a great comfort to the children who are empowered by the gift of being a part of its magic.

**HIGH SCHOOL PROM PICTURES AVAILABLE! Click the following to view and order pictures.**  
<https://www.collages.net/consumersite/guestlogin.aspx?username=sscps+prom+2009&password=26970>

## FUNDRAISING & DEVELOPMENT CORNER

**Annual Fund – Keep the Participation Momentum Going!! Make Your Donation Today**



### 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Harvest Run – Online Registration is active!



The 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual SSCEF Harvest Run is underway! Online registration is active. Please click on the RunReg logo below to register early. Registration forms and sponsorship forms will be available this week.

**Don't forget OneCause!** To date, we have earned \$229 by just a few of us shopping through OneCause. We have already received a check! Download the toolbar & you won't forget! Money can be earned every day, all year long! Win a Dell Laptop by inviting your friends to OneCause!

[http://www.causeloyalty.com/oc\\_docs/school/Invite\\_Friends\\_Flyer\\_School.pdf](http://www.causeloyalty.com/oc_docs/school/Invite_Friends_Flyer_School.pdf)

## PARENTS ASSOCIATION

### 2009-10 PA Meeting Schedule

All meetings are held at the school and are the 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of the month, unless otherwise noted. Tuesday meetings run from 7p-9p and Saturday meetings run 10a-12p.

Sept 8 (2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday)  
Oct 3 (Saturday)  
Nov 3  
Dec 1  
Jan 5

Feb 6 (Saturday)  
March 2  
April 3 (Saturday)  
May 4  
June 1

**REMINDER:** to join the online SSCPS Parents Discussion Forum at GoogleGroups which is 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 join you can email the group owner at Blaire Schaefer-Flynn ([bschaeffe@gmail.com](mailto:bschaeffe@gmail.com)) or log onto <http://www.sscps.org/parents/parents-association/index.cfm>

## LIBRARY UPDATE

The South Shore Charter Public School Library has completed it's first successful year of being opened. We have had many students visit our library checking out many books with enthusiasm and excitement. The success of our library would not have been possible without the commitment of parent volunteers and high school students that volunteered their time to assists students during their visits to our library. Thank you for all of your help this past year.

We have been asked by families if the library takes donations. We are looking for donations on the following book series.

1. Goosebumps
2. June B . Jones
3. A Series of Unfortunate Events.

We are also looking for the following magazines.

1. Kids National Geographic
2. Kids Sports Illustrated

The Library Committee is looking for members next year. If you are interested on being on this Committee please email Beth Toma at [JToma85103@aol.com](mailto:JToma85103@aol.com). Have a great summer and see you in the fall.

*Library Committee*

## EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

### 2008-2009 Vacancies:

- **On-Call Substitute Teachers**
- **On-Call Substitute Teacher Aides**

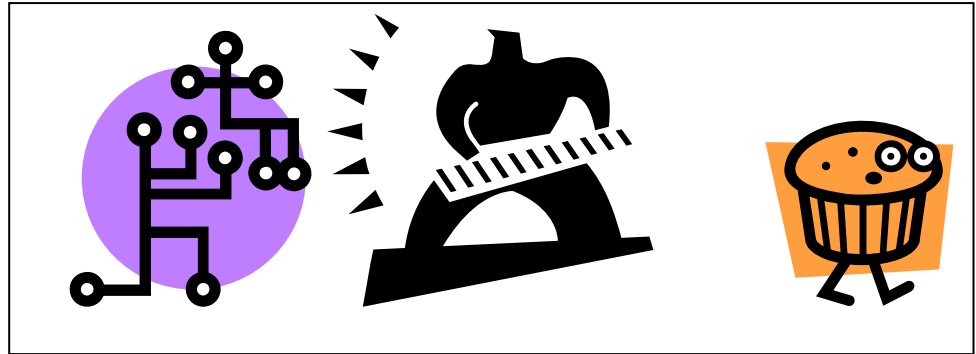
*Send cover letter, resume and list of references to Kristine Shipps, Business Manager.*

## COMMUNITY INTEREST

**Our Physical Education Teacher, Ashley Lorance**, will be participating in the Cohasset Triathlon on June 28. Ashley is racing as part of the team, Sarah's Soldiers. Sarah's Soldiers is a team of friends and family supporting Sarah Bast and the great efforts of the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation, or JDRF. The team's goal is to help support the JDRF in its efforts to find a cure for juvenile diabetes. Last year the team raised over \$33,000 as they participated and competed in the Cohasset Triathlon. They look to surpass that number this year and need your help. Your donations are greatly appreciated on behalf of Ashley and the entire Sarah's Soldiers team. Please visit [www.sarahsoldiers.com](http://www.sarahsoldiers.com) to learn more.

# SAVE THE DATE!!!

## SSCPS Welcome Back Picnic



**Who:** All members of the SSCPS community

**What:** An evening of fun, food and friends

**When:** Thursday, September 10, 2009 5p.m.-7p.m.

**Where:** SSCPS 100 Longwater Drive Norwell, MA

**Why:** See old friends

Meet new friends

Listen to the music of our very talented students

**How:** Bring your family

Bring a blanket or a chair

Bring a picnic dinner for your family

Bring an appetizer or dessert to share

Bring a smile

Please contact Kerry Griffin @ 781 878 3762 or  
rockgriff@verizon.net if you have any questions.