



Update
September 10, 2008
Vol. 9, Issue 2

Independence ~ Knowledge ~ Community

The Three Legged Stool . . .

According to Ted Hirsch, the founders of the school often used the metaphor of a three legged stool to describe the learning process at SSCPS. The three legs of the stool are the teacher, parent/guardian and the student. At other times, we have talked about the importance of partnering with families so that their children reach their maximum potential. In my first letter to parents a year ago, I referred to the statement in our strategic plan, “we need to reaffirm the triangle of support that includes teachers, parents and the student in a unified approach to fostering each student’s growth.” No matter how we state it – the role of the family is critical to our student’s achievement and personal growth at SSCPS. To all the families who attended the picnic, last evening’s Back to School Night for Levels II and III, and have signed up to volunteer in some capacity this year – thank you. You are making a difference not only in your son’s or daughter’s life, you are helping us to be all we can be as a school. To those families who were unable to attend the picnic, have children in the other levels, and/or have not volunteered --- please attend the upcoming Back-to-School nights to learn more about the curriculum, expectations, and setting academic and social goals for your student this year. Thursday, September 11, is the 7-12 Back to School Night and Tuesday, September 15 is the one for Level I. Also, we have scheduled the brief thirty minute volunteer information and orientation program for the next two Mondays, September 15 and 22 at 8:30 a.m. Parental involvement and engagement in our school is essential to academic achievement for all students!

Pick-up and New Car Seat Regulations

First, we would like to thank all drivers for their patience and their consideration of others when they wait in line, pick up their students, and slowly exit our lot. I continue to be amazed at how well we do given so many cars arriving and departing in a short span of time. We are off to a good start because of your support, understanding and cooperation.

Many of you may not be aware of the fact that a new law was passed requiring car seats in all cars and vans for children under the age of eight or less that 57” tall. For SSCPS, this new safety regulation required us to purchase twenty-five car seats for our vans. For parents and all drivers in the Commonwealth, this new law means that you must have car seats. In addition, there is the existing seatbelt law. We recently received an advisory from the Department of Public Safety asking us to adopt a new policy regarding seatbelts and safe driving on school grounds. Since it was only an advisory/recommendation and our parking lot is small in comparison to other schools, we have opted to place signs (drawn by our art students) that read: buckle up and hang up! For the safety of your passengers and all other vehicles, please follow these regulations that are the law in Massachusetts. We want everyone to be safe in our lot and on the road.

I hope to see everyone at either the Back-to-School nights, the Education Committee meeting this Monday (they are open to everyone), a volunteer orientation, or the next Development Summit on September 20th in Hull. If you have an extremely busy schedule and cannot make any of these meetings or if you have some ideas or concerns that you would like to share with me, just contact Pam Algera to set up an appointment.

This is your school!

Prue Goodale, Interim Executive Director

“How wonderful it is that nobody need wait a single moment before starting to improve the world”—Anne Frank (1929-1945), German-Dutch Diarist

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

Thursday	9/11	School Council (Postponed until October 9th)	
Thursday	9/11	Parent Back to School Night Level 4 and High School	6:00-7:30pm
Friday	9/12	Picture Day – Individual student and class photo’s	
Friday	9/12	SEPAC – Finagle-A-Bagel (Rt. 53 Norwell)	8:30am
Monday	9/15	Executive Committee Meeting – Panera Bread Hingham	7:45am
Tuesday	9/16	All School Picture and Bus Safety	10:00am
Tuesday	9/16	Students Grade 7-12 Workshops with MARC	
Tuesday	9/16	Level 1 Parent Back to School Night	6:00-7:30pm
Thursday	9/18	Professional Development Early Release Day	12:00pm

LUNCH ORDERS

Enclosed is the September Lunch Menu and Order form. All orders are to be received by Thursday, September 11th by 3pm.

K-6 PRINCIPAL’S REPORT

Yesterday afternoon we had the first meeting of the K- 6 faculty. We discussed the professional development that is planned for the upcoming year, as well as recalled the strategies and work that we accomplished last year. It was a wonderful meeting of give and take where my opening statements elicited clarification and refinement from the faculty. We ask our students to work in teams and to use their collective wisdom to produce better work (plays, gardens, quilts, meals, dances, or stores). I can imagine no better model for our students than the way our teachers and staff work together. I extend my gratitude towards all faculty and staff members for all of the hard work that has already taken place this year.

Last year for Professional Development we were all trained in the Skillful Teacher program. The program provided us with a common language that would assist everyone to talk about improving teaching and learning. The lesson is considered the central part of that training and we will continue to work on the lesson this year. We will focus on making sure that for each lesson we teach, we have a learning goal or objective in place. This principle of the lesson reminds me of the advice my father (a teacher) gave to me when I began to teach. He told me that he believed in the dramatic structure of teaching – that every class should have a beginning, middle and end. Today, I would also like to introduce you to this year’s professional development focus. We will work to develop a culture of writing in all of our classes, grades K-12. To help us achieve this important goal we will be working with Gerry Morris, a nationally known writing consultant, who lives right here on the South Shore.

Last night we held an Open House for Levels II and III. Approximately seventy parents and guardians attended as well as many children. At those meeting teachers and level coordinators gave in-depth information about what we do on each level. It was also an opportunity for us to get to know the parents and to begin to organize volunteers (thirty volunteers signed up to help) for a great school year ahead. It was a real family affair and we look forward to Level I’s Open House, which will be next Tuesday, September 16th. We hope you can come. If you were not able to attend the Open House last night please e-mail your child’s teacher to set up a goal setting meeting. A “Goal Setting Meeting” is a meeting each family should have with their child’s pod teacher to lay out the goals for the year so that we can work more effectively as a team to serve you and your child.

Ted Hirsch

ON THE LEVELS

SAYING OF THE WEEK:

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

Level 2: “Beauty is only skin deep”.

PARENTS ASSOCIATION

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."

LONGWATER TRANSPORT offers reliable and safe bus service from Hull, Hingham, and Cohasset to SSCPS. We offer 1-way and round trip options, and have several vacancies. This may be your opportunity to enroll your child(ren) on the bus. For further information, please contact: Cheryl Casey, ccasey@redtreeprod.com, 617-966-3339 or Amy Lemkin, amylemkin@comcast.net, 781-801-5557.

BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION - Please help our school earn extra money by collecting Box Tops for Education. Last year we earned over \$500 through the Box Tops program- all from parents clipping those little cardboard pieces! Box Tops can be found on hundreds of products, from Ziploc baggies and Kleenex tissues to Cheerios and Gogurt. Our school earns 10 cents for every Box Top we collect. The funds raised this year at our school will help develop our library. There is an envelope at the front desk where you can leave your Box Tops. Visit www.boxtops4education.com for more information about Box Tops, as well as recipes, coupons, and special offers. You can also earn money for our school by starting your online shopping at stores like Kohl's, Land's End, Wal-Mart, and more at the Box Tops website. A percentage of your total will be donated to our school. Box Tops do expire, so please check the date before you drop them off at school. If you have any questions about the program, please feel to contact Bethany at bwhitemyer@rcn.com. Thank you.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Immediate Part Time Openings:

Speech & Language Pathologist/Therapist (15-20 hours per week based on student needs)

Learning Service Teachers Aide

Anticipated 2008-2009 Coaching Vacancies:

Girls High School basketball

Middle School Boys basketball

Middle School Girls basketball

On-Call Substitute Teachers

On-Call Substitute Teacher Aides

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

COMMUNITY INTEREST

Girl Scouts will be starting the week of September 30/October 1. Meetings are held twice a month.

Tuesdays: Daisies (grades K-1) and Older girls (grades 4 and up); First meeting - September 30th;

Wednesdays: Brownies (grades 2-3) First meeting - October 1st. Our meetings run from 3:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. For information contact a troop leader. Dues: \$4.00 per meeting – 17 meetings - \$68.00. Financial aid is available. Daisy Troop Leader: Beth Farmer – H: (781) 826-2025; Email bfarmer12@verizon.net

Brownie Troop Leaders: Michelle Amicangelo – H: (781) 878-7710, Cell (781) 799-8098, Email –

Michelleamicangelo@verizon.net; Maureen Hebert – Cell (781) 837-8952, Email – mhebert@metlife.com ;

Stacey Kirves – Cell (617) 510-8888, Email - kirv4@yahoo.com Junior and Older Girl Troop Leaders: Stacy

Rousseau – H: (781) 961-4071, Cell (781) 727-9784; Email – faemoon3@gmail.com ; Justine Notarangelo –

H: (781) 982-8648, Cell (781) 985-4433, Email – Justine@Notarangelo.com

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Richie and Jonathan (Level IV) and Caroline (K) Boyle will be walking in the Alzheimer's Memory Walk on September 28 in Cambridge. The walk is to raise money for research and to find a cure for Alzheimer's. Our grandmother has Alzheimer's. We would like to help find a cure for her and other families like ours. If you would like to sponsor us, please see Richie, Jonathan or Caroline or email us at klb.rjc@verizon.net. Please make your donations payable to: Alzheimer's Association. If you want to join us or if you would like us to walk in someone's memory, please let us know. Thank you, The Boyle Family.

Lunch Menu – September 2008

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1 No School Labor Day	2 <i>Cheese Pizza</i>	3 Ham With American cheese, lettuce, tomato, pickle and oil	4 <i>Cheese Pizza</i>	5 Tuna Salad With lettuce and tomato
8 <i>Roast Beef</i> With American cheese and mustard	9 <i>Cheese Pizza</i>	10 BLT Bacon, Lettuce and Tomato with mayonnaise	11 <i>Cheese Pizza</i>	12 Tossed Salad With Italian dressing and pita bread
15 Chicken Salad With lettuce and tomato	16 <i>Cheese Pizza</i>	17 Turkey With American cheese, lettuce, tomato and mayo	18 Early Release NO LUNCH	19 Tuna Salad With lettuce and tomato
22 <i>Italian Cold Cuts</i> With Provolone cheese, lettuce, tomato, pickle and oil	23 <i>Cheese Pizza</i>	24 BLT Bacon, Lettuce and Tomato with mayonnaise	25 <i>Cheese Pizza</i>	26 Greek Salad With Greek dressing and pita bread
29 Ham With American cheese, lettuce, tomato, pickle and oil	30 Cheese Pizza	10/1 <i>Roast Beef</i> With American cheese and mustard	10/2 Cheese Pizza	10/3 Tuna Salad 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 \$2.50. 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 September 2008
Due to the office by 3:00 pm, Thursday, September 11, 2008

Student Name _____

Pod Teacher/Advisor _____ Grade _____

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

Week of 9/15 – 9/19	<input type="checkbox"/> Monday Sub ½ sub Wheat	<input type="checkbox"/> Tuesday Pizza #_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Wednesday Sub ½ sub Wheat	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Thursday Early Release	<input type="checkbox"/> Friday Sub ½ sub Wheat
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Week of 9/22– 9/26	<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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Week of 9/29– 10/3	<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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Number of Subs/Wheat ordered	_____	X	\$5.00
Number of ½ subs ordered	_____	X	\$3.00
Number of Pizza Slices ordered	_____	X	\$1.75
Number of Salads	_____	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 \$2.50. A note from the office will go home that afternoon for reimbursement.