



Update
November 19, 2008
Vol. 11, Issue 3

Independence ~ Knowledge ~ Community

Honoring Excellence

Last Friday was a very special day at SSCPS: we inducted seven new members into the National Honor Society and recognized Level IV and High School students for their academic achievements. At their respective town meetings, almost 50% of the Level IV and High School students were recognized for making either the regular or high honor roll. This is a first for SSCPS. As you know, last spring the school administration and School Council recommended that the passing grade for Level III, IV and the high school be raised from 60 to 70. While the faculty and staff knew that we were doing the right thing for our students by making this change, we did not know how what the first quarter grades would be with the new requirement. Kudos to all of the students for their hard work and thank you parents for your encouragement and guidance of your sons and daughters. The three legged stool at work!

In addition to announcing the honor roll, we had the Induction Ceremony into the National Honor Society for this year. As I stated in my remarks to the inductees and the student body, "this Induction Ceremony is one of the most important events at SSCPS because membership is truly an honor and an achievement. Members are selected by the faculty committee based not only upon their outstanding scholarship, but also on their character, leadership, and service to the school and larger community." Kathy Campbell, Honor Society advisor, coordinated and hosted this special event. Congratulations to Corinne Bowker-Kelly, Evan Davis-Drennan, Kristin Cheney, Alana Greene, Olivia Mignosa, Shawn O'Leary, and Shanna Sobol.

Monitoring, Measuring and Assessing Student Progress

Over the past several weeks, teachers in Levels II, III, IV, and the high school have been working together to develop formative assessments in English and math. We devoted much of the November 4 professional development day as well as some time during Level meetings for our teachers to learn more about formative assessments and then work together to design the first of four quarterly assessments. Before we wrote the tests, all of the staff reviewed three articles on the purpose of formative assessment. There are two major types of assessments used in schools today, summative and formative. As a staff, we used the following definitions: "**Summative Assessments** are given periodically to determine at a particular point in time what students know and do not know. The key is to think of summative assessment as a means to gauge, at a particular point in time, student learning relative to content standards. . . . **Formative Assessment** is part of the instructional process. When incorporated into classroom practice, **it provides the information needed to adjust teaching and learning while they are happening**. In this sense, formative assessment informs both teachers and students about student understanding at a point when timely adjustments can be made. These adjustments help to ensure that students achieve targeted standards-based learning goals within a set time frame. . . ."

This Monday, students in grades five through ten took English and math formative assessment tests designed by our teachers. The test questions were based upon the material that the students have been studying this fall and the test design mirrored the MCAS – multiple choice and open response questions. Over the next few days, teachers will discuss the test results with their students and conference with them. Equally as important, the teachers and Level Coordinators will use the test results to make decisions about what topics and skills they need to emphasize more (or less) this marking period and identify which students may need additional instruction and support to succeed. While the teachers will be "scoring" the results and the information from the assessments will be used to track individual and whole group progress throughout the year, teachers will **not** be grading and returning the assessments or using the results as part of students' grades for the second quarter. We will be discussing the importance of formative assessments, why so many schools use them, and why we believe that, in the long run, these assessments will help our students perform better on the MCAS tests at the 2nd Quarter Coffee Hours.

Reminders:

- **Board of Trustee’s Meeting, Thursday, November 20 at 7:00 p.m.**
- **Parent Association Fundraising Committee Meeting, Tuesday, November 25 at 6:00 p.m. – Open to parents, faculty, staff, Board of Trustees, and Foundation Board members**
- **2nd Quarter Coffee Hour for Level IV and High School: Tuesday, December 9, 8:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. Note: the other Coffee Hours will be in January**
- **Grandparents and Special Friends Day for Level I-III, Wednesday, December 10 from 10:00 a.m. to Noon**

Best Wishes for a joyful Thanksgiving for family and friends from all of us at SSCPS.

There will be no Update next week.

Prue Goodale, Interim Executive Director

“What we’re really talking about is a wonderful day set aside on the fourth Thursday of November when no one diets. I mean, why else would they call it Thanksgiving?” ~Erma Bombeck

Weds & Thurs	11/19 & 11/20	Book Fair to benefit the library	8am-2pm
Thursday	11/20	Education Committee	3:45pm
Thursday	11/20	Personnel Committee	5:00pm
Thursday	11/20	Finance Committee	6:00pm
Thursday	11/20	SEPAC Workshop	7:00pm
Thursday	11/20	BOT Special and Regular Meeting	7:00pm
Friday	11/21	K-6 1st Trimester Ends	
Friday	11/21	SEPAC	8:30am
Saturday	11/22	SSCPS Campus Leaf Clean-up	8am-12pm
Tuesday	11/25	Governance Committee	5:00pm
Tuesday	11/25	Fundraising Committee – see invitation for more details	6:00pm
Wednesday	11/26	Early Release Day	12:00pm
Thurs & Fri	11/27 & 11/28	Thanksgiving Break– No School	
Save the date	Weds 12/17	SSCPS Annual Winter Concert	6:00pm

**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**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SSCPS Campus Leaf Clean-up Saturday, November 22nd 8am-12pm

Bring your rakes and earn community service for helping rake and bag the leaves at the SSCPS campus.

ATTENTION ALL PARENTS OF STUDENTS K-6 - Please check your child’s backpack today for the Grandparents & Special Friends Day flyer. The RSVP portion of the flyer needs to be completed & returned by December 1st.

CALLING ALL CHEFS, BAKERS AND PURCHASERS!!!!

The PA will be having a Holiday Luncheon for the teachers on December 10. This is a half day for the students. They will be dismissed at 12:00 pm.

We need main dishes, appetizers, salads, desserts, drinks and paper products. The items can be dropped off when you pick up your child or I can make arrangements with you. If something needs to be warmed, we can make arrangement for that also. If you would like to donate any of these items or have any questions, please let me know at klb.rjc@verizon.net.

The teacher's really enjoy these luncheons and are very excited about it. They love all kinds of different foods and appreciate the wonderful dishes that SSCPS parents bring.

Karen Boyle, Parent of Caroline (K), Jonathan and Richie (level IV)

LUNCH ORDERS

Enclosed is the Order Form for the remainder of November which is due Thursday, November 20th by 3pm. Also enclosed is the December Menu and Order Form.

Please Note: December orders are due **Wednesday, November 26th at 12pm.**

ATHLETICS

SKI CLUB VOLUNTEERS NEEDED! All parents interested in becoming a volunteer chaperone for ski club must contact Heather Fredette by Friday November 21st. You **MUST** have your name on the chaperone list in order to ski and eat for free, so please contact Heather. (For any parent who may only be interested in going up once, or is simply considering it at this point, please make sure your name is on the list!) Heather can be reached at HFredette@sscps.org or 781-982-4202 Ext.303

The **JAGUARS SOCCER** teams have wrapped up their season of play with two impressively competitive soccer squads.

- The **Middle School** ended their season in early November with a strong win over Salem Academy. They had a very successful season with only two losses on their record.
- The **High School** team was also successful this season. They made the MCSAO tournament seeded fourth out of fourteen. The Jaguars played a strong AMSA team and despite a great game fell just short 2-1, with a late goal by AMSA.

BASKETBALL SEASON is just around the corner! Practices will begin after Thanksgiving. Anyone who is in Level IV or High School and is interested in playing basketball this season will need to fill out an athletic permission form and return it before practices begin. They can be found with your level coordinator or at the athletic office. All athletes must also have up to date physicals into the nurse before participation.

K-6 PRINCIPAL REPORT

Later this evening I will get on a plane and fly to California to attend and speak at the 20th Annual Core Knowledge Conference. One week ago I was on a beach in Scituate gathering seaweed with a group of second graders from Elise Lovejoy's Garden Project. We were gathering the seaweed to put on the students' garden at Holly Hill Farm. We gathered two pick-up trucks of seaweed. The adults did lift the barrels into the trucks but nearly every bit of the gathered seaweed that filled those two trucks was picked up by seven and eight year old students. It was a glorious day of work and accomplishment.

Many people from the outside have not understood how the ideas in the preceding paragraph go together, but at South Shore they fit perfectly. Those of us who send our children here and teach here understand the connection of Core Knowledge with Projects because we have experienced the power of both. It is only from a narrow view or categorization of their pedagogical/ideological positions that they seem to be polar opposites, Core Knowledge as very traditional and projects as progressive. I would like to describe why I see these two elements of our school as seamless. Both the project based model and the Core Knowledge model strive to teach students about the world. Both are attempts to engage students in the world that is; attempts to teach children to know the world and to love the world. At SSCPS we do not attempt to protect children from and shield them from work and toil or the realities of life. Both ideas of education, when successful, contextualize learning so that children feel empowered and important.

Core Knowledge is a connected series of narratives that explains the world to children. From the start in Kindergarten we teach students about the realities of life, whether that reality is how milk comes from a cow, or that when Columbus came to these shores it was not all good. These stories are told in ways that make moral and ethical choices a part of the narrative. They are also told as connected stories because it is through stories and connection that we remember. The joy begins in the relationships between the students and the caring but it is also the inherent interest of what we are teaching that makes school fun.

In closing I want to tell a small story about the lunch I had a week ago after gathering seaweed with Elise Lovejoy's students. Bill Tramontana, the second graders and I were sitting in an area protected from the wind under olive trees when my father in law Ben Lacy walked by. The students had helped Ben by bringing seaweed to Ben's garden. He came by to thank us for our work. After he left, I told the students that Ben was 82 years old, though he looks far younger because of his exceptional health. Soon the conversation among us turned to death and people the students had known who had died. The children were earnest, respectful and eager to learn from each other. We talked in stillness and mutual interest for about twenty minutes. To me the value of the project model became manifest by that conversation and was highlighted when a boy who had worked with diligence and energy said how sad he was for his father because he had lost his father when he was a young boy. We want our children to appreciate the world, each other and their own effort and accomplishment and on this day we certainly did all three.

Ted Hirsch - (781) 982-

4202 - thirsch@sscps.org

ON THE LEVELS

SAYING OF THE WEEK:

Level 1: "Great oaks from little acorns grow."

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

The ENGINEERING THE FUTURE CLASS is building model sustainable cities of the future. If you could help us by donating some of the following materials found around your house, we would all be very appreciative!

- *Blue and green paint
- *Glue sticks
- *Game pieces from games missing parts such as small cars, trees etc
- *Aluminum foil
- *markers of various colors
- *Cardboard paper towel rolls
- *Small paint brushes
- *Construction paper (various colors)
- *Other small odds and ends

Thank you, Joan and the Block A Engineering the Future Class

SEPAC

SEPAC Committee will hold their first workshop on **Basic Rights on Thursday, November 20, 2008 from 7:00pm to 9:00 pm.** This workshop will review all rights students have on special educational plans. Jo Feldman, Director of Learning Services at the SSCPS will be presenting this workshop. If you are interested in attending this workshop please email Beth Toma at JToma85103@aol.com.

SUPPORTING SSCPS

HANNAFORD'S SHOP FOR SCHOOLS - HURRY! DECEMBER 4TH IS THE LAST DAY!

We are currently partnered with the Hannaford Supermarket in Norwell in the "Hannaford's Helps Schools" program. This is an amazing program where Hannaford's gives money to local schools that have been designated by their shoppers. For every 4 participating products purchased, Hannaford's will give \$3 to our school. At checkout, a coupon will print out after your receipt - be sure to check, as some cashiers may not tell you it's there. Take that coupon & put it in the SSCPS slot (it is the #1 slot on the rack) At this time we are only registered at the Norwell store. In the future, we can sign up at more stores that our families frequent. Let's see if we can rake in a lot more cash in the next few weeks! Hurry though, the promotion ends on December 4th. Download the list below to find the participating products. It's easier than you think. These are products many of use every day. http://www.hannaford.com/hhs/pdfs/hhs_products.pdf.

A SHOPPING CHALLENGE FOR EVERYONE! \$235 worth of local restaurant gift certificates for \$18.60!!

Here's how:

Register at www.onecause.com and choose South Shore Charter Public School as your designated school.

Click on "shop" and find Restaurant.com

Go to Restaurant.com and enter your zip code.

Choose your gift certificates & at checkout, enter "SURPRISE" for 80% off.

*Be sure to check out the special requirements for each. They usually require a minimum purchase or may be only certain days/nights.

And the best part. 12.5% of each purchase goes to SSCPS! Alright, so 12.5% of \$18 may not be huge, but if many of us do it, it will certainly add up!

Here's a peak at what I got: \$50 Alfredo's GC, \$25 Hajjar's Bar & Grille GC, \$50 Generations GC, \$25 GC to the Jury Room, Cela's \$50 GC, \$10 Mandarin King GC, Main Street Grille \$25 GC. All for \$18.60! I have used gift certificates from Restaurant.com in the past & have had great success. If, for some reason, a restaurant closes or is no longer honoring the gift certificate, they will contact Restaurant.com, who will give you a credit for another gift certificate.

Remember to tell family & friends to shop through www.onecause.com and choose SSCPS to support. If you have any questions about the One Cause program, please contact me: gcalos@sscps.org

PARENTS ASSOCIATION

LOST & FOUND ITEMS! Thank you to parent Maura Longueil for taking photos of some of the many lost and found items at the school. If your child has a missing item click on the link to view items that have been found!
<http://picasaweb.google.com/mauralongueil/LostFound>

BOOK FAIR TO BENEFIT THE SSCPS LIBRARY

Wednesday, November 19th & Thursday, November 20th. 8:00am – 2:00pm in the lobby

Don't have any spare time to do your holiday shopping? Get your shopping done & help out the school at the same time. Please join us for the SSCPS Book Fair, brought to you by *Storybook Cove, Hanover*

BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION - Thank you to everyone who has submitted Box Tops for Education this year. We have already earned over \$200 this school year. Please keep them coming! Most Level One students received a Box Top collection sheet a few weeks ago. Remember to return them to school by October 31. A new collection sheet will be given out next month to help you save your Box Tops. If you have any questions about the Box Top program please email Bethany Whitemyer at bwhitemyer@rcn.com.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

2008-2009 Vacancies:

Part time (28 hour) Title 1 Reading Tutor (reading certified)

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 Shipp, Business Manager.

Buy your ☺ 9 Yearbook!!!

- Go to Jostensyearbook.com to purchase
 - \$40.00 pre-sale till December 11th
 - For more information and questions contact Jared in room 303 or ext. 316.
-

Take 1 hour to find out how YOU can help improve your Childs education!

The South Shore Charter Parents Association requests your attendance

FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE MEETING

Tuesday, November 25th * 6pm SHARP - 7pm SHARP

Location: South Shore Charter

THE FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE WANTS TO GIVE BACK!

Help us respect your time - arrive to the meeting before 5:55pm
and you will be entered to win a

\$25 Gift Certificate to Hannaford's!

If you attend one fundraising meeting this year, make it this one!

- Current Fundraising Events will be discussed
- Proposed 2008-09 Fundraising Strategy will be unveiled

Lend your voice in shaping the future of fundraising at SSCPS

Find out how YOU can make a difference * Join us in making this the biggest year yet!

EVERYONE ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND - WE NEED HELP AT ALL LEVELS!

Can you spare full time help, part time help or only a few hours?

NO HELP IS TOO SMALL!

Look for a detailed agenda in the coming days

Lunch Order Form
 Lunch for the Month of November, 2008
Due to the office by 3:00 pm, Thursday, November 20, 2008

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Wednesday	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Thursday	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Friday
11/24 – 11/28		Sub		Pizza		Early Release		No School		No School
		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	\$1.75
Number of Salads ordered	_____	X	\$3.00
<i>Less credit due</i>			_____
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 \$2.75. **For Level I and II a Lunchable will be provided.** A note from the office will go home that afternoon for reimbursement.*

Lunch Menu – December, 2008

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1 <i>Chicken Salad</i> With lettuce and tomato	2 <i>Cheese Pizza</i>	3 <i>BLT</i> Bacon, lettuce and tomato with mayo	4 <i>Cheese Pizza</i>	5 <i>Tuna Salad</i> With lettuce and tomato
8 <i>Turkey and American Cheese</i> With lettuce, tomato and mayo	9 <i>Cheese Pizza</i>	10 Early Release No Lunch Prof. Dev. Day	11 <i>Cheese Pizza</i>	12 <i>Tossed Salad</i> With Italian dressing and pita bread
15 <i>Italian Cold Cuts</i> With Provolone cheese, lettuce, tomato, pickle and oil	16 <i>Cheese Pizza</i>	17 <i>Roast Beef</i> With American cheese and mustard	18 <i>Cheese Pizza</i>	19 <i>Tuna Salad</i> With lettuce and tomato
22 <i>Ham</i> With American cheese and mustard	23 Early Release No Lunch Vacation Begins	24 No School	25 No School	26 No School

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, yogurt, a fruit bar and Milk will be provided at the cost of \$1.75. For Level I and II a Lunchable and Milk will be provided for the cost of 2.75. A note from the office will go home that week for reimbursement.

Lunch Order Form
 Lunch for the Month of December, 2008
Due to the office by 12:00 pm, Wednesday, November 26, 2008

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
12/1 – 12/5	Sub	Pizza	Sub	Pizza	Sub
	½ sub	# _____	½ sub	# _____	½ sub
	Wheat		Wheat		Wheat

Week of	<input type="checkbox"/> Monday	<input type="checkbox"/> Tuesday	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Wednesday	<input type="checkbox"/> Thursday	<input type="checkbox"/> Friday
12/8 – 12/12	Sub	Pizza	No Lunch	Pizza	Salad
	½ Sub	# _____		# _____	
	Wheat				

Week of	<input type="checkbox"/> Monday	<input type="checkbox"/> Tuesday	<input type="checkbox"/> Wednesday	<input type="checkbox"/> Thursday	<input type="checkbox"/> Friday
12/15 – 12/19	Sub	Pizza	Sub	Pizza	Sub
	½ sub	# _____	½ sub	# _____	½ sub
	Wheat		Wheat		Wheat

Week of	<input type="checkbox"/> Monday	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tuesday	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Wednesday	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Thursday	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Friday
12/22 – 12/26	Sub	Early	No School	No School	No School
	½ sub	Release			
	Wheat				

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 ordered	_____	X	\$3.00
<i>Less credit due</i>			_____
Total Amount Enclosed			\$ _____

Cash or Checks may be made out to SSCPS.

Choice of whole 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 yogurt, a fruit bar and Milk will be provided at the cost of \$1.75 For Level I and II a Lunchable will be provided at the cost of \$2.75. A note from the office will go home that afternoon for reimbursement.



Community Coffee

December 4, 2008

The North Community Church

72 Old Main St.

Marshfield Hills, MA

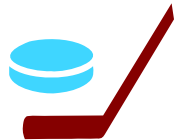


Bumps, Hits and Shake Ups in Youth Sports: Effect on Academic and Athletic Performance: An Overview for Parents

Has your child had a concussion? Concerned about brain injuries in youth sports? Join us for an informative program on current research that will help protect your child!

9:00-9:30 AM: Welcome and Coffee

9:30-10:30 AM: Program Content



Presenters:

Janet Kent, MD

Medical Director, Rehabilitation Services

South Shore Hospital

Catherine Brown RN, BSN, MSN, ONC, CLNC

Injury Prevention Coordinator

Trauma Services

South Shore Hospital

Registration is required for this *free* program, call Karin Farrell at 781-794-7849 or karin_farrell@sshosp.org

We build strong kids, strong families, strong communities.



South Shore YMCA

Teen Fridays In November

Every Friday from 6:30 -9:30 PM
the South Shore YMCA offers activities for teens.



Spotlight Events:

11/7 **Zumba 6:30 - 7:30 pm studio 3**
Jewelry Making 7-8 pm art room
Capture the Flag 7- 8:30 pm gym
Dance Par-Tay 8 - 9:30 pm art room

11/14 **Dodge Ball 7- 8:30 pm gym**
Performance Workshop 7:30 - 9:30 pm art room

11/21 **Zumba 6:30 - 7:30 pm studio 3**
“Last Bag Bracelet” 7-8 pm art room
Ultimate Frisbee 7- 8:30 pm gym
Dance Par-Tay 8- 9:30 pm art room

11/28 **Soccer Challenge 7- 8:30 pm gym**
Performance Workshop 7:30 - 9:30 pm art room

11/7
Bring in **non-perishable** food items & get extra Teen Friday Reward Points toward prizes. Food donations go to the Hanover Food Pantry.

**Free
Pizza
11/7**

Find What Moves You

Every Friday Night:

Free Weights 7-8 pm “Ask Sean”
Mixed Martial Arts 7:30-8:30 pm studio 2
Indoor Cycling 7:30-8:30 pm cycling studio
Open Gym, Swim & Cardio 6:30- 9:30 pm

Teen Friday events are free to members and \$5 for non-members. Participants must be 12 or older. Come 10 times & get a prize. Be sure to wear work-out gear if trying the active stuff.

For more information contact Karen at 781-829-8585 x335
Check us out on Facebook at SSYMCA Teens.