



Update
December 17, 2008
Vol. 12, Issue 3

Independence ~ Knowledge ~ Community

E.D. Hirsch, Jr. presentation on Core Academic Knowledge

Last evening, Ted, Jim Connolly, and Jo Loughnane, Board of Trustees member and one of SSCPS's founders, and I attended a special two hour forum in Boston sponsored by The Center for School Reform at the Pioneer Institute, the Program on Education Policy and Governance at Harvard University, and MassInc. The program included brief remarks from former State Senate President Tom Birmingham and a panel of educators that included former Board of Education Chair, James Peyser, and Sandra Stotsky, current member of the Board of Education. The highlight of the evening and keynote speaker was Ted's Dad, E. D. Hirsch, Jr. In his remarks, Dr. Hirsch commended Massachusetts' for its high standards and content rich curriculum frameworks. He pointed out that our students have consistently ranked in the top three in reading, mathematics and science on national tests such as the NAEP (National Assessment of Educational Progress) and TIMSS (Trends in International Math and Science Study).international tests. Dr. Hirsch attributed much of Massachusetts' success to having developed standards-based state-wide frameworks and assessments (MCAS) that test students on their knowledge of those content standards. It was wonderful to hear Ted's Dad speak again on a topic that he is so passionate about--the importance of core academic knowledge.

Ipods, Nintendo DS Devices, Play Station Portables (PSPs)

The proliferation of electronic devices such as Ipods, DS, MP3 players, and PSPs is becoming a problem and a distraction at school. Teachers and Level Coordinators are concerned that more and more of their time in Levels III, IV and the High School is being taken up with dealing with issues relating to these devices. Today, a staff member asked me if I could alert parents about this problem and make a request that the students leave them at home. We would really appreciate it if you would have your son or daughter leave these entertainment devices at home. Unfortunately, if the problem continues, we may have to recommend a complete ban on all of these devices at the next School Council meeting. Last week, Claire Overlee, Level III Coordinator, and Angie Pepin, Level IV Coordinator, attended a MARC Conference on Cyber bullying last week. They both were so troubled by what they learned about the problem in this state and across the country that they are working on a program for all Level III and Level IV parents on Cyberbullying and other issues pertaining to electronic devices. The evening program will be in mid-January. Look for the date and more details in the January 7th Update.

Happy Holidays from SSCPS Staff

This is our last Update for 2008. All of us at SSCPS wish everyone an enjoyable, refreshing, relaxing, and healthy December break.

See you in 2009!

Prue Goodale, Interim Executive Director

"If we had no winter, the spring would not be so pleasant: if we did not sometimes taste of adversity, prosperity would not be so welcome." – Anne Bradstreet

Wednesday	12/17	SSCPS Annual Winter Concert Hingham High School	6:00pm
Thursday	12/18	Education Committee	3:45pm
Thursday	12/18	Personnel Committee	5:00pm
Thursday	12/18	Finance Committee	6:00pm
Thursday	12/18	Board of Trustees	7:00pm
Friday	12/19	SEPAC	8:30am
Friday	12/19	Level II Roman Play Performance	1:45pm
Monday	12/22	High School Art Workshop Fashion Walk	2:00pm
Tuesday	12/23	Level I, II & III Craft Day	
Tuesday	12/23	Early Release Day	12:00pm
Holiday Break		Wednesday, December 24 – Friday, January 2	
Monday	01/05	Classes Resume	8:15am

**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

LOST & FOUND ITEMS! Thank you to parent Maura Longueil for taking photos 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/!h/sredir?uname=mauralongueil&target=ALBUM&id=5266015966413886145&authkey=PQmA59q4DDY&feat=email>

MBTA STUDENT PASSES - Starting in January 2009 the school can offer discounted MBTA Student Passes for \$20 per month. There is a 5 student minimum in order to place an order with the MBTA. These passes will need to be pre-ordered and pre-paid through the Business Office at SSCPS by Dec. 15th. If you would like your child to receive a pass, please call Kristine Shipps at 781-982-4202x106 to reserve a pass for January. All checks should be made payable to SSCPS in the amount of \$20.00 and due by Dec.15th.

LUNCH ORDERS

Enclosed is the Menu and Order Form for the month of January. Orders are due Thursday, December 18th by 3:00pm.

7-12 PRINCIPAL REPORT

Last Wednesday afternoon Level IV and high school faculty met with Jerry Morris for the final Writing Across the Curriculum training session. Jerry has been working with all teachers at SSCPS this year training staff on the five types of writing outlined in the Collin's writing program. Type One writing is used to get students to think and put their ideas on paper; type two writing is used to check for understanding; type three writing employs focus correction areas (FACs) to develop specific content knowledge and specific writing skills; type four writing uses peer editing for correcting writing; and, type five writing requires students to produce quality writing, writing that is publishable and can go outside the classroom without explanation or qualification. Through three formal presentations and numerous classroom visits, where Jerry modeled writing lessons for students and teachers, all teachers have been taught how to use these types of writing assignments in their class instruction.

By adopting a writing program K – 12, faculty and staff at SSCPS now have shared guidelines to aid all our students in improving writing skills. All teachers will use writing assignments in their classes to help students to develop clarity in their thinking and communicate efficiently and effectively.

Tuesday, December 23 is an early dismissal day at SSCPS. Besides a shortened day, high school students, faculty, and staff will experience a changed schedule, as we rotate through a morning of health awareness workshops. Five workshops will be available. The workshops will be on AIDS Awareness, Nutrition Awareness, Harassment, Stress Management, and Net-Etiquette. Students will choose four from the five workshops to attend.

Shout Outs

Thanks to **Carlee Russell** and **Rossy Herrera-Maldonado** for their work on the Toys for Tots drive. Toys have been received from students, parents, and faculty at all grade levels. It is wonderful to see that at a time when donations across the state are down and demand is high our community is so giving.

Once again the high school had a wonderful semi formal and once again the Norwell Police detail assigned to the dance recognized and commended our students for the way they comported themselves.

Jackie Perry, Yolanda Patten, Jonathan Hagberg and **Stacy Tchouanguem** did an outstanding job through the Social Action Club gathering clothing for hurricane relief in Haiti. The students organized a contest between the high school advisories to see who could raise the most clothing. **Mary Ellen Cole's** advisory gathered the most clothing. Students **Sarah Martin, Kolin Perry,** and **Julyana Rodarte** were recognized as the three individual students who gathered the most clothing items.

Four student athletes received MCSAO all league recognition for their play in soccer. Congrats to: **Sarah Martin, Breighanna Weed, Luke Ryan** and **Kyle Algera.**

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

ART NEWS

The **Original Works** orders have been distributed to the classrooms. If there are any problems please contact **Marianne** in the Art Room directly at x304.

The high school's **Art Workshop** is presenting its annual **Fashion Walk**. High school students have created a piece of apparel which will be displayed on live models on **Monday, Dec. 22, 2pm**. If you are planning on attending please call Marianne at x304 for a reserved seat. The entire high school and some other classes attend and seating is at a premium. We would like advanced notice so that we may provide you with a chair in our guest section. This Fashion Walk was very well received last year and has been requested by our administration to be made into an annual event. The students will be presenting their pieces as their EOM, in front of a panel of judges. We hope that you can attend our Fashion Walk and get a glimpse of what the high school Art Workshop does.

There has been a great deal of interest in the middle school **Art Club**. At present, we are working in conjunction with the **Arts and Humanities Director, Kim Engle**, at the **YMCA**, to get a shared grant to provide funding. Stay tuned in for update when you return in January.



December 2008 College Acceptances

Ryan Brenner

Alaska Pacific University

Kelly Garber

University of Arizona

Andrew Tyler

*Clemson University
Colorado College of Mines*

ON THE LEVELS

LEVEL II THANK YOU! The Level II teachers were the thrilled recipients of a gorgeous flower arrangement last week! We would like to express our sincere appreciation to the anonymous sender for this thoughtful gesture!

LEVEL IV TOYS FOR TOTS DRIVE! The Literary Magazine of Level IV is taking part in the 2008 Toys for Tots Foundation toy drive. We are asking for donations of new, unopened toys, no stuffed animals or pillows. The drop off location will be in Angie's Room #202 on Level IV. The toys will be given to underprivileged children in the state of Massachusetts. The Toys for Tots program wishes to play an active role in the development of one of our nations most valuable natural resources – our children; to unite all members of local communities in a common cause for three months each year during the annual toy collection and distribution campaign; and to contribute to better communities in the future. We would appreciate it very much if you contributed to our drive from December 5th -19th. Thank you! If you have any questions please contact either Carlee Russell or Rossy Herrera in the Literary Magazine Project.

THANK YOU UNICEF DONORS! To those who kindly donated money to Trick-or-Treat for UNICEF, we would like to give special thanks. Congratulations for raising \$300.00 for the cause. Thank you again and we look forward to organizing Trick-or-Treat for UNICEF next year.

HIGH SCHOOL NEWS:

VEGGIE VAN The Environmental and Animal Workshop is continuing to work on our veggie van. This week we have built a shed, set up a filtration system and obtained an oil sponsor! This Friday, our project is hosting a veggie van demonstration for our veggie van VIPs. This group will include our benefactor Evan Whitemeyer (Summits for Our School) and Nancy Shaffer-Flynn who has provided us with introductions to potential sponsors, including our newest oil source, Vin and Eddies. Others will include Prue Goodale (Executive Director), James Connolly (Principal), Kristine Shipps (Business Manager) and Lawrence Perrera (Cape Green Auto). The Patriot Ledger will be here to report the event. Videographer, Daneil Breilman will also be filming the occasion. Mr. Breilman has been taping this project ever since Evan's inspirational climb. We are still looking for a few more sources to help power our van. Please contact Tara Turner or Nancy Shaffer-Flynn with any suggestions.

Be sure to stop in and thank our newest sponsor, Vin and Eddies, located on 1400 Bedford Street in Abington. Visit their website, www.vin-eddies.com.

Red Ribbons for Sale! My name is Jennifer Carmin, and I'm a 12th grader in the high school. I'm a member of the Biology Workshop, and my individual project is HIV/AIDS. December 1st marked the start of HIV/AIDS Awareness month. This month I will be selling red ribbons for a dollar or more donation. You can stop by Tara's Project (Room 107 in the High School) to buy a ribbon. I will also make rounds through the various levels. The money will be going to the Ugandan organization called IDAAC. This is a non profit organization that helps Ugandan men, women, and children with HIV/AIDS. If you any questions please stop by or e-mail us at tturner@sscps.org. Thanks for your support! Jennifer Carmin & Tara Turner - - Biology Workshop

SUPPORTING SSCPS

EARN MONEY FOR SSCPS WHILE YOU SHOP! Here's how:

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

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

Thank you to everyone for another successful teacher luncheon. They were all excited to come through and many said it was one of their best days of the year. There was such a variety of delicious food!!!!

If you sent in a dish, bowl or crockpot, I washed them out, but they do need to be rewashed. They are in the teacher's room under the table, in the high school area.

Thank you again, for all of your help. Karen Boyle

ENRICHMENT SURVEY - A small group of parents are looking into the possibility of introducing additional enrichment programs during the after school hours. In an attempt to try to offer activities that students are most interested in, your input in a survey would be appreciated. The survey has 10 questions and will be available until December 30, 2008. The link for the survey is as follows:
http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=2bvE7MoIHUaCXg2FHvf0tzQ_3d_3d"

The Parent Association is creating a **PA Grant Review Task Force (PAGRTF)**. We are in need of 1 parent per level to create this group. The PA has funds to allocate this year. The PA has been fundraising for SSCPS and we want to hear what we can do for the school financially and hope to maximize our efforts through this new process we have created. In January the PA will send out information to parents, students and staff looking for financial requests from them. We want the entire school to have representation and are looking for your help. The PA will disburse funds 1 time this year and is in need of 5 parents, 1 per level to help review the requests in January and bring them to the PA for discussion in February and voted on in March. We will need to meet at the end of January for the review process. If you are interested in becoming involved with the PAGRTF please contact Denise Demaggio at ykeecpr@verizon.net or (781)826-5632.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

2008-2009 Vacancies:

- **Part time** (16 hour) Special Education (Learning Services) Elementary Teacher. Candidate must be certified to teach as an Elementary Special Education Teacher in Massachusetts and possess NCLB Highly Qualified Status in order to be considered for the position.
- **Part time (28 hour)** Title 1 Reading Tutor (reading certified)
- **On-Call Substitute Teachers**
- **On-Call Substitute Teacher Aides**

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

SSCPS Annual Talent Show

Come to the SSCPS Annual Talent Show on

**January 29th 2009 @ 6:30
@ Hingham High**

AUDITIONS

**Talent Show Auditions for Levels I, II and III Students:
January 12th & 13th @ 3:15pm**

**Level IV and High School "Charter Idol" Auditions:
January 15th @ 3:15pm**

All Auditions held in the High School Village Green

Registrations Due To Room 107 by January 9th

THE SHOW

Admission to show: \$5

6pm-Art Show in Lobby

The Art workshop will display some of their best creations in the lobby just outside the auditorium for display.

6:30pm-Talents Show Begins

7:30pm-Intermission

A short intermission after the Talent show will have a special guest playing alongside a presentation about the upcoming Costa Rica trip.

7:45-Charter Idol Begins

Pre auditioned students from Level IV and the high school will have a singing competition judged by you!

***Taking the part of Randy, Simon, and Paula are:
Tee Smith, James Guerrier, & Olivia Mignosa)***

Registration 2009 American Idol
January 29th, 2009

Students: Level 4 and High School

Name: _____

Email: _____

Phone#: _____

Advisory: _____

Song Performing: _____

Estimated time of Performance: _____

- Registration forms are due on January 9th.
- Auditions for American Idol will begin after school on Thursday January 15th from 3:15 to 4:30. We will email or call you with your audition time.

Students: Levels I, II & III

Child Name: _____

Level: _____

Pod: _____

Talent: _____

Estimated Time of Performance: _____

Parent Email: _____

Parent Phone #: _____

- Registration forms are due on January 9th.
- Auditions for the talent show will begin after school on Monday January 12th and Tuesday January 13th from 3:15 to 4:30. We will email or call you with your audition time.

Registration Preference (please circle one): Monday, January 12th Tuesday, January 13th

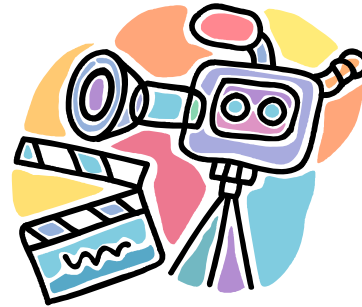
If you can't attend either of these days and are wishing to participate in the 2009 talent show, please let us know ASAP.

Seeking Parent, Student & Teacher volunteers to participate in the creation of a

SSCPS Fundraising Video

Have a special SSCPS story to share? The fundraising committee would like to create a video to use at various fundraising and friendraising events that depicts why the school is so special and what it means to our students, faculty and parents.

*Do you have showbiz in your bones?
Are you a budding director/producer?
Are you good with Flash?
Want to share your SSCPS story?*



Want to know more?

Attend the next Fundraising Committee meeting!

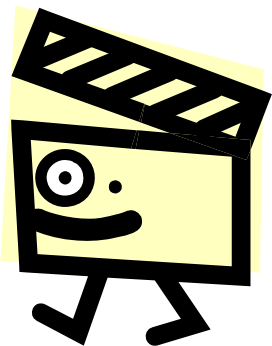
Email us today if you think you have the goods to help with this very important project or if you have other ideas to share!

fundraising@SSCPS.org

We value your schedules and will do our best to be as accommodating as we can in an effort to increase the attendance at the next meeting.

See the dates below and forward us your choice to fundraising@SSCPS.org

January 20th, 2009, 7pm
January 27th, 2009, 7pm



Lunch Menu – January 2009

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
5 <i>Chicken Salad</i> With lettuce and tomato	6 <i>Cheese Pizza</i>	7 <i>Ham</i> With American cheese, lettuce, tomato, pickle and oil	8 <i>Cheese Pizza</i>	9 <i>Greek Salad</i> With Greek dressing and pita bread
12 <i>Roast Beef</i> With American cheese and mustard	13 <i>Cheese Pizza</i>	14 <i>BLT</i> Bacon, Lettuce and Tomato with mayonnaise	15 <i>Cheese Pizza</i>	16 <i>Tuna Salad</i> With lettuce and tomato
19 No School Martin Luther King Day	20 <i>Cheese Pizza</i>	21 <i>Turkey</i> With American cheese, lettuce, tomato and mayo	22 <i>Cheese Pizza</i>	23 <i>Tossed Salad</i> With Greek dressing and pita bread
26 <i>Italian Cold Cuts</i> With Provolone cheese, lettuce, tomato, pickle and oil	27 <i>Cheese Pizza</i>	28 <i>BLT</i> Bacon, Lettuce and Tomato with mayonnaise	29 <i>Cheese Pizza</i>	30 No Lunch Early Release

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 January, 2009
Due to the office by 12:00 pm, Tuesday, December 23, 2008

Student Name _____

Pod Teacher/Advisor _____ Grade _____

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

Week of 1/5 – 1/9	<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 1/12 – 1/16	<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 1/19 – 1/23	<input checked="" 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 Salad
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Week of 1/26 – 1/30	<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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Friday No Lunch
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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
<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 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.

We build strong kids, strong families, strong communities.



South Shore YMCA

Teens Earth Service Corp

NEW!

**Don't just worry about the environment.
Do something about it.
Join the Earth Service Corp.**

The YMCA's Earth Service Corp. is a club-based, service learning program for teens. Not just any teen, but those who want to be leaders, care about the environment and opt to take action.

Along with the advisor, Dave Corbett a teacher at the South Shore Charter Public School, you decide on the projects the group takes on. Whatever the cause, you examine all sides of the issues. Work on projects here at the Y and around the community in collaboration the South Shore Charter School and the North South River Watershed Association.



Get Involved: NOW

Sign-up on line or Front Desk: MESC01W9

Meet: Mondays 6-7 pm in the art room

Beginning Dec. 15th

Additional days TBD based on projects

Grades: 6-12

\$25 Members

\$50 Non-members

**For more information contact Karen Hirsh at 781-829-8585 x335 or khirsh@ssymca.org.
Financial assistance is available.**



South Shore YMCA

Teen Fridays In December

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



Spotlight Events:

- 12/5** Zumba 6:30 - 7:30 pm studio 3
- Kick Ball 7- 8:30 pm gym
- Pizza & Game Night 7- 8 pm art room
- Performance Workshop 7:30 - 9:30 pm art room
- Twister 8:30 - 9:30 pm activity center

- 12/12** Wiffle Ball 7- 8:30 pm gym
- Open Mic with Kim 8:30- 9:30 pm art room

- 12/19** Zumba 6:30 - 7:30 pm studio 3
- "Make A Gift" 6:30 - 8 pm art room
- Ultimate Frisbee 7 - 8:30 pm gym
- Performance Workshop 8- 9:30 pm art room

- 12/26** Dodge Ball 7 - 8:30 pm gym

**Free
Pizza
12/5**

Giving Back: 12/12
Bring in a new, unwrapped toy for a child or clothing for a teen. Items will be donated to local families. For helping out, you'll get an extra Teen Friday Reward

Find What Moves You

Every Friday Night:

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

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