



SOUTH SHORE CHARTER PUBLIC SCHOOL

Inspiring every student to excel in academics, service, and life

Alicia E. Savage
Executive Director

Jo Feldman
Director Learning Services

Ted Hirsch
Principal K-6

Angie Pepin
Principal 7-12

Kristine Shipp
Business Manager

100 Longwater Circle
Norwell, MA 02061
781/982-4202
781/982-4201 fax

www.sscps.org

Dear Parents,

Thank you for your patience and cooperation in helping our faculty with today's unscheduled early dismissal of the students. We are grateful to the Norwell Fire and Police Departments for their assistance. We are also grateful to the Cole Elementary School, Norwell High School, and the Joseph Ingle Bus Company for accommodating us on such short notice.

The safety of our students and faculty is of the utmost importance. As a precautionary measure, we have been conducting daily walking inspections of our facility throughout the winter. Because of the unusual amount of snow we have been getting, combined with yesterday's rain, we decided to take the precautionary measure of vacating the school this morning while awaiting an assessment of the school roof and building structure by our building inspector and structural engineer.

The school has now been inspected by the Norwell Building Inspector, Timothy Fitzgerald, and Lynn Associates Structural Engineer Robert S. T. Lie. As the snow and rain have been heavy, the amount of weight is more than the roof usually holds. The inspectors explained that as it stands now, our roof framing will continue to deflect the under load. It was further explained that our building is doing exactly what it is supposed to be doing when faced with these weather conditions.

To be sure that our roof remains stable and that the melting is moving in the correct direction, the inspectors will return tomorrow and be here throughout the day. Therefore, it is in the best interest and safety of all students and faculty that the building remains closed on Friday, February 4, 2011. We will have building inspectors return on Sunday, and it is our hope that we will be able to resume classes on Monday, February 7, 2011.

In order to make up school days, there will be school for all students on **Friday, March 18th**, pending approval from the Board of Trustees. This day had been scheduled as an all day professional development day for faculty. However, ongoing conditions of this winter deem this change necessary. In terms of our school calendar, our school calendar is 184 days; four days more than the 180 days as required by the Massachusetts Department of Education. As we will have had five snow days as of tomorrow, we will be at 179 school days. If the near future brings more snow days, we will again adjust the calendar accordingly. We ask for your continued cooperation and support as winter in New England persists.

Thank you for your extended consideration.

Sincerely,

Alicia E. Savage
Executive Director