

Update September 22, 2010 Vol. 9, Issue 4

Excel in Service

Yesterday, ten of our juniors and seniors began a collaborative tutoring initiative with 826 Boston. Our students who expressed an interest in learning how to tutor elementary school children received training from the faculty at 826 headquarters in Boston. Following this training, our high school students were able to tutor children coming in for homework help, reading, and writing skills. Angie and I were very proud of how well our students did – they asked excellent questions so younger students could gain understanding, they read aloud using terrific dramatic voices, and they were even able to redirect "energetic" behavior so the younger students could finish homework and begin writing.

Our students will be heading into Boston once a week to tutor elementary school students. They will be bringing their skills back to the school where they will lead an after school tutoring initiative with our own students for one day a week beginning in January. If you are interested in learning more about 826 Boston, please visit their website at 826boston.org. If you are interested in learning more about the development of our own afterschool tutorials, please come to our next PA meeting, October 6, 2010. Lisa Harvey-Mone has been working hard with your survey data to determine the most effective use of our resources. If you have not yet completed a survey, you may do so on-line at: www.surveymonkey.com/s/B8VVV3K

On another exciting field trip note, ten of our high school students have been invited to attend a Governor's Luncheon with Deval Patrick tomorrow, September 23rd. Our students will be representing our school and our work - we are looking forward to a wonderful afternoon.

Have a terrific week!

Alicia E. Savage Executive Director

Thursday & Friday	09/23 & 09/24	Senior Class Retreat – Camp Burgess	
Thursday	09/23	Education Committee	3:45pm
Thursday	09/23	Finance Committee	6:00pm
Thursday	09/23	Board of Trustees	7:00pm
Thursday	09/23	HS Soccer home vs. Community Charter of Cambridge	5:00pm
Friday	09/24	SEPAC	8:30am
Saturday	09/25	HS Soccer – Cambridge	8:15am
Monday	09/27	HS Soccer home vs. Foxboro	4:00pm
Monday	09/27	Facilities Committee	6:00pm
Tuesday	09/28	Title I Parent Night	5-6pm
Wednesday	09/29	Volunteer Orientation	8:30am

Attention All Runners

The South Shore Charter Education Foundation is sponsoring a fabulous 5K road race and fitness walk to be held at WOMPATUCK STATE PARK Saturday, October 16, 2010. Registration for the Harvest Run is available at <u>www.coolrunning.com.</u> The pre-registration fee is \$20.00 before Sept. 30, 2010. Registration after October 1 is \$25.00 for adults, \$10.00 for students K-12. You can register your entire SSCPS family for \$30.00. Registration forms are available on the SSCPS website or at the front desk. For more information please email <u>harvestrun@sscps.org</u>.

ART NEWS

Exciting things in the visual arts this year ... Level III students are creating (something that they don't know quite yet....that's the plan) as they work their way through the Elements of Design. Learning new vocabulary, including monochromatic and complimentary as it applies to color theory (as well as Greek root of chroma and prefix mono). Everyone will just have to wait and see what happens when they mix different mediums and techniques. Results, approximately four more classes!

Level IV this year is doing a pilot program. Kathryn Hahn will be working with 10-11 students in the MAC Lab creating design projects and after finalizing their pieces printing them in full color. Marianne Buckley Curran will be working with the remaining class members designing linoleum blocks. Students will be cutting out the designs and printing their individual pieces using the press. Groups will change at the quarter so all middle school students will be able to experience the same opportunities.

High School students are well engage in their **Art Workshop**. Each student has been provided a coffee bean bag (courtesy of **Red Eye Roasters**...if you see Bob at the Hingham Farmers Market say Hi). The students will be fashioning their bags into wearable apparel for the annual **Fashion Walk** on **December 17th**. Prior to that event students will be setting up a display at the **Starbucks** in **Hingham** on **Route 3A** for the month of **November**. Also...stay tuned in for **The Art Store** which is a click away on the web site but is getting a revamping. **The Art Store** markets student and staff art for sale. It is maintained by **The Art Workshop** students and a portion of the proceeds go to the workshop after the commissions are paid to the artist.

LUNCH ORDERS

Enclosed is the Breakfast and Lunch order form for the remainder of September. Also enclosed are the October Breakfast and Lunch menus as well as the order forms. September orders are due Tuesday, September 21st by 3pm. October orders are due Tuesday, September 28th by 3pm.

K-6 PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Last week the Massachusetts state Department of Education announced the MCAS results. One new feature of this year's announcement was a list of 187 schools whose students had accomplished excellent work on the MCAS over the past two years. We were very pleased that South Shore Charter Public School received the **Commendation Designation** and was one of 69 schools *"that substantially narrowed proficiency gaps for low income, limited English proficient, formerly limited English proficient and special education students over a two year period."* We were also very close to meeting the criterion for Commendations for High Growth over two years and for exiting NCLB status. It is very affirming that the state has noticed the excellent work of our students and teachers.

Last Wednesday at the Level I Back to School Night I announced the state's Commendation and a parent came up to me afterward and told me that while they were happy for the teachers to be recognized, the Commendation was not important to her because she already knew that SSCPS was the best school in the state. She told me she knew that because of what our school meant to her children. Compliments like that are encouraging to us and we are so grateful for all of the feedback we get, both positive and negative. Feedback makes us better.

We sent home MCAS scores last week and I am available for any family that would like to speak about their child's reports. I know that the parents report can be a bit confusing and I would be happy to help review and explain the document. While we are pleased to be recognized for commendation we also recognize that we

are far from where we want to be as a school and that we are working at getting better. I believe that the most significant changes on Levels I, II and III this year are the changes we have made in how we group and schedule students. From what I have seen it seems to be working.

On Tuesday afternoon during Project time on Levels II and III, I got another sense of the power of our school. I saw a level of engagement and purpose that was so important to our students' education. I heard teachers that afternoon explaining all of the events of the day, the prospect of the store opening, the rejection of advertisements, the creating of accounting tables, dance rehearsals, the need for writing in the engineering project, and so much more. At five o'clock the teachers were tired but their fatigue had all been for the common purpose of setting up learning structures where students knew they had important work to do and that they were valuable. To give you a sense of how we talk internally about Project, I will quote an e-mail June Fontaine, our K - 6 Project Director, wrote to her colleagues about Projects:

Dear Level I, II, and III Project Leaders,

Now that we are well into our new school year and projects are gathering momentum, it would be great to highlight some of the work you are doing. By now, you have developed goals with your students and may be well on your way toward meeting some of the goals. ... One of the goals of all project leaders is to inform others (staff from other levels, parents, project partners, and visitors) of just what projects are and what we accomplish or hope to accomplish.

Please look for the notices in the Update that highlight Project work and let teachers know if you can help the students meet their goals. There are many things that make SSCPS a special school but our Project model is certainly one of them.

Ted Hirsch, thirsch@sscps.org 781-982-4202x108

ON THE LEVELS

SAYING OF THE WEEK:

Level 1: "Better safe than sorry." Level 2: "Live and let live."

LEVEL II NEWS

Welcome back to school! My name is Bethany Whitemyer and I am the Level II Scholastic Book Club coordinator. Each month I will distribute book club flyers to the classrooms and book club orders will be due on the 28th of each month. You can order on the paper order form along with a check or money order, or you can place your order online and pay by credit card. Either way you order your child will be receiving quality books and supplies and our school will benefit by earning bonus points. To order online, please start at <u>www.scholastic.com/clubsordering</u>. Check the box that asks if you are a parent and that you do not have a password. Enter our class activation code GRP4K and review the book club flyers available. Enter your payment information when prompted and your order will arrive at school along with any papers orders that I receive. If you have any questions about book club ordering please feel free to contact me at <u>bwhitemyer@rcn.com</u>.

ATTENTION SENIOR CLASS

In preparation for the October SAT's - sign up and attend a free test strategy session Saturday, October 2nd 10am-12pm. For more information, contact Ed Dormady at <u>edormady@sscps.org</u>.

VOLUNTEERING AT SSCPS

Hello SSCPS Families! My name is Jessica Lussier and I am mom to Jordan in Level III and Andrew in Level II. I've had the opportunity to volunteer at the school in different ways and this year I'm happy to be the school's **Volunteer Coordinator.** My role is to help facilitate the many different ways parents can get involved and volunteer at our school. Whether it's to help staff a field trip, in the classroom, help in the library, volunteer your time at an event like the Harvest Run, or with your children at the fall clean-up.

In order to Volunteer at the school you must:

1. Take part in a volunteer orientation. Sessions will be held at the Back to School nights and also on Wednesday, September 22 at 8:30am and on Wednesday, September 29 at 8:30am.

- 2. Complete and pass a CORI check. This must be done YEARLY with Pam Algera or Kristine Shipps
- 3. Read and sign a confidentiality agreement. This also must be done every year.

If you have any questions or concerns about volunteering, please get in touch with me at jesslussier@comcast.net

Thank you for your time, Jessica Lussier

LIBRARY

The Library Committee is working very hard to prepare the library to open hopefully by the end of the month. All of the teachers have scheduled their classes to visit the library. We look forward to meeting your students in the library and making their library experience a pleasant one.

The following classes are looking for help:

- All Level I and Kindergarten classes
- Level II Sara Roberts
- Level IV- Emily Merwin.

If you are interested in helping students in the library you need to contact the teacher in these classes. They will let the Library Committee know you are interested and we will contact you. You will then need to do the following:

1. Meet with a meet with a member of the Library Committee for a mini orientation to the Library procedure.

- 2. Fill out a CORI Form with Pam Algera or Kristine Shipps.
- 3. If you are new to the school attend Volunteer Orientation.

We are also looking for help at the end of the day from 2:15 pm to 3:00 pm to re-shelve books and process any book donations that should come in. If you are interested contact Beth Toma - <u>JToma85103@aol.com</u>.

Our library book shelves are packed with great books. However, we are running out of shelf space and at this time cannot take any book donations until we go through the book shelves and take off books that are old and have seen better days. The discarded books will be given out to students as free books. As we find more shelf space we will be listing in the Library Update what books/magazines that the library is looking for.

We do, however, need the following items for the Library: bookmarks, pencils (we would appreciate it if they are sharpened), rolls of scotch tape 3/4 inch (to be used in an existing tape dispenser).

The Library Committee is always looking for new members. If you are interested, contact Beth Toma at JToma85103@aol.com.

The Library Committee

GOLF TOURNAMENT & AUCTION COMMITTEE

The Kickoff Meeting of the Golf Tournament and Auction Committee is Wednesday, October 6^{th} at 6:00 p.m. at the school (take a left at the piano, 1^{st} classroom on the left). All are welcome to attend! If you would like to help with the event but can't attend this meeting, please contact Kerry Benjamin at (781) 706-3454 or kbenjamin1@verizon.net.

PARENTS ASSOCIATION NEWS & INFORMATION

From the PA Chair – Heather Dans

- NEEDED! -11th grade parent rep is needed ASAP! This is a great way to get involved and learn more about our school! Report on the happenings monthly at the PA meeting and get to know other members. Call Heather Dans at 781-534-5698 if interested.
- Have an agenda item you would like to discuss / learn more about at the October 6th meeting? Contact Heather.
- Don't forget to complete CORI forms and the Confidentiality Agreement! They are required before volunteering.

Back by popular demand.... the SSCPS Directory!!!! Stay tuned for the delivery date...

In the meantime and in order to subsidize the printing of the directory, we are selling business card-sized ads in the directory for SSCPS-related folks for the LOW LOW price of \$25...So if you are a lawyer, landscaper, photographer, housepainter, whatever you do... and want to advertise to the SSCPS community... send your information to Lisa Harvey-Mone (molimu@gmail.com) or you may drop the information with payment made out the SSCPS to the front desk If you have any questions, please contact Lisa by email or at 617-763-1533. This price is so low that your high school student who babysits or shovels snow or rakes leaves could attract some new customers with their own ad! The deadline to submit your ads is Friday September 24th. *BUT WAIT*... there's more... the Golf /Auction Committee and the Yearbook Committee will also be offering you the opportunity to advertise later in the school year!

Afterschool Program Survey

A group of parents and administrators are working to develop alternative afterschool programming for our school. We need your support in completing our survey (the link is shown below) to inform us of your families' needs in out-of-school-time hours. Survey results will help us in the next stage of planning, but creating a great program will take considerable time and effort from many people- including students, parents, teachers and staff. So please be patient!

Follow the link to complete the survey: <u>http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/B8VVV3K</u>

Please complete the survey- even if you don't want/need an alternative program. The survey is very short (16 questions) and easy to complete on-line. Paper copies are available at the front desk. If you can't get the link to work or if you have any questions, please contact Lisa Harvey-Mone (molimu@gmail.com or 617-763-1533)

BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION

Please help our school earn extra money by collecting Box Tops for Education. Last year we earned over \$700 through the Box Tops program- all from parents clipping those little cardboard pieces! Box Tops can be found on hundreds of products, from Avery labels and Ziploc baggies to Cheerios and Gogurt. Our school earns 10 cents for every Box Top we collect. There is an envelope at the front desk where you can leave your Box Tops. Visit <u>www.boxtops4education.com</u> for more information about the 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. Up to 8% percent of your total will be donated to our school. This year you can also send in your Campbell's Soup Labels for Education. These labels can be found on Campbell's soup cans, but also on Goldfish crackers, V-8 Splash, and dozens more products. For a complete list of participating products please visit <u>www.labelsforeducation.com</u>. If you have any questions about either of these programs, please feel to contact Bethany Whitemyer at <u>bwhitemyer@rcn.com</u>. Thank you.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

On going for 2010-2011

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

The Girl Scouts have a community service opportunity for older students who would be willing to help. This is a great opportunity to develop leadership skills as well. Registration for new or returning Girl Scouts is still open. Meetings for all grades will be held on Wednesdays from 3:00 to 4:30 p.m. Daisies (grades K-1); Brownies (grades 2-3), and Juniors/Cadettes/Seniors (grades 4 and up). Meetings run on select Wednesdays from September 29 through June 8. Dues are \$32 per semester. Financial aid is available. No one will be turned away for inability to pay. If you are willing to help out as a troop leader next year, please let us know. Registration is first come, first served. Please note that the Daisy troop and Brownie troops are nearly full already so the sooner you let us know the sooner you can secure your daughter a spot.

To register or for further information contact a troop leader. Daisy Troop Leaders: Katie Tierney (617) 794-6565, <u>tierneyrock@verizon.net</u>; Jenn Jordan, (781) 413-6304, <u>skylarcamper@yahoo.com</u> Brownie Troop Leaders: Maureen Hebert (781) 837-8952, <u>mhebert@metlife.com</u>; Kim Beshere (617) 605-3678, <u>Tessapink1@yahoo.com</u> Junior/Cadette/Seniors Troop Leader: Stacy Rousseau (781) 961-4071 or (781) 727-9784; faemoon3@gmail.com.

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





SOUTH SHORE CHARTER PUBLIC SCHOOL

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

PICK UP PROCEDURES

All of us share a common interest at dismissal time of getting all of the students safely, calmly, happily and efficiently into their correct vehicles. Our first goal is safety; second a calm and fair system where we all can feel like we have been treated by one another in a fair manner; and then third efficiency. The following list of procedures was developed jointly by the Health and Safety Committee and the school's administration. When we follow these procedures we are modeling teamwork and cooperation, two of our school's founding principles. Following these procedures will help us maintain neighborly relations with the other tenants of Longwater Circle and help with the long range financial health of the school.

Two summers ago the school worked together with parents on a more formal procedure for pick up, which is listed below. On the whole this year has been a big improvement in the safety, calmness and efficiency of dismissal. We are asking that you review these policies and, if you have forgotten to in the recent past, adhere to them at dismissal. Again, we seek the safest environment for your children and we need your help to ensure that these procedures are directly followed.

- The campus is closed to pick up traffic before 2:45 PM. We will ask you to return if you arrive before because we do not have space on campus and this can cause difficulties with fire lanes.
- Only pick up students at the front or the back doors, other pick up points put students' safety and our community relations at risk. You may find that planning to arrive between 3:10 and 3:20 works better for your family.
- When active pick up begins please refrain from using your cell phone.
- Do not pick up on Longwater Circle as this area is restricted to bus pick up
- Follow the lines and arrows painted on the pavement to assist with traffic flow. Please never drive faster than five miles per hour on campus.
- All drivers are to stay in their cars and staff members will help your child get into the car.
- No meetings of any kind are to be scheduled between 2:45 and 3:15 to facilitate dismissal.
- If your student or any student in your carpool is not present when you come to pick-up that student, a staff member will ask you to pull into a designated waiting area to keep the line moving.
- All K 8 students not picked up by 3:25 will be directed to the "Quiet Room." All high school students not picked up by 3:25 will be directed the High School Great Room.
- For an emergency, when an appointment requires an exact 3:00 dismissal, we ask that you pick up your student at or before 2:30.
- Any person who does not cooperate with these procedures will be asked to meet with the Principals.
- Follow the direction of staff at all times and cooperate with other drivers.

Thank you for all your efforts in keeping our school safe.



SOUTH SHORE CHARTER PUBLIC SCHOOL

October, 2010

Catered by Essence of Thyme

Breakfast				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
				1 Pop Tart Apple Juice Milk
4 Frosted Mini-Wheats Fruit Juice Milk	5 Rice Krispies Apple Juice Milk	6 Raisin Bran Apple Juice Milk	7 Apple Jacks Orange Juice Milk	8 Cinnamon Raisin Bagel Apple Juice Milk
11 COLUMBUS DAY	12 Plain Bagel Grape Juice Milk	13 Rice Krispies Apple Juice Milk	14 Frosted Mini-Wheats Juice Milk	15 Yogurt Orange Juice Milk
18 Golden Grahams Orange Juice Milk	19 Croissant Jelly Grape Juice Milk	20 Apple Jacks Orange Juice Milk	21 Pop Tart Apple Juice Milk	22 Yogurt Apple Juice Milk
25 Raisin Bran Apple Juice Milk	26 Golden Grahams Orange Juice Milk	27 Apple Jacks Orange Juice Milk	28 Cheerios Fruit Juice Milk	29 Blueberry Muffin Grape Juice Milk



SOUTH SHORE CHARTER PUBLIC SCHOOL

October, 2010

Catered by Essence of Thyme

Lunch

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
				1 Pizza
4 French Toast Sticks w/Syrup Sausage Pattie Baked Apple Raisins	5 Chicken Parmesan Ziti Broccoli Apple	6 Herbed Baked Chicken Scalloped Potatoes Mixed Veggies Roll	7 Beef and Cheese Burrito Refried Beans Pineapple Chunks	8 Pizza
11 COLUMBUS DAY	12 American Chop Suey Green Beans Apple	13 Early Release No Lunch	14 BBQ Chicken Potatoes Au Gratin Corn	15 Pizza
18 Hamburger on a Bun Potato Wedges California Medley	19 Turkey Hot Dog Potato Puffs Baked Beans	20 Cheese Ravioli Broccoli Fruit	21 Chicken Caesar Salad Wrap Carrot Sticks Apple	22 Pizza
25 Steak and Cheese Sub Potato Puffs Peas	26 Chicken Quesadilla California Medley Grapes	27 Ziti and Meatballs Broccoli Baked Apple Slices	28 Turkey and Gravy Mashed Potatoes Green Beans	29 Pizza

Lunch for the Month of October, 2010 Due to the office by 3:00 pm, *Tuesday, Sept. 28, 2010

Student Name					
Pod Teacher/Advisor				Grade	
Please <u>CHECK</u> off the day breakfast will be ordered.					
Week of 10/4 – 10/8	[] Monday	[] Tuesday	[] Wednesday	[] Thursday	[] Friday
Week of 10/11 - 10/15	•	[] Tuesday	[] Wednesday	[] Thursday	[] Friday
Week of 10/18–10/22	[] Monday	[] Tuesday	[] Wednesday	[] Thursday	[] Friday
Week of 10/25 – 10/29	[] Monday	[] Tuesday	[] Wednesday	[] Thursday	[] Friday
Number of Breakfasts ordered X \$1.50					

\$_____

Total Amount Enclosed

Cash or Checks may be made out to SSCPS.

Lunch Order Form Lunch for the Month of October, 2010 Due to the office by 3:00 pm, *Tuesday, Sept. 28, 2010

Student Name		
Pod Teacher/Advisor	Grade	
Please <u>CHECK</u> a	off the day lunch will be ordered.	
Week of [] Monday [] Tuesday 10/4 - 10/8	[] Wednesday [] Thursday	[] Friday #
Week of [X] Monday [] Tuesday 10/11 – 10/15 No School	[X] Wednesday [] Thursday Early Release	[] Friday #
Week of [] Monday [] Tuesday 10/18–10/22	[] Wednesday [] Thursday	[] Friday #
Week of [] Monday [] Tuesday 10/25 – 10/29	[] Wednesday [] Thursday	[] Friday #
Number of Meals ordered Number of Slices of Pizza ordered	X \$3.50 X \$1.75	
Less credit due Total Amount Enclosed	\$	_

Cash or Checks may be made out to SSCPS.

Choice of 1% 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 \$2.00. *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.*