



Register Today for the HARVEST RUN

With just 10 days left until the SSCPS Harvest Run, we need your help to get our friends and families to attend what will be a fun-filled event! Runners and walkers of all ages are welcome to register! The day will also include a cook-out provided by Not Your Average Joe's, free smoothies by B.Good Restaurant, and lots of fun goodies for all participants.

So show your SSCPS spirit and join us on:

Saturday, October 16, 2010!

Race starts at 11 am

Wompatuck State Park in Hingham, MA

To register online:

<http://www.active.com/running/hingham-ma/harvest-run-5k-road-race-and-fitness-walk-2010>

or visit www.sscps.org for registration form.

ATTENTION STUDENTS!! THE POD THAT HAS THE MOST FAMILIES AND RUNNERS REGISTER FOR THE RACE WILL BE AWARDED AN ICE CREAM PARTY, COMPLIMENTS OF NOWELL STOP & SHOP! SO REGISTER TODAY AND THE FIRST 150 RUNNERS WILL ALSO RECEIVE A FREE T-SHIRT!

Wednesday	10/06	Golf Tournament/Auction Committee meeting	6:00pm
Wednesday	10/06	Parents Association Meeting	7:00pm
Thursday	10/07	HS Soccer @ Boston Collegiate, Dorchester	4:00pm
Thursday	10/07	K-6 Math Night for Parents	6:30pm
Monday	10/11	Columbus Day – No School	
Tuesday	10/12	Development Committee	5:00pm
Wednesday	10/13	Executive Committee	10:00am
Wednesday	10/13	Level II Parent Coffee	8:30am
Wednesday	10/13	Professional Development Early Release High School students please see schedule below	12:00pm

AN AFTERNOON OF CYMBALS

On Monday students in June and Jill's pod were treated to a fantastic presentation by Laura Rivera (Isabella and Gabriella's mom) and Aaron Jackson of Zildjian Cymbal Makers. Students listened attentively as Aaron presented a fascinating discussion of sound, timbre and percussion. We learned about the science of the cymbal making process and that the formula to make a Zildjian cymbal has remained a highly guarded secret since the year 1623. Students also learned how cymbals are shaped and hammered so that each makes a unique sound. Our students were even able to try out the cymbals for themselves. What a talented group!

Thank you to Aaron and Laura for a terrific afternoon, and to the Zildjian company, for their wonderful donation of four new cymbals. Our old cymbals were in dire need of replacement and thanks to the generosity of Zildjian, we now have brand new Armand Ride, Thin Crash, H. Hat Top, and Custom Crash cymbals to make our terrific music program sound even better. This beautiful gift is greatly appreciated by our entire school community.

Alicia Savage

LUNCH ORDERS

Enclosed are the October Breakfast and Lunch menus as well as the order forms. Orders are due Tuesday, October 12th by 3pm.

PE DEPARTMENT

The **PE Department** is going to be introducing a golfing unit and will be constructing a portable pitch and put course. I am putting a call out for used pitching wedges, 5 and 7 irons and putters. Check those old golf bags so you can unload some unneeded clubs. Given the course layout, woods will not be needed. You can drop off at the Art Room. (women, men, junior, left and right handed clubs all welcome). Thank you, questions call Marianne @ 304.

K-6 PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Schools are complex entities with competing needs and reasons for being; in short they are complicated. With our new mission statement the South Shore Charter Public School can both express our aspirations and focus our attention with one phrase, "Inspiring every student to excel in academics, service and life." It is so helpful to me to be able to say that and think about what we do in such a compressed form. Are we doing all that we can to inspire? Are we doing all that we can to inspire every student? Are we inspiring in academics? Are we inspiring in service? Are we inspiring in life? These are high goals that we have set for ourselves but the fact is that we are not doing these things alone. It is the students; it is the teachers; it is all of the support staff, who makes the school operational; it is the families, who trust us with their children; and it is the belief that learning and purpose and joy can inspire.

I know that I was inspired yesterday by the folks who attended and taught a workshop, for school administrators, in the Open Circle curriculum. The folks at the training gave me increased confidence in all the public schools in Massachusetts. These professionals all had a common purpose – the happiness and accomplishment of children. There were three individuals I met at the meeting who had a particular influence on me. One was a principal of a small school K – 5 school with an attached pre-school. We talked about the parent drive to make this **the** school for their children and how they had worked to include the fifth grade this year. We also talked about the benefit of being a small school. He was such a calm and practical man and part of his inspiration was his biography as his father had been a custodian in the same district he was now a principal. I also met two educators from another charter school and while all of the educators that I met were smart committed and dedicated people, these two had a focused vision about what they were doing that seemed a little different. I talked with them afterward about what it meant to be in a charter school in Massachusetts and what an important part of improving the education for all students, charter schools can be and have been. I was also inspired by the trainers and it is outside consultants like those from Wellesley College who work to improve the life at school for students. They have been dedicated to make sure teachers have the tools to support students' social and emotional learning. It is no wonder that Massachusetts students do well when compared to students from other states.

We have been training teachers in Open Circle for the past ten years and this work is very important. The idea of Open Circle is that we need to teach children how to interact with each other and that if we take the time to be explicit and use common language to communicate with children and with each other we will be a more successful community. I am particularly pleased with the conduct of the students this year. One thing I learned yesterday was that the typical pattern of behavior in a school is that as the year goes on there is more conflict among children and while Open Circle does not eliminate conflict it does keep conflict at a steady state. Our mission states that we want to inspire students to excel in life and what that means to me is that we value the student years as being as significant as any years in a life. When we invest in our students' social and emotional growth we are investing in our mission. I look forward to learning more about Open Circle and sharing with you its philosophy of "getting to the heart of learning."

Please don't forget that K-6 Math Night for parents is tomorrow, October 7th at 6:30pm.

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

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN WORKSHOPS & PROJECTS

Level IV Shakespeare Project – This week in project we selected the play that we will be studying this year. We chose Twelfth Night due to its humorous confusions between men and women. We plan to act out important scenes from the play during the first half of the year. We will explore all sides of acting and really get into the spirit of Twelfth Night, as our project is dominantly female and includes only two boys. We will portray the opposite gender, just like in the play. In the second half of the year, we will create a graphic novel of Twelfth Night. We cannot wait to start reading and working with the play.

ON THE LEVELS

SAYING OF THE WEEK:

Level 1: "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you."

Level 2: "Like a bull in a china shop."

K-6 SINGAPORE MATH NIGHT FOR PARENTS – THURSDAY, OCTOBER 7TH AT 6:30PM

Singapore Math Night is a chance for you to learn from the teachers about how we teach math. Singapore math is a wonderful system of explaining and drawing math where number sense is built and developed so over time students gain math fluency. To an adult who does not know the program it can seem at times as if questions are asked in ways that can seem unnecessarily difficult. We look forward to the opportunity to explain Singapore math to you and why it uses this language. On Thursday we will gather in the Music Room for the first fifteen minutes and then you will get a chance to meet grade level teachers who will explain the program and vision for math for each grade K through 6. We look forward to seeing you on Thursday night.

Ted Hirsch

HIGH SCHOOL REMINDER - Next Wednesday, October 13th is PSAT Testing Day in the High School. The PSAT is a fee based exam. The cost is \$13.00 due the day of the exam. Checks should be made out to SSCPS. The total test time is 2 hours and 10 minutes, along with additional time to complete the answer sheets, so the half day is plenty of time to complete the exam.

The following is the High School schedule for next Wednesday:

Grade 9: Regular half-day schedule

Grade 10: PSAT Exam, 8:30-12:00

Grade 11: PSAT Exam, 8:30-12:00

Grade 12: College Visits – Make sure permission slips are turned in before Wednesday, Oct 13th.

Any questions or concerns, please contact Mary Carter at mcarter@sscps.org or 781-982-4202 x306



ATTENTION SENIORS AND THEIR PARENTS - Financial Aid Night sponsored by MEFA will be next Thursday 10/14 from 6:00-7:30pm.

SEPAC (SPECIAL EDUCATION PARENT ASSOCIATION COMMITTEE)

The Special Education Parent Association Committee is having a meeting on Thursday, Oct. 21 from 6-7 pm. The SEPAC is a parent committee established to assist parents of children who have IEP's and 504's. We are hosting an evening meeting to encourage parents to come that can't normally attend the morning meetings.

Immediately following, Jo Feldman, Director of Special Education, will be offering a Basic Rights Workshop from 7-8 pm. The Dept. of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) require that parents are offered this training annually. Please join us on Oct. 21 from 6-7 and 7-8 for a fun-filled, informative evening!

And, of course, refreshments will be served. If you have any questions, please contact Karen Boyle klb.rjc@verizon.net or Kerry Benjamin kbenjamin1@verizon.net.

LIBRARY

This week the Library will open and some of the students and teachers will be able to start checking out books. Not all of the classes will be starting this week as some of the teachers are still looking for volunteers to help their students in the library. Please contact your student's teacher if you are willing to help. Once the teacher has given us all of your information you will be contacted by a member of the Library Committee for library orientation.

The Library is looking for the following donations:

1. Pencils (sharpened would be great)
2. Rolls of scotch tape ¾ inch for use in an existing tape dispenser
3. Book marks

Book donations

Non-Fiction

1. Science
2. Animal
3. Sports
4. Arts and crafts
5. Multicultural

Magazine Subscriptions

1. Sports Illustrated for Kids
2. National Geographic for Kids

We had families donated subscriptions for the library last year and these subscriptions are going to expire soon. These magazines are very popular among students and would like to continue to receive them.

The Library Committee

PARENTS ASSOCIATION NEWS & INFORMATION

From the PA Chair – Heather Dans

- ❖ The next meeting of the Parents Association is tonight, October 6. Meeting begins at 7pm. Join us at 6:30pm for social time! The agenda is attached.
- ❖ **BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION – place your box tops in the envelope at the front desk.**

GOLF TOURNAMENT & AUCTION COMMITTEE

The Kickoff Meeting of the Golf Tournament and Auction Committee is Wednesday, October 6th at 6:00 p.m. at the school (take a left at the piano, 1st 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.

VOLUNTEERING AT SSCPS

In order to Volunteer at the school you must:

1. Take part in a volunteer orientation. Sessions will be held at the end of the Parent Coffee Hours on the following Wednesdays at 9:30am October 13, 20, 27, and November 3.
2. Complete and pass a CORI check. This must be done YEARLY with Pam Algera or Kristine Shipp
3. Read and sign a confidentiality agreement. This also must be done every year.

If you have any questions about volunteering, please contact Jessica Lussier at jesslussier@comcast.net

COMMUNITY SERVICE OPPORTUNITY

To all SSCPS Families: As you all know, the fabulous Harvest Run is coming up soon. This is a great opportunity for our students to perform community service. Help is still needed and all levels are welcome to help out. Children in lower levels will need to be accompanied by an adult. Please contact Annette Golden at Harvestrun@sscps.org to sign up. *Thank you! Karen Crays, PA Community Service Representative*

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 Shippis, Business Manager.

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

Parent's Association Meeting

October 6, 2010

AGENDA

- 7:00 **Meeting Called to Order**
- 7:00 – 7:05 **Review and Approve September Minutes**
- 7:05 – 7:15 **Announcements**
- Next Meeting – Saturday, November 6, 2010 at 9am
 - Upcoming Events
 - Harvest Run
 - Volunteers needed!
 - Golf and Auction
- 7:15 – 7:45 **School Report**
- Alicia Savage
 - Angie Pepin
 - Ted Hirsch
 - Student Representative
- 7:45 -8:15 **Athletic Initiatives Discussion**
- Alicia Savage
 - Where we stand today
 - Where we would like to be
- 8:15 - 8:30 **Committee Reports**
- Fundraising - Gwen Watchorn
 - Welcoming & Events – Kerry Griffin
 - SEPAC – Karen Boyle / Kerry Benjamin
 - Library – Beth Toma
 - Health & Safety – Yeemay Miller
 - Arts & Music – Jennifer White
 - Volunteer – Jessica Lussier
 - Community Service – Karen Crays
- 8:30 – 8:45 **Grade Representative Reports**
- 8:45 – 8:50 **Treasurer's Report**
- 8:50 – 9:00 **Old Business / New Business**
- 9:00 **Adjourn**



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

Breakfast for the Month of October, 2010
Due to the office by 3:00 pm, *Tuesday, October 12, 2010

Student Name _____

Pod Teacher/Advisor _____ Grade _____

Please **CHECK** off the day breakfast will be ordered.

Week of Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday
 10/18– 10/22

Week of Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday
 10/25 – 10/29

Number of Breakfasts ordered _____ X \$1.50

Total Amount Enclosed \$ _____

Cash or Checks may be made out to SSCPS.

Lunch Order Form
Due to the office by 3:00 pm, *Tuesday, October 12, 2010

Please **CHECK** off the day lunch will be ordered

Week of Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday
 10/18– 10/22 # _____

Week of Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday
 10/25 – 10/29 # _____

Number of Meals ordered _____ X \$3.50

Number of Slices of Pizza ordered _____ 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.

Parent's Association Update

State of the School



PSAT

Next Wednesday, October 13th, our tenth and eleventh graders will take the PSAT. If you have a child in that grade, please be sure they get a good night's sleep and eat breakfast. Please remind your child that they have nothing to worry about - this is their time to shine. Our sophomores and juniors have been working hard and the time has come for them to show what they know. It is important that they do their best so that information gleaned from the test will be meaningful and provide a study map for the SAT.



826 BOSTON

On September 21st ten of our juniors and seniors began a collaborative tutoring initiative with 826 Boston. These 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.

Our students have gone to 826's headquarters three times already. Angie Pepin and Jared Rose have done a terrific job driving the van to and from the site each Tuesday. Our school community is exceedingly proud of the important and much needed work they are doing with the children of Boston.

We are ready to set the foundation for 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 www.826boston.org



DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES FOR THE UPCOMING YEAR

Annual Fund	October 1
Web Based Fundraising	Developing
Student Luncheon w/Deval Patrick	September 23, 2010
Harvest Run 5k	October 16, 2010
Grandparents Day	December 8, 2010
National Honor Society Induction	November 24, 2010
Third Annual Golf/Auction	June 10, 2011



Green Initiatives

We are sending a team from the school on October 24th, 25th, and 26th to the Green Schools National Conference in Minneapolis, MN. Kristine Shipp, Sarah Roberts and Mark Flanagan will be representing the school and its green initiatives.

They will be returning to the school with a strategic plan for the green initiatives for our school. The bus should be coming in November, until ICA Bus Company is able to give us a date for the arrival of the bus, we are frozen in what we will be able to do with planning and public relations. We have an event we would like to plan, however, due to the unknown day of arrival, we know we have to develop a secondary plan as well.

MCAS

Three weeks ago we learned that the Commonwealth had given us a commendation for moving the most students into the *Advanced* and *Proficient* categories. We are now in the interesting place of determining what it is we need to modify, without changing what has been working so well. **The Boston Globe** has compiled its annual MCAS rankings and released the rankings to the public on September 22nd.

We were very pleased to see that South Shore Charter Public School ranked 11th in the state in 10th Grade Mathematics with a score of 97. This means we ranked higher in tenth grade mathematics than all other schools in our sending districts. The tenth graders who took the exam in May are now eleventh grade students who will be taking the PSAT one week from today.

Singapore Math

The New York Times recently published an article, *Making Math Lessons as Easy as 1, Pause, 2, Pause...* This article discusses the theory and methodology behind the Singapore math curriculum and why so many schools and districts have adopted the program. Although the article does not go into detail about the system of explaining mathematical concepts, how students gain mathematical fluency, or how it differs from other math programs, the article does provide an engaging overview through anecdotal information. As Singapore math is the curriculum used at SSCPS in grades K-6, we found the article to be worthwhile reading. If you would like to learn more about your child's math program, there will be a Singapore math information session tomorrow evening at 6:30.