



Thursday	02/09	School Council	3:45pm
Thursday	02/09	Annual Fund Phone-a-Thon	4:00-8:00pm
Saturday	02/11	Annual Enrollment Lottery	10:00am
Saturday	02/11	Ski Club	6:30am
Monday	02/13	Facilities Committee	6:00pm

## PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Now that we have passed the halfway mark for the school year and midyear exams are behind us, we are in the process of preparing for the busy spring and laying plans for next year. Our Seniors are working towards graduation as they wrap up their Exit Standards in the coming weeks. Meeting with Seniors at this time of year leads me to reflect on our high school program and the ways in which it differs from a typical district school. While we may all be in the same building, it is often difficult for students and families to learn about what happens in other parts of the school. I thought I would take this opportunity to discuss what makes our high school's Exit Standards unique. Our 9-12 students must complete significantly more requirements than students in most public high schools as evidenced by the requirements outlined below.

- **4 years of English, Math, History, Science, and Spanish**

Students at South Shore Charter Public School are all required to take four years of English, four years of Math, four years of Science, four years of History/Social Science, and four years of Spanish. This is far ahead of the curve for the state which requires a full four years of only one subject, English. By completing four years of each subject our students are meeting the academic prerequisites for college entrance at the most competitive schools.

- **4 years of Workshop**

Outside of standard academic requirements, all high school students must also complete four years of Workshop which for some students can be a life changing aspect of their education. Workshops provide students with an opportunity to explore interests, take on leadership roles, hone skills, and interact with the larger community.

- **Meet the Massachusetts MCAS graduation requirements**

Like all Massachusetts students, our students must achieve a Proficient or better score on the English Language Arts and Math MCAS tests as well as a 220 or better on a Science MCAS test.

- **Writing Portfolio**

While this requirement is not new, as a school we are in the process of revising this requirement to reflect the writing skills and types of writing essential for success when students leave us. We will implement the revised portfolio next year. An important component of the portfolio requirement is a college essay essential for the completion of applications.

- **Complete, with a passing grade 75 or better, two pre-approved three-credit courses at an accredited college or university.**

All students must complete two college courses that we fund prior to graduation. College courses provide students with a feel for college-level work, an opportunity to earn credits to help them get a head start on their degrees, and a chance to improve their transcripts. Many schools, including all of the state schools,

weigh college courses like AP courses when considering a student's application. The college course requirement provides students with a wide range of areas to explore outside of standard high school academics. A grade of 75 or better is required so that the credits are transferable.

- **Complete a Senior Project and present the work completed to a panel of judges.**

Senior Project is an internship that replaces their fourth quarter for our 12<sup>th</sup> graders. Students choose an area of interest and work with guidance and the senior class advisor to find an appropriate placement. Senior Project allows students to investigate an interest and to learn more about a field they might want to pursue in college or beyond. When Senior Project is complete students return to SSCPS to present their work to faculty and peers.

- **Attain a score of 70 or above on Senior Debate**

All seniors participate in Senior Debate in the spring. The debate is embedded in the 12th grade Ethics course and is focused on a senior class-selected topic. Debates provide students with another opportunity to hone the public speaking skills they have been working on through Exhibitions of Mastery since kindergarten.

- **One accredited college or university letter of acceptance**

- **Two letters of recommendation from student's advisor, faculty member, guidance counselor or Principal**

Students collect these letters during the college application process.

- **Community Service: A student must complete 30 documented hours per year for freshman, sophomore and junior year and 45 documented hours for senior year.**

Finally, our high school students, like all SSCPS students are required to do community service. While many schools require community service, the requirement at SSCPS is particularly robust.

Community service is an Exit Standard for every level and is a key component of our program. Working on community service early can make the end of the school year less stressful for students and families. Thanks to the work of Beth Toma, our PA Community Service Chair, community service opportunities are regularly highlighted in the Update. In my experience many students complete their requirement, but do not document their hours until the last minute. Get this done as hours and acts are completed!

Thanks to the hard work of our staff we constantly adapting and making our program stronger. If you have questions about our high school program or suggestions for continued improvements, please do not hesitate to contact me.

-Angie Pepin [apepin@sscps.org](mailto:apepin@sscps.org) 781-982-4202

## ATHLETICS

The Nantasket Nor'easters high school sailing team of Hull HS, Cohasset HS and the South Shore Charter Public School will have a meeting of prospective and returning team members at the Cohasset HS Library on Wed, Feb 15th from 8-9 PM. Parents are encouraged to attend. If you are interested in finding out more about the team, please attend the meeting. Returning members, please encourage new prospective members to attend as well. For those that cannot make it but would like more information, please email [info@sailnantasket.org](mailto:info@sailnantasket.org)

## WHAT'S HAPPENING IN PROJECTS AND WORKSHOPS?

Last quarter in the High School Green Building Workshop we were working on measuring plug loads. This is the amount of energy anything plugged into a wall socket is using. We went around using Kill-a-Watt meters to measure the laptop carts, the iPad cart, and anything that gets used constantly. We then as a workshop plugged this data into a spreadsheet on Google Docs. We have just finished doing this and we are now sending it off to NSTAR. We are going to use this data to see where we can possibly save more energy.

Olivia Decius, Green Building Workshop Student

## ON THE LEVELS

### SAYING OF THE WEEK:

Level 1: "Never leave for tomorrow what you can do today."

Level 2: "Through thick and thin."

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

**Haley's Level IV Project** is currently working on an auction mosaic art piece Fridays between 1-3pm starting February 10<sup>th</sup>. They looking for volunteers to help out. If you are able to come in and volunteer one or more days please contact Haley [hwojtaskinski@sscps.org](mailto:hwojtaskinski@sscps.org)

**Claire in Level III** is currently working on an auction decoupage art piece Fridays between 1-3PM starting February 10<sup>th</sup>. They are looking for volunteers to help out. If you are able to come in and volunteer one or more days please contact Claire [coverlee@sscps.org](mailto:coverlee@sscps.org)

## COMMUNITY SERVICE



### TeenLife LIVE! Community Service Fair & Expo on February 12th

Students, parents, and teachers are invited to attend the fifth annual Teen Life LIVE! Community

Service Fair & Expo in Greater Boston. It will take place on **Sunday, February 12th from 12-4 pm** at The Mall at Chestnut Hill in Chestnut Hill, MA. Meet face-to-face with representatives from local non-profits willing to engage teens as volunteers as well as representatives from other programs and services. Each student will receive a free copy of the *2012 Guide to Community Service in Greater Boston*. Most middle and high school teens are required to do up to 40+ community service hours as a prerequisite to graduating. At Teen Life we can see why. The benefits of helping others or working with a worthy cause can be one of the most rewarding experiences of your lifetime. Volunteering helps you develop a heart for giving. Discover the wider world around you. Foster meaningful relationships. And even build your resume. TeenLife showcases a countless number of non-profits who specifically work with teens. So, search our site to find the organization and service work that best interests you. **This TeenLife LIVE Community Service Fair is for students in grades 7-12.** This would be a great opportunity for students to find out what opportunities are available for Community Service.



### MS Society Walks

April 1, 2012 in Boston  
May 5, 2012 in Cohasset  
May 12, 2012 in Natick

### MS Society Bike Ride

June 23-24, 2012 – Boston to Provincetown.  
Check website below for more details  
<http://www.nationalmssociety.org>



Join the 2012 Walk for Hunger on **Sunday, May 6, 2011!** Register online beginning in February. Sign-up to receive an email when registration is available. Website: <http://www.projectbread.org>

See email below regarding Walk for Hunger:

*This is an email received recently from Nicholas Riley, Volunteer Campaign Associate for Project Bread-Walk for Hunger. I wanted to get in touch to let you know about a couple of our events coming up before the Walk for Hunger. The first opportunity is sign painting, which takes place Saturday March 17<sup>th</sup> at the East Boston Social Center from 9:30am-1pm. Sign painting is a fun event where volunteers create the nearly 400 signs that will line the entire route of the Walk for Hunger. The EBSC is located at 68 Central Square in East Boston. Later in April, we will also be hosting our annual snack bag packing to put together the 30,000 snack bags given out to walkers at Arsenal Park. We're still finalizing a specific date and time for the event, but I would be happy to let you know when that information becomes available. Thank you for your interest in this year's Walk for Hunger. I hope to see the South Shore Charter Public School's students at one of our events!*

This would be a great opportunity for Community Service for students/families that may not be able to participate in the Walk for Hunger in May, but would like help be involved in the preliminary preparations for this popular and well attended event.

## Breast Cancer Walk – Boston – May 19-20, 2012

Website: <http://www.avonwalk.org>



**National  
Brain Tumor  
Society**

### Day of Event Information

#### Ride Day

**Date:** Sunday, May 20, 2012

**Location:** Reservoir Woods, Waltham, MA

**Registration/Check In:** 7 - 8 a.m.

**Program and Activities:** 8 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

You do not have to ride to volunteer at this event. Volunteers are needed from helping set up, registration, greeters and food tent. Check web site below for more information. <http://www.braintumorcommunity.org>

These upcoming Community Service events offer opportunities to work together as groups, families, individually. There is now a list of organizations on the school web site under Community Service that you can use as a resource to find volunteer opportunities. This list will be updated through the year.

If you know of an event that is coming up in your community in the near future please email Beth Toma at [JToma85103@aol.com](mailto:JToma85103@aol.com).

## COMMUNITY INTEREST

**Holly Hill Farm** is pleased to announce the 2012 **Consider This!** contest for students in grades K-12. The goal is to reward thoughtful reflection on an important garden related topic. A cash prize of \$25 will be awarded for each grade level. Students can express their thoughts through a piece of writing or art work. Submission deadline is March 1<sup>st</sup>. For complete contest information visit [www.hollyhillfarm.org](http://www.hollyhillfarm.org).

**“Valentines and Dream Catchers”** at Holly Hill Farm, 236 Jerusalem Road, Cohasset, Saturday February 11 from 10 am – 12 pm. Dreaming of your Valentine? Come in from the cold and make a homemade Valentine and a dream catcher out of natural materials found on the farm. All materials will be provided. We will create special treasures in the heated greenhouse. This fun program is for all ages. \$20 per family for members of the *Friends of Holly Hill Farm*, \$30 for nonmembers. For directions and more information, visit [www.hollyhillfarm.org](http://www.hollyhillfarm.org) or call 781-383-6565.

**“February Vacation at Holly Hill Farm!”** 236 Jerusalem Road, Cohasset, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday February 21 – 23 from 10 am – 12:00 pm. Tired of being inside? Treat your children to an action packed three mornings on the farm. Explore the woods, help the farmers with composting, interact with the farm animals and dig in the greenhouse. There are many fascinating discoveries on the farm in winter! This drop-off program is for children ages 5-8 years old. Space is limited; please pre-register by calling 781-383-6565. Fee: \$72 for members of the *Friends of Holly Hill Farm*, \$122 for non-members (includes new membership). For directions or more information, visit [www.hollyhillfarm.org](http://www.hollyhillfarm.org).

**Holly Hill Farm**, 236 Jerusalem Road, Cohasset, is pleased to announce a full lineup of **Summer 2012 Programs** for children ages 3 through college. In addition to our traditional farm programs, we’re offering many new opportunities for children interested in exploring the diverse habitats of the 130 acres of woods, ponds, and salt marsh at Holly Hill Farm. There are also exciting new offerings for pre-teens and older youth who might be interested in a different sort of summer experience building things, cooking, growing food for Father Bill’s, selling produce at the farmers market, or assisting with camp programs. More information and registration forms are available at [www.hollyhillfarm.org](http://www.hollyhillfarm.org).

**WEEKLY UPDATES ARE EMAILED AND POSTED ON OUR WEBSITE AT [WWW.SSCPS.ORG](http://WWW.SSCPS.ORG)  
EVERY WEDNESDAY – TO RECEIVE A PAPER COPY PLEASE CONTACT PAM ALGERA EXT. 103  
OR EMAIL [PALGERA@SSCPS.ORG](mailto:PALGERA@SSCPS.ORG)**

# Annual Fund Update

ANNOUNCING THE ...



**"I LOVE SOUTH SHORE CHARTER PUBLIC SCHOOL"**  
FEBRUARY ANNUAL FUND CHALLENGE

There is no better time than now to consider a gift to SSCPS!

An anonymous donor has challenged the SSCPS community to match their gift of \$5,000.

All new and increased gifts received between February 1 and February 29 will qualify.

Mail your donation today to:  
SSCEF  
P.O. Box 512  
Accord, MA 02018

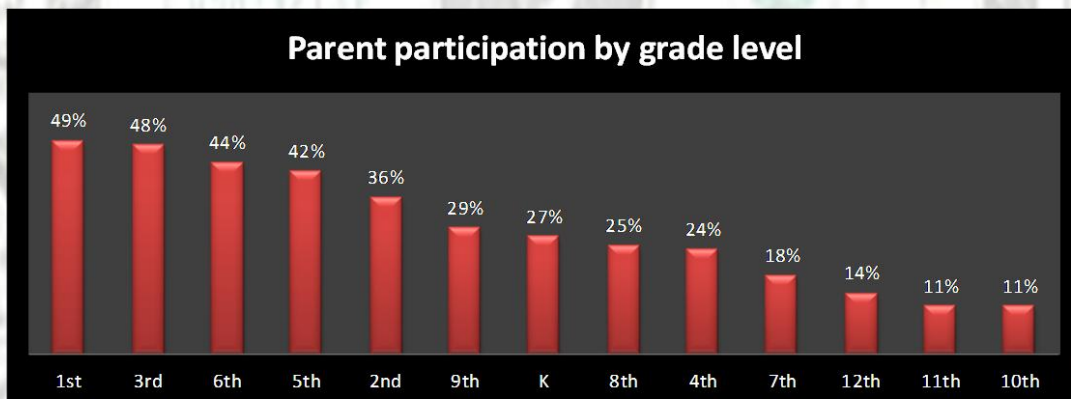


Or donate online by visiting  
[www.sscps.org](http://www.sscps.org)

With your help, we can maintain and enhance current programs and reach our goal of 100% participation.

All gifts benefit SSCPS. Monetary donations are tax deductible.

**Current Overall Parent Participation Rate: 28%**



The participation rate is used when applying for grant money as a measure of how committed families are to the school— a high participation rate attracts corporations and foundations to support our school.

We ask that you give as much as you can, BUT we challenge everyone to participate -

**Your donation makes a difference!!**

SSCPS PA Financial Request – Spring 2012

Requests Due by Thursday 2/16/12

Date:

Total Amount Requested\*:

Date Required:

Description of request (be specific!):

Supplier Information

Company Name:

Address:

Telephone Number:

Fax Number

Website:

People who will benefit if request is granted:

Submitted by

Name:

Title:

Email Address:

Telephone Number:

\*Amount requested must include any and all taxes, labor, set-up charges, delivery fees, etc. Do the research and make sure the amount requested is completely accurate and/or get realistic quotations from the proposed vendor. Requests with incomplete information will not be considered. Attach any supporting documentation necessary to help the Task Force make an informed decision.

Return form to PA Treasurer Elissa Dennis no later than Thursday, 2/16/12.

There will be an envelope at the front desk,

Any questions? call Elissa at 617-347-2283.

Breakfast Order Form  
Breakfast for the Month of February, 2012  
**Due to the office by 3:00 pm, \*Tuesday, February 14, 2012**

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_

Pod Teacher/Advisor \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_

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

Week of 2/20 – 2/24     Monday     Tuesday     Wednesday     Thursday     Friday

Week of 2/27 – 3/2     Monday     Tuesday     Wednesday     Thursday     Friday

Number of Breakfasts ordered \_\_\_\_\_ X \$1.60

*Less credit due* \_\_\_\_\_

**Total Amount Enclosed** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Cash or Checks may be made out to SSCPS.

Lunch Order Form  
 Lunch for the Month of February, 2012  
Due to the office by 3:00 pm, \*Tuesday, February 14, 2012

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_

Pod Teacher/Advisor \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_

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

Week of 2/20 – 2/24     Monday     Tuesday     Wednesday     Thursday     Friday

Week of 2/27 – 3/2     Monday     Tuesday     Wednesday     Thursday     Friday  
 Hamburger or Veggie (circle one)

Number of Meals ordered	_____	X	\$3.75
Number of Slices of Pizza ordered	_____	X	\$1.75
Number of Hamburgers/Veggie ordered	_____	X	\$3.75

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 35 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.*





**South Shore Charter School**  
**February, 2012**  
*Catered by Essence of Thyme*

**Breakfast**

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
6 Corn Flakes Apple Grahams Juice Milk	7 Frosted Mini-Wheats Whales Juice Milk	8 Cheerios Apple Grahams Juice Milk	9 Raisin Bran Juice Milk	10 Cinnamon Raisin Bagel Jelly Juice Milk
13 Golden Grahams Lemon Grahams Juice Milk	14 Frosted Mini-Wheats Whales Juice Milk	15 Raisin Bran Juice Milk	16 Cheerios Apple Grahams Juice Milk	17 Corn Muffin Juice Milk
20 - - -	21 - - -	22 Winter Break	23 - - -	24 - - -
27 Cheerios Cinn. Grahams Juice Milk	28 Frosted Mini-Wheats Juice Milk	29 Whole Wheat Blueberry Muffin Juice Milk	3/1 Yogurt Blueberry Grahams Juice Milk	3/2 Whole Wheat Cinnamon Roll Juice Milk

\* All Meals include 8 ounce Choice of 1% or Lowfat Chocolate Milk.



**South Shore Charter**  
**February 2012**  
*Catered by Essence of Thyme*

**LUNCH**

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
6 Chicken parmesan sub Tater tots Green Beans Milk	7 Hot Dog on a Bun Potato Wedges Corn Milk	8 <b>No Lunch</b>  <b>Early Release</b>	9 French Toast Sticks Hash Browns Baked sliced Apples Sausages Milk	10  BGood
13 Cheese Tortellini Green Beans Roll Apple Milk	14 Chicken Caesar Salad Wrap Carrots and celery Fruit Milk	15 Steak and Cheese Sub Fries Green Beans Milk	16 American Chop Suey Peas Apple Roll Milk	17  Pizza
20  - - - -	21  - - - -	22  WINTER BREAK	23  - - - -	24  - - - -
27 Chicken Patty on a Bun Tater Tots Green Beans Milk	28 Italian Hot Pocket Mixed Vegetable Fruit Milk	29 Herbed Baked Chicken Stuffing Carrots Scalloped Potato Milk	3/1 Turkey and Gravy Mashed potato Carrots Roll Milk	3/2  BGood

\* All Meals include 8 ounce Choice 1% or Lowfat Chocolate Milk

**\*Before placing your order, please inform the school if you have a food allergy!**