

**Update June 18, 2014**Vol. 6, Issue 3

# FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

What a wonderful year it has been! I would like to thank our families for so much support during this year of growth and change. Your support in classrooms, in our library, in the morning fitness program, on field trips, during FIT time, at the auction, at the golf tournament, and at our school wide events has made us stronger and more able to meet the educational needs of every child we are lucky enough to have come through our doors. As we approach our twentieth year, I am confident that the endless support of our families will continue to make us even stronger. Thank you.

We are exceedingly fortunate to have an outstanding faculty comprised of terrific and devoted teachers. We are very happy that we are able to retain teachers of such excellence and that we have not had much faculty transition over the past few years. This year is no exception. However, there is some news that I would like to share with you.

As some of you may know, Nicole Ridge will be leaving us to move on to new ventures. Nicole's love of Spanish language and culture has inspired our students and she has served as a terrific role model for so many. Nicole has been a wonderful addition to our high school faculty and has been instrumental in redesigning our Spanish program. Nicole's leadership and work on curriculum design and alignment has led our Spanish department to much growth and success over the past three years. We wish Nicole much luck in all of her future endeavors and hope she knows that there will always be place for her in here at SSCPS.

There will be one other faculty change at the high school level. Jenny Kostka will be taking a one-year sabbatical to further her studies at the Harvard Graduate School of Education. Jenny will be pursuing her Masters of Education in Technology, Innovation and Education starting in the fall. We are already looking forward to Jenny's return in the fall of 2015 and all of the new knowledge she will bring to our school. Congratulations to Jenny on entering this exciting program!

I would also like to thank two faculty members who have come to us on a temporary basis substituting for faculty members on maternity leave. Talya Davis has done an outstanding job as a long-term substitute teacher in our high school science department filling in for Jamie Allen. We were very fortunate to have such a highly qualified teacher step in be able to teach biology and chemistry so seamlessly. We are exceedingly grateful for Talya's expertise and commitment to high standards and wish her all the best in the future.

Another wonderful addition this year has been Mariah Messina. Mariah came to us as a student teacher working with Krista on Level II this fall. Upon completing of her student teaching in December, Mariah accepted the position of long-term substitute filling in for Kristin Waldron. Mariah quickly transitioned from math to English and became a member of the Level II team whose contributions were greatly valued and appreciated by students and faculty. We would like to thank Mariah for a wonderful year and we know that the classroom that gets her next year will be very fortunate.

We are pleased to announce that Bill Tramontana will be joining Joyce Dandrow as a Learning Services teacher on Level III. We are very excited to have Bill in this new role and we are looking forward to his excellent work continuing. There will be no other changes to Level III. Jenna Brink, who has been substituting for Mac Haran, will remain in that role until Mac returns. Jenna has done a terrific job all year and she has generously agreed to continue in that role.

I would like to again thank our families for all the support you have given our teachers and school. Your belief in the South Shore Charter Public School is the essential component of our school community. I would also like to say thank you to Delaney Alden for the very generous gift left at the front desk this morning. It was very touching and reminded us all why we are so fortunate to be here. You made our day. Thank you.

Have a wonderful and restful summer!

Alicia E. Savage – asavage@sscps.org

# **COMMUNITY INTEREST**

**News from Holly Hill Farms** 

**June 21 - Bird Walk** 8 am – 10 am \$5

Explore the trails with local bird enthusiast, Sally Avery. Always a popular program, Sally's Bird Walk will both educate and inspire you to learn more about the birds that share our fields, forests, shores and landscapes. Holly Hill Farm. 236 Jerusalem Road, Cohasset. 781-383-6565. www.hollyhillfarm.org

**June 21 – August 30 (no class July 5) Yoga on the Farm** Saturday Mornings 8 am – 9 am 10 classes for \$100 for Members / 10 classes for \$120 Non-Members \$12 drop-in for Members / \$15 drop-in for Non-Members Linda Storm will help you start each weekend off in balance, with a peaceful and energizing yoga class on the Farm. All levels are welcome. Bring your mat, towel, water, bug repellant and a friend to this popular series. Holly Hill Farm, 236 Jerusalem Road, Cohasset, 781-383-6565 <a href="https://www.hollyhillfarm.org">www.hollyhillfarm.org</a>

## June 25 - Shop at Whole Foods!

Do your shopping at Whole Foods at the Derby Street Shoppes in Hingham and 5% of sales will be donated to the Friends of Holly Hill Farm to help continue our educational programs!

### June 9 – August 15 SUMMER CAMP!

Limited space is available, so don't delay! Holly Hill Farm has exciting, fun and creative programs for kids ages 3 – 18. From our *Baby Spinach* program for children ages 3 & 4, through the *Farm Pantry* program for teens aged 16-18, there is something for everyone! Visit our website for details. Holly Hill Farm. 236 Jerusalem Road, Cohasset, 781-383-6565 www.hollyhillfarm.org

### July 23 - Wild Edibles with Russ Cohen 6pm – 8pm \$12 Members / \$15 Non-Members

Greens, weeds and maybe a mushroom, too. Follow our local expert and learn to identify wild plants for food and beverages. Russ will discuss methods for preparation, seasons of availability, habitats and nutritional value of the most common and appealing wild plants found in this region. Holly Hill Farm 236 Jerusalem Road, Cohasset 781-383-6565 www.hollyhillfarm.org

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>