



FROM THE K-6 PRINCIPAL

There are many reasons I feel very fortunate to be a Principal at the South Shore Charter Public School but one of them is the cyclical nature of my job and the patterns of the school year. For me, the routine of each day with its greeting and sweeping in the morning and the calling of the names at dismissal are anchors upon which the flow of the year rests, so I have what makes me happy: a routine that is stable but full of variety. One routine of my year is writing these Updates and for the past several years I have compiled bits of the Update pieces I have written as my final Update of the year. Reflecting on the year as it passes helps me with the closing of the school year.

This has been a rewarding but challenging year for me as my youngest child went off to college (happily for her) and my mother died (peacefully and beautifully) and my colleague for twenty years Velma Begley is retiring (happily) but I have been able to count on the teachers, families and students of the South Shore Charter School to make my life full and beautiful.

September 3

Summer is the rest that is essential in the cycle of the life of a school. A good summer is like a good night's sleep; it makes the day or the year to come all that much more promising.

September 24

When I go out into the educational world ... I hear about all of the phone calls and the e-mails other principals get from disappointed families and of all the situations they are in that need fixing. That is not my experience. There is a simple reason for that and it is the combination of systems/structure of our school and the skill of our faculty. Very few situations come to me because you, the families, collectively go to teachers and you trust them. I love to be involved but typically I am not needed and most of my job is simply being present.

October 15

Literacy Night for Levels I and II is this Thursday. It is a very simple event where from 6:00 – 7:00 adults read to children. To help set the tone children are allowed to come to school in pajamas and some of the adults even wear them too. Please come.

November 5

This afternoon students from Kevin Burokas' Gardening High School Workshop and June Fontaine's Level I Gardening Project will pick the carrots. If you have ever harvested potatoes, carrots or other root crops with children you know how joyful that can be. Under the ground there is a mystery hidden by dirt. The feeling of discovery and adventure is readily apparent. What makes the experience even more wonderful is that the mystery is food. Some of the crop will be big, some will be small. Some of the carrots will be orange, others yellow and red.

November 26

I am grateful for role models. I have role models in my colleagues who are able to tell me when they believe I am wrong and who see things that I do not see. I have role models in the student who comes to tell me about the Linux system and Ubuntu he is using and whose passion is undeniable. I have a role model in my father who for five years has taken care of my mother as she has withdrawn from the world. He has always welcomed my company but never wants to impose on me to help him with my mother's care. It reminds me how to be generous.

December 27

Thanks too to those who shared their deep appreciation to our music teachers, Wardie and Theron. Some of that feedback was not just about them as dedicated teachers; some of it was about music. Here is one of the e-mails that

we received. Music is so very important to our family ... Last night was the “first concert” in the next generation of concerts in our family. I remember the wonder and excitement of going to the school cafeteria so long ago to pick up my trumpet at “Instrument Night.” I saw that look in some of those students last night. Last night was so much more than just a concert. ... along with their classmates had a chance to shine...and shine they did. If there was an “unwritten” mission statement for SSCPS, I think last night captured what “it” is all about. ... – thank you.

January 14

For me, the biggest symbol of this growth over the past five years and our new institutional maturity is babies. On the door of my office I have photographs of some of our teachers’ babies and children. I am proud I work in a charter school where teachers make careers and have rich lives, and so I get to look at an important symbol of that every time I open my door. We now have enough institutional gravity that our teachers and school administrators can take time to have children and then return to our school. In the first two weeks of this year we have had two babies. Angie Pepin had a baby boy, Owen, and Rachel Rich had a baby girl, Chloe. These are two of our school leaders but the work of the last ten years has paid off. While we miss them and are excited for their return from maternity leave, we are okay and the quality of our work continues.

January 28

This week we had a big snow storm. The snow was light and fluffy but the wind was fierce and how the storm landed on each of us in this small community all depended on geography. For those who were inland it was both a pleasure and an obstacle but it was not particularly scary. For those who were on the coast it was the full force of nature showing our vulnerability. I hope everyone got through the storm with their health and happiness.

February 11

I have seen students and teachers put the snow and all of the logistics of snow in a corner of their mind and they all seem to be working hard on the business of school. The kindergarteners are celebrating the 100th day of school. The Level II students are diligently taking formative assessments and I saw dozens of Exhibitions of Mastery boards coming into school today. In short the students are doing their job and so are the teachers.

March 4 Charter is Renewed

On Kawara’s work points out that by the time I read this and you read this it is no longer February 27th. But one thing we can be sure of is that it feels good to be recognized for “strong vision, high standards and hard work.” All three of those compliments ring true to me but the one that I value the most is hard work. Thanks to all of the members of our community, especially the teachers for years and years of hard work. Congratulations!!!

March 19

On Wednesday morning I expected to find the sad news that the skunk cabbage was not up. I pulled off of Prospect Street in Hingham next to the George Washington Forest and expected to see only snow. I parked my car and went to look to see if perhaps I was wrong. As I traipsed across the snow I saw these bare patches. In them I found skunk cabbage maybe a little bit smaller than they had been this time in March last year but just about the same. The amazing attributes of skunk cabbage were stronger than the snow. You see skunk cabbage produces its own heat and it had melted the feet of snow.

April 1

To view the video click here: www.youtube.com/watch?v=c0_De0suKRA&feature=youtu.be

To improve each of our lives all we have to do is heed the kindergarteners’ messages and the world will be a better place

May 6

It is great to have 7-12 Principal Angie Pepin back in school!

May 27

One important aspect of the end of the year is the celebration of accomplishment. In our school the most important day is graduation and I encourage all those who can to attend our graduation ceremony next week. Our graduation is my favorite graduation. It is small, personal, and it is beautiful as we say good bye to our seniors. I am always

excited to think about their release into the larger world and I have confidence they will accomplish a great deal out there. I know for certain that a great deal does need to get done.

Ted Hirsch – thirsch@sscps.org

Wednesday	06/10	4th Quarter Ends	
Thursday	06/11	Board of Trustees Development/Facilities/Finance	7:30pm 6:00pm
Friday	06/12	Level IV Field Day	
Friday	06/12	Level II Drama Performance	2:00pm
Friday	06/12	High School Heritage Celebration	1:00-3:00pm
Friday	06/12	String Recital in the Music Room	4:00pm
Friday	06/12	Level III Social in the Gym	5:00-7:30pm
Monday	06/15	Grades 1 and 2 Beach Day	
Monday	06/15	Level II Forges Park Field Trip	
Monday	06/15	Level III Georges Island Field Trip	
Tues-Thurs	06/16-06/18	Final Exams for Grade 7-11	
Tuesday	06/16	Kindergarten Beach Day	
Tuesday	06/16	Level III Spirit Day / Field Day	
Tuesday	06/16	SSCEF	6:00pm
Wednesday	06/17	Level II Year-End Awards	10:00am
Wednesday	06/17	Early Release Day	12:00pm
Wednesday	06/17	Parent Association Teacher Appreciation Luncheon	
Thursday	06/18	Level III Year-End Awards at the Gym followed by a celebration back in the Level III Great Room	9:00-10:00am
Thursday	06/18	8th Grade Award Ceremony at the Gym	10:30-12:00pm
Thursday	06/18	Last Day of School – Early Release	12:00pm

Level IV Final Exam Schedule June 16-18

	Tuesday 6/16	Wednesday 6/17	Thursday 6/18
8:15-8:30	Morning Meeting	Morning Meeting	Morning Meeting
8:30-10:00	A Block	C Block	E Block
10:00-10:30	Break	Break	Break
10:30-12:00	B Block	D Block	8th Grade Award Ceremony

High School Final Exam Schedule June 16-18

	Tuesday 6/16	Wednesday 6/17	Thursday 6/18
8:15-8:30	Morning Meeting	Morning Meeting	Morning Meeting

8:30-10:00	A Block	C Block	E Block
10:00-10:30	Break	Break	Break
10:30-12:00	B Block	D Block	Exam Make-up

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Our school community extends its deepest sympathies to Collins family during this difficult time.

Patrick Collins Memorial Fund - <http://www.gofundme.com/wen948>
Meal Train for Collins family. <https://mealtrain.com/o26181>

Calling all bakers, cooks and purchasers (AND VOLUNTEERS) for our Annual Teacher/Staff Spring Luncheon

The luncheon will take place on Wednesday, June 17th. This is the half day. We will need main dishes, side dishes, salads, desserts, and drinks. **I am looking for volunteers to help between 10:00 and 12:00**, but if you are able to help anytime that day, please consider helping. The more help during clean-up, the faster it goes. If possible, **please** try to drop off your item in the morning at drop-off, but you may also drop it off at dismissal/pickup if it's a hot item since there is no way to reheat food, although Crock-Pots can be dropped off **anytime**. The luncheon hosts about 80 faculty/staff members, and they love and appreciate the assortment of food that is sent in by our families. They look forward to our luncheons every year! If you would like to donate or volunteer, please contact me directly at jpettinelli123@hotmail.com.

Thank you for your generous donations!
Justina Pettinelli, Parent of Christian Pettinelli (Level II)

2015 Yearbook

The 2015 yearbook is now in progress and all the memories of the 2014-2015 school year will be published forever in print. A yearbook is a trip back to those fun times in school when friends were forever and life was an exciting promise. It captures that feeling and brings those times back again and again. Someday your student will want to look back, too. Buy them a little time - buy them a yearbook! To order online go to www.coffeepond.com, to login use school password: bluejaguar.

FROM THE HEALTH OFFICE

Please remember to pick up your child's medication from the health office by June 18, 2015. Medication not picked up will be disposed of. Also, please remember that all medication orders need to be renewed for the 2015-2016 school year.

NEWS FROM THE LIBRARY

The Library has closed for the year, and all materials are now due. **Please return any books to your child's pod teacher OR to Bev Bruce's room on Level 2 (room 318) before Tuesday June 16th** to avoid being billed for missing items. Check under car seats, in backpacks, or around your home! If you have lost a book, please email Bev at bbruce@sscps.org or call x336. Thank you!

ATHLETICS UPDATE

High School Track

At the Championship Meet last week all the SSCPS runners who qualified did a great job! Eighth grader Denesha Lafontant held her own racing up an age group in the 100 Meter. Madison Hebert placed tenth in the League in the 800 Meter beating her own personal best time. Darius Anderson put in a strong performance in the 100 Meter missing qualifying for the six person finals by just .1 second. A new school record in the 400 Meter was set by Abigail Dalton with a time of 68.6, placing 5th in the League. Paul Sullivan ran to a third place finish in the 1 Mile with a new school record of 5:00.1. Standout sprinter Melissa Theodore matched her school record times with a tie for Second place in the 200 Meter and a tie for First place in the 100 Meter. Congratulations to all the runners on the track team who will be recognized at the Spring Track Awards presentation on Thursday.

Middle School Track

The Boys and Girls Middle School Track Teams ended their seasons on June 2, 2015. The Boys team had strong performances by Blake Hearn in the 400m, Lucas Whitemyer in the 100m, Liam Nelson in the 800m and Raswsheed Nelson and Daniel Vital in the Shot Put. The Girls Team finished Third in the League out of 18 Teams. Denesha Lafontant placed 1st in the League in the Long Jump and Molly Kirves placed 1st in the League in the Shot Put. The team also had strong performances by Malescha Nelson 100m, Denesha Lafontant 200m, Chidera

Aniagu 400m, Caroline Boyle 800m, Portia Chambers 1600m. Every student on the team achieved a personal best during the season and were an absolute pleasure to coach and be around. Thank you for a great season!!

High School Baseball

In its debut year, the SSCPS baseball team saw numerous successes and although none of them came in the form of a win, the pilot season laid a solid foundation on which to build a strong tradition. Junior Ed Crowley pitched a vast majority of innings, dramatically improving his control throughout the season while junior Van Harting provided support on the offensive side of the ball, recording 10 runs on the season. A special thank you to all the parents who assisted in making our first spring in the Charter League a memorable one and securing our boys' place in history as SSCPS baseball's Founding Fathers!

Soft Ball

The softball team concluded their 2014-2015 season on Friday, May 29th in a game against Prospect Hill Academy. This game was played at M.I.T.'s softball field, which was very exciting for all players! PHA was pretty evenly matched with SSCPS as far as the standings and experience went, so it was a great game to watch! All players were encouraging and supportive of one another and aimed to find the positive in all situations. The team has much to work on in the future seasons, but the steady progression of skills that was seen from practice-to-practice and game-to-game proves that this team has it in them and will be a force to be reckoned with in future seasons!

The members of the 2014-2015 softball team are as follows: Morgan Rousseau, Winona Kertesz-Robbins, Noemie Trocher, Christine Nwafor, Ashley Guerin, Lauren Walsh, Lily Nelson, Sarah Phanord, Julia MacDougall, Cassie Amicangelo, Ana Aniagu, Nicole Rousseau, Madison Mirabile, Jordyn Lussier, and Sam Paul. Special congratulations to Cassie Amicangelo being named SSCPS' All League Player of the Season! At first base, Cassie had the experience and knowledge of the game of softball and emerged as a leader on the team. Her skills were seen up at bat as well as in the field with the way she was able to stretch with her long limbs at first base allowing us to get many runners out. Congrats to the entire team on a short, yet hard-fought season!

FROM THE MASSACHUSETTS BOARD OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION

Times for Public Forums on PARCC Assessment

The Board of Elementary and Secondary Education is holding a series of public forums across the Commonwealth on the upcoming decision on whether to sunset the Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System (MCAS) and adopt the Partnership for the Assessment of College and Careers (PARCC). Members of the public will be invited to attend and offer their perspectives on the PARCC assessments on the following dates and times. Please note that the time for the June 10 meeting has been shifted one hour later, with each meeting still scheduled for three hours:

- Wednesday, June 10, 2015, Bridgewater State University, Rondileau Campus Center Ballroom, 5:00-8:00 p.m.
- Monday, June 22, 2015, North Shore Community College - Lynn Campus, Gymnasium, 4:00-7:00 p.m. (in lieu of the special Board meeting)
- Tuesday, July 7, 2015, Springfield Technical Community College, Top of Our City Conference Center, 4:00-7:00 p.m.

Individuals who would like to speak must register when they arrive and will be given three minutes to speak within the time allotted. In addition to hearing testimony from members of the public, the forums may also include brief presentations from educators and others with particular expertise on topics such as test administration, college and career readiness, alignment with the curriculum frameworks, implications for classroom instruction, and online testing. Members of the public who are unable to testify at one of the forums are encouraged to submit written comments to boe@doe.mass.edu.

The Board of Elementary and Secondary Education is expected to make a decision this fall as to whether PARCC should replace current MCAS tests in English language arts and mathematics. The Board will be reviewing the results of last year's field tests and this year's operational tests, as well as studies conducted by other organizations. At the request of Governor Baker and Lt. Governor Polito, the Board will also inform their decision with the additional feedback provided at the forums.

For more information on PARCC, please see www.doe.mass.edu/parcc.

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

Turn Markers  **Into Energy!**

Dear Parents,

I'm excited to tell you about a very special program we are coordinating at our school in conjunction with Crayola. It's called Crayola ColorCycle – an amazing new program devised to turn used markers into energy!

All around SSCPS the Waste Watchers Project will be collecting used markers that are ready to be discarded. The markers will be sent to a facility where they will be converted into clean fuel. This fuel can be used to power vehicles, heat homes, cook meals and more!

Please help support our efforts by sending your kids in with any used markers you may have around the house – even non-Crayola brands. Drop-off boxes will be located around the school for your child to deposit the markers.

Thank you in advance for participating! With the help of parents like you across the country, the Crayola ColorCycle program can keep tons of plastic out of landfills each year.

Remember, don't throw out that used marker—*ColorCycle it!*

Sincerely,



Bill Tramontana

.....
Storybook Cove in the Hanover Mall is hosting the following:

YOUTH WRITING WORKSHOPS AGES 8-12

Saturday June 13, 2015 and July 18, 2015 from 1-3 pm

Snacks & Notebooks Provided. \$25/class or \$40 for both - RSVP a week ahead.

TEEN WRITING WORKSHOPS - AGES 12-17

Saturday June 13, 2015 from 3:00-5:00 pm and Saturday July 18, 2015 from 3-5 pm

Snacks & Notebooks Provided. \$25/class or \$40 for both - RSVP a week ahead.

Both workshop series are hosted by Megan Bucchianeri, a graduate of Curry College with a B.A in English with honors.

SIGN-UP ASAP - SPACE LIMITED - \$140 FOR 15 HOURS OF CREATIVE FUN!

PRE-Engineering using LEGO Ages 5-7/Grades K-2, Monday through Friday, July 27-31,

10:00 AM - 1:00 PM [LINK](#) to more info

Engineering FUNdamentals using LEGO® Ages 8-10/Grades 3-5, Monday through Friday,
July 27-31, 2:00 PM - 5:00 PM [LINK](#) to more info



School Bus Services

Putney Transportation will be providing open enrollment for school bus services from selected areas, to the South Shore Charter Public School. Rates start as low as \$100 a month until May 15th, and afterwards regular rates may apply. **Note: Limited seats are available.** Registration will close July 31st at 5p.m. Call us at 1(800) 531-1257 or email us at services@putneytrans.com for more info.



Putney Transportation LLC



- You can send Box Tops to school **anytime**. Please place in a *ziploc bag or envelope*. Drop off at the front desk. Include your **POD name** and your name (optional)
- The POD who earns the most by April 2016 will receive a Prize.
- Please ask Family and Co-workers to save their Box Tops throughout the year.

Each Box Top is worth 10¢ for our school

Box Top earnings \$\$ are sent to SSCPS in December and April

Box Tops do Expire so please check date the coupon

Over 80,000 K-8 schools participate

SSCPS can use Box Tops \$\$ to buy whatever we need

Lifetime Box Tops Earnings for SSCPS: \$8,443.65

Special Thank You to Bethany Whitemyer for being the SSCPS Box Top Coordinator for the past 5 years.

Irene Hackett will be the new SSCPS Box Top Coordinator for 2015-16

Please register at: www.boxtops4education.com to:

- ❖ View School Earnings
- ❖ View Participating Products
- ❖ View School Ranking
- ❖ Get Recipes
- ❖ Earn Coupons
- ❖ Enter Sweepstakes



Ends July 12, 2015



Enter for a chance to win ONE MILLION Bonus Box Tops or up to 10,000 instant win prizes for your school!

Ends December 15, 2015



Holly Hill Farm & Friends

6/8/2015 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Contact Info:

Friends of Holly Hill Farm

Holly Hill Farm

236 Jerusalem Road, Cohasset, MA 02025

www.hollyhillfarm.org 781-383-6565

Holly Hill Farm Media contact: jbelberhollyhill@hotmail.com

UPCOMING EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

Holly Hill Farm Stand Open

Saturdays and Sundays from 11:00 – 6:00pm

The Farm Stand is now open weekends from 11am – 6pm, featuring our organic greens, asparagus (for a limited time) and seasonally available produce. We still have organically grown seedlings for your vegetable gardens, including some unusual tomatoes and flowers. Shop daily from the stands outside the Main Barn. Holly Hill Farm. 236 Jerusalem Road, Cohasset [781-383-6565](tel:781-383-6565) www.hollyhillfarm.org

Summer Camp at Holly Hill Farm: Dig, Grow, Harvest June 8 – August 28

Call TODAY to register your child for Summer Camp at Holly Hill Farm. There is much to discover, taste and enjoy at Holly Hill. There is limited space available with 12-weeks of programming designed for kids ages 3 – 18. Visit our website for details or call 781-383-6565.

Holly Hill Farm, 236 Jerusalem Road, Cohasset. www.hollyhillfarm.org

Movies and Munchies at the Farm

Alternate Wednesdays beginning June 17 – August 12 7 - 10 pm

Join us for our Summer Films & Food series! Held outdoors, thought provoking films will be shown on the back of the Tomato Barn. Munchies baked in our masonry oven will be available for a fee. Event is postponed to the following Wednesday in the event of rain.

June 17th feature will be **Queen of the Sun: What Are the Bees Telling Us?** (queenofthesun.com) **Jenny DeFreitas owner & beekeeper of Jenny D's Bees**, (cohassefarmersmarket.com/?page_id=1696) a beekeeper for 4 years, maintaining 20 hives will present an educational program prior to the movie, complete with honey tasting! Movies are free of charge and munchies are available for a fee. Holly Hill Farm. 236 Jerusalem Road, Cohasset [781-383-6565](tel:781-383-6565) www.hollyhillfarm.org

Farm-to-Table Dinner with Chef Sam Cabral Curtis

Saturday, June 20

Kick off your summer and join us for our Farm-to-Table Dinner with Chef Sam Cabral Curtis from The Corner Stop Eatery in Hingham. 5 course prix fixe dinner will feature organic produce from Holly Hill Farm and meat or fish sourced sustainably and locally. \$125 per person for *Friends of Holly Hill Farm* Members, \$150 per person non-members. Wine and beer pairings are included. For review of 2014 Dinner see

<http://www.hinghamfoodie.com/food/farm-to-table-dinner-at-holly-hill-farm-featuring-the-corner-stop/>

Proceeds will support educational programs at the Farm and at local schools.

Holly Hill Farm. 236 Jerusalem Road, Cohasset. [781-383-6565](tel:781-383-6565) www.hollyhillfarm.org

2nd Annual Sustainable Garden Tour

Saturday, June 27 10 am – 3 pm

Mark your calendars! Last year's Sustainable Garden Tour was so popular, we've made it an annual event. Local gardeners from around the South Shore will open their gardens to our guests. The Tour will focus on sustainable, naturally/organically maintained gardens. See up close how gardeners keep backyard chickens, care for beehives

and utilize composting systems that feed their soil. Private homes, educational gardens at Holly Hill Farm, a Food Pantry garden and a Hingham school garden are featured. Come and gather creative ideas for your own garden. Tickets are \$25 prior to June 27 and \$30 the day of the tour. Tickets are available on our website. You may pick up your prepaid ticket or purchase in person beginning June 24th at Holly Hill Farm and at Kennedy's Country Gardens in Scituate, Route 3A. Holly Hill Farm. 236 Jerusalem Road, Cohasset. [781-383-6565](tel:781-383-6565)
www.hollyhillfarm.org

**Introduction to Wood Fired Baking Workshop with author and cook, Paula Marcoux
Saturday, July 11, 6 pm - 10 pm**

Join local Food Historian and author of [Cooking with Fire](#), Paula Marcoux for a four hour workshop of how to cook using a wood-fired oven. Evening will include specific techniques, tools and recipes to accompany the baked goods hot from the oven. Beverages will be included. Maximum 8 people. Holly Hill Farm. 236 Jerusalem Road, Cohasset. [781-383-6565](tel:781-383-6565) www.hollyhillfarm.org

**Farm Pantry: A Community Service Program for Teens ages 15 - 18
Ongoing opportunities through November
Free – Family Membership suggested**

This rewarding program for teens is fast becoming one of our most popular! Students explore organic growing methods as they help to sow, grow, harvest and deliver fresh produce for local food pantries in Cohasset and Hull, as well as, Father Bill's Place, a community shelter in Quincy. Early in the season, tasks help ensure the successful growth of crops. Later in the growing season the focus shifts to harvesting crops. Students are welcome to attend one, two or all twelve sessions! Participants will exit the program with documented hours of community service (a graduation requirement for some local students), a letter of recommendation and a sense of meaningful accomplishment in helping to make fresh, local produce available to clients at food pantries. Interested students are required to complete an application and write a letter of interest in order to participate. Forms are available on our website. Questions? Contact Education Director Jon Belber at [781-383-6565](tel:781-383-6565) or jbelberhollyhill@hotmail.com Holly Hill Farm. 236 Jerusalem Road, Cohasset. www.hollyhillfarm.org

SCHOOL PARTNERSHIPS: THE WEEKLY HARVEST

Recently the Holly Hill Farm Educators have been heeling in hardy tomatoes at the Gov. Winslow School in Marshfield and a Three Sisters (corn, beans, squash) Garden at the East School in Hingham. This week the Educators will plant six pounds of potatoes with second graders at Plymouth River School in Hingham. There are three second grade classrooms and each class will plant 2 pounds of potatoes. In the fall these future third graders hope to harvest a bountiful crop.