

SUNDERLAND ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

<http://www.ses.sunderland.ma.us>

SUNDERLAND SENTINEL

Mission: To ensure a positive, safe and respectful environment that inspires our children to realize, develop and attain their full potential in a school that values diversity and individual needs.

Principal's Message ~ Timothy Merritt

Hello Sunderland Families:

At the moment, I am at a family event out West to help send two of my closest relatives overseas. My brother will be departing for Afghanistan shortly, and my nephew—his son, Sean— will be deploying to Iraq this month as well. My sincere thanks to Douglas Tierney, former principal (now retired) at Deerfield Elementary School, who stepped in to cover my duties here while I am away.

I want to thank Ed Hines, Deb Zimnowski, Chiefs Gilbert and Ahearn, and all of the PTO members and organizers and volunteers who came together to make our Sweetheart Family Polka Night a wonderful evening of music, entertainment and dancing.

Since I have taken over as principal here, there have been many opportunities to invite the community into our building. I'm so pleased that many of you have chosen to come and see what a lovely and generous community we have here in Sunderland.

The Sweetheart Family Polka Night will benefit the Police, Fire and School Department as we face another difficult year. We are pleased that you would show your support of these departments in this way. Please come back and visit us again.

Tim Merritt

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FEBRUARY 5, 2010

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UPCOMING EVENTS

FEBRUARY

- 6 Sweetheart Polka Night with the Eddie Forman Orchestra ~ 6:30P—10:00 P
- 8 John Gurney, Illustrator & Author of The Bailey Kids & A-Z Mystery
- 8 School Committee:
Public Hearing
FY11 Budget @ 6:00P
SES CAFÉ followed by
regular meeting of the
School Committee
@ 7:00P in the Library
- 11 Grades 3 & 4 to Pioneer Valley Symphony 9:15A to 11:45A
- 15-19 School Vacation
Week

NEWS FROM THE PTO

Hi Folks,

While the days are getting longer, here's what the PTO is up to:

We had a lot of fun and a lot of happy winners with the Lottery Calendar in January and netted over \$1,300 for the PTO. A huge thank you to Mike Zeoli for producing and managing the whole thing and thanks to all who helped to sell and buy. Additional thanks to the Wilkerson family for donating gift baskets to be included as special prizes.

By the time you're reading this, Henry the Juggler will have just wowed SES with his renowned juggling performance. If your kids start asking for 3 apples at a time, you may want to protect your light fixtures! We have more special programs coming in the spring -- stay tuned.

Early February brings two things -- Punxsutawney Phil and the kickoff of the SES basket raffle. Room parents will be contacting you to enlist assistance and/or donations in the coming days. These baskets are always a great sideshow to Art's Night with a zen-like combination of function and form (something like that, anyway). If you haven't helped to put one together before, this could be your year ... whether your contribution is brainstorming, soliciting local businesses for basket items or putting on the final bow, everyone seems to have a good time.

One last thing to say: get your dancing shoes ready! CAFE SUN is warming up the winter with the "Sweetheart Polka" on this Saturday night, Feb 6, 6:30 - 10:00. Tickets are available in the school office through Friday and then at the door of the show (\$10 adults; \$5 kids). Earnings will be split between the PTO, Police and Fire Departments. The kids can dance and we have childcare available for when they need a break from us. :~) Can't wait to see everybody out there! Arrive on time to see Deb Zimnowski's 1st and 2nd grade "Polka Kids" do their thing.

Sincerely,

Doug, Aimee. Lyn and Traci



Sweetheart Polka Night



Tickets are still available!

Activity will be the name of the game on Saturday February 6th when the PTO hosts the first Polka Night Sweetheart Dance here in Sunderland. Originally scheduled to take place in the cafeteria, we have received so much advance interest in this night of dance and music that we have decided to move the dance into our gymnasium. Eddie Forman and his Orchestra will be performing and the evening's fundraiser promises to be a hit. Childcare is being provided by the Frontier Regional National Honor Society.

The event will include performances by our 1st and 2nd grade dancers under the direction of Debra Zimnowski. I've even heard talk of a special performance by some of our town Police and Fire personnel and perhaps a few elected officials.

There will be a dessert bar and light snacks and, of course, the inspiring music of Eddie Forman and his renowned band. The dance begins at 6:30pm and goes until 10:00pm. Tickets will be available in our main office and at the door. Proceeds will be going to several town departments including our Police, Fire and Public Safety teams and the Sunderland PTO. Please consider making the Sweetheart Dance a family night out or an early Valentine's date with that special someone.



SUNDERLAND ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
6th GRADE REVERSE RAFFLE
COME JOIN US FOR A CHANCE TO WIN \$1,500

The parents of the Sunderland Elementary School 6th grade would like to invite you to our **REVERSE RAFFLE** on **Saturday February 27th, 2010** at the Polish American Citizens Club in South Deerfield, MA. Please join us and bring a guest for an adult evening of socializing and an opportunity to win \$1,500 through our reverse raffle.

Tickets are \$40.00, which includes a **buffet dinner for two**, and **one entry into the reverse raffle for a chance to win \$1,500**. (Cash bar is available)

Here is how the **REVERSE RAFFLE** works. Each ticket will have a numbered ball (1 to 100) entered into a raffle drum. Balls will be drawn from the raffle drum throughout the evening until one ball remains. The holder of this lucky numbered ball will claim the \$1,500 Grand Prize. Additionally, there will be consolation prizes given out throughout the evening during the countdown to the final number.

To purchase your ticket, please fill out the **Reverse Raffle Ticket Form** and return your completed form with payment to a **SES 6th grade parent**. You may also send in your form and payment to: **Sunderland Elementary School, c/o 6th Grade Reverse Raffle, 1 Swampfield Dr., Sunderland, MA, 01375**. Completed forms and payment can also be dropped off at the **SES Main Office**.

Once we receive your ticket and payment, you will be notified by email or phone that you have been successfully entered into our **REVERSE RAFFLE**. Requests for a specific ball number (1 to 100) will be honored on a first come first served basis otherwise you will be assigned a random ball number. **You do not need to be present to win the Grand Prize** but you do need to be present to win any of the consolation prizes given out during the evening. Thank you for your support.

Saturday February 27th Evening Schedule

SES 6th Grade Parents 6:30 Doors Open & Social Hour

7:15 Buffet Dinner

7:30 25 balls drawn

8:00 25 balls drawn

8:30 25 balls drawn

9:00 15 balls drawn

9:15 Final 10 balls drawn

(Cut here and return completed form along with \$40.00 payment. If you have questions regarding the Reverse Raffle you can email us at sim1128@comcast.net)

SES 6th GRADE REVERSE RAFFLE TICKET FORM (\$40.00)

Name Phone #'s (H) _____

Cell: _____

Address _____

Email _____

Request for ball number (1 to 100): 1st choice

2nd choice

3rd choice

Number of person(s) for dinner (please circle): One

Two

Not attending dinner

If paying by check, please make your check payable to: **Sunderland Student Activity Fund**