

SUNDERLAND ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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

SUNDERLAND SENTINEL

Our 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, Principal

Dear Sunderland School Families and Friends:

Greetings from *Whoville*... This week has seen the culmination of months of hard work in preparation for this weekend's performances of *Seussical*. I am so proud of the efforts of all of the students and staff who have contributed to this year's production. Certainly the sixth grade students have been most involved in the play and their parents must be commended for all of their efforts in fundraising, set building and... driving, as they chauffeured their young actors back and forth from rehearsal.

With minutes to go before the full dress rehearsal, I say congratulations to Cathy Lee and her assistant Jen Gagne for their tireless effort in bringing another successful production to our footlights. And now...Take a bow... I hope you and your family will take time out to catch at least one of the performances on Saturday at 7pm or Sunday at 2pm. You will enjoy it!

This past Monday we held our first installment of an anti-bullying forum here in our cafeteria. Though it was sparsely attended, I believe the information that was exchanged there was invaluable. So much so that it convinced me to do it again, with more notice and hopefully many more of you able to join us. At this point, I am considering having it on Open House night as a way to reach the maximum number of parents and family members. I want to thank Vicki Palmer, our School Psychologist and Guidance Counselor and Lee Worthley, our second grade teacher, for their presentations on that night. Like many in the audience, I learned a lot from these two educators. I hope you'll join us for an encore in the fall.

The end of the year draws near and we have much to be thankful for. We have a terrific school here and I am so happy to be a part of your child's educational experience. The community of Sunderland has begun to reach out to us in a way that feels very very supportive. I appreciate all of those from the town offices and boards that have welcomed me in my first year here. I appreciate the PTO that has been there providing us with enrichment and so much more every time we have asked. I also appreciated my terrific staff and faculty for their work each day that continues to sustain Sunderland School as the jewel in the Valley. I owe them many thanks. As the year winds down, I will do my best to let them know how much I appreciate their professionalism and their commitment to your kids. If you feel as I do, I hope you'll join me by expressing that to them as well.

I hope you and your family have a wonderful summer break. Many of us will be here throughout the summer months, so if you have a question or a concern during that time, don't hesitate to call us or stop by.

Sincerely,
Tim Merritt
Principal

SWAMPFIELD DR
SUNDERLAND, MA 01375
OFFICE: (413) 665-1151
FAX: (413) 665-4545
NURSE: (413) 665-1451

Last Day of School:
June 24
Noon Dismissal

JUNE 11, 2010

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UPCOMING EVENTS

JUNE

- 12,13: *Seussical*
- 15: Instrumental Concert
@ 9:30A
- 15: School Committee 7P
- 16: Fun Run/Walk @ 1:30P
- 17: NYC Grade 6 Class Trip
- 17: Boston Grade 5 Class Trip
- 22: 6th Grade Graduation @
6:30P
- 24: Last Day of School 12N
dismissal

Lunch Menu

Monday 6/21: Nachos & chips, cheese sauce, taco meat, salsa, rice, green beans.

Tuesday, 6/22: Pizza, pasta side, tomato soup, corn

Wednesday, 6/23: Cook-out

PTO NEWS

To our SES Family of Friends,

It's been quite a year, filled with challenges and met with enthusiasm, creativity and grit. What a pleasure it has been to work with all of you -- enriching the school experience for our children and building friendships in the process. You may have done as much as role models for community spirit and contribution as anything else we did for the kids this year. Thank you!!

Of course, the year is not quite over, yet. We have our last PTO meeting on Monday, June 21st at 6:30 pm in the school library -- childcare provided, as usual. We will elect officers for next year, begin to confirm and seek new volunteers for committee positions (where the rubber meets the road), wrap up current business, and begin to plan for next year. Not that we need to pander, but there will be treats. Please join us!

We'd like to thank all of the folks who have pitched in on a number of recent activities:

- * Snow cones for the kids at the end of MCAS
- * Food, flowers and some new lounge amenities in honor of teacher and staff appreciation
- * Courtney Campbell visit - a wonderful (impressive and fun!) day of music for the kids
- * The lines have been going down on the new blacktop as this goes to press
- * All of the rest that I'm missing.

The PTO would like to acknowledge our new friends from Conway in the school. The positive spirit of sharing and collaboration is noticeable.

If you want to meet some of the incoming families before the year gets going, mark your calendars for the Kindergarten Ice Cream Social, August 18th at 6pm on the Early Childhood playground.

We hope to see you at the meeting on the 21st. Thanks again for your incredible commitment and contributions to Sunderland Elementary.

-Doug, Lyn, Traci and Aimee

Registration for the Sunderland Public Library
Summer Reading Program
Begins on Monday, June 14.

Pre-registration for individual programs is required in most cases. The program kick-off is Monday, June 21 at 6:00 pm with a lively performance by the Yo-Yo People. Come join the fun! For more information, call the library at 665-2642.



Sheila McCormick
Director
Sunderland Public Library
20 School Street
Sunderland, MA 01375
Phone: 413-665-2642
www.sunderlandpubliclibrary.org



“Clean Your Desk” Takes a Break

Unfortunately, our school will NOT be able to collect school supplies and other materials this June (as we have for the past three years) to send to schools in poor, rural communities in Nicaragua.

Amherst Pediatrics, the local “Clean Your Desk” campaign sponsor, reports that the warehouse in Nicaragua that had been used to store and distribute donations is no longer available for this purpose. Hopefully, another warehouse can be found to allow the flow of donated supplies to resume at desk-cleaning time next year.

~Matt Howell~