

THE BEACON



Volume 3, Issue 1, October, 2011

Dear Parents, Students and Friends,

As most of you know, our School has been hard-hit by budget reductions at the state level. We lost six positions this year and I am not yet sure what next year holds. On the back of this newsletter you will find information about the Seacoast School of Technology, who we are and what these reductions will mean to us monetarily. Please contact your legislators and let them know what SST has meant to you, your child, your family, your business or the community at large. We all know that SST changes lives. Let the people in Concord know as well! Through tough times, great things continue to happen at our School. Read on!

- Julia Kneeland '11, Early Childhood Education recently returned to SST to let us know that "SST was one of the best decisions I have ever made. At SST, I learned everything I need to know for my career and I am so grateful for my teachers and the faculty at SST for caring about ME and MY future so much. Every speech writing course, every course on professional skills that I am now taking in college is simply a straight A for me because of everything I learned at SST."
- Rebecca Pettis will graduate this year, but not before having taken complete advantage of everything SST could offer her. This Sanborn student studied Biotechnology as a sophomore and secured an internship at the State Medical Examiner's Office the summer after her sophomore year. She then decided to move to the Health Science Technologies program. This was an important move because it was at a job shadow at Exeter Hospital where she learned she'd rather be a Nurse Practitioner than a physician since she wants to have patient contact. Becky then completed yet another internship at the State Medical Examiner's Office, during which time she researched cardiac deaths of New Hampshire residents under age thirty-five. In addition to two internships and a job shadow, Becky will graduate with her Licensed Nursing Assistant (LNA) certification under her belt. She plans to study nursing and hopes to attend Northeastern University.
- Animal & Plant Science Teacher, Anne DeMarco, was recently honored with the Eustis Award, given by SAU 16 in recognition of outstanding service and dedication to students. An eighteen-year veteran of SST, Ms. DeMarco is recognized as a leader in her field throughout the state.
- The New Hampshire Partners in Education has recognized SST as a Gold Circle Award Winning School once again. We have been recognized, along with some of our strongest partners from the business world, because of the work we do with businesses to create opportunities for our students. The individuals of the following organizations who have been recognized with the distinction of Gold Circle Partnerships Achievement Awards are: Lisa Caron, Rockingham County Nursing Home; Julie Bailey, Exeter Health Resources; Anthony Callendrello, Friends of SST Culinary Arts; Josh Murphy, Exeter Lumber and Carla Ranks, SST Early Childhood Education Program.

- Please join me in welcoming Biotechnology teacher, Patricia Bonaventura. Ms. Bonaventura has a B.S. in Biology and Biomedical Technology from Adelphi University and an M.B.A. in Leadership from Franklin Pierce College. She has years of industry experience at Bausch & Lomb where her scientific work gave her a broad perspective of technology integration and real world science connections – a real asset in our classroom. Additionally, Ms. Bonaventura spent three years teaching science at Pelham High School.
- Blue Ribbon School status has been bestowed upon SST for the third year in a row. The Blue Ribbon Award recognizes the extraordinary efforts of schools utilizing volunteers. We are grateful to the more than 700 people who work in local business and industry who support SST in countless ways.
- Summer Camps for Middle School Students were tremendously successful once again last summer. Eleven camps ranging from “Become a Business Owner” to “Computer Programming for Kids” to “Become a Builder” were completely full. The “Engine Overhauled” camp was featured on the front page of both the New Hampshire Automobile Dealers Association Newsletter and the Exeter Newsletter. Look for the registration for next summer’s camps on our website and at all regional schools with students in grades 4-8 in late winter.
- Anson Loyd ‘07, Culinary Arts student from Sanborn and recent graduate of the New England Culinary Institute, will be teaching culinary classes for Exeter Adult Education this semester. We are all very proud of Anson’s accomplishments and happy to turn the kitchen over to him. Contact Exeter Adult Education for information about all the classes offered!
- New to SST this year is Recruitment & Retention Counselor, Joshua Civiello. Mr. Civiello has a B.A. in English from Colby College and an M.A. in Counseling Psychology with a School Counseling specialization from Lesley University. He completed an internship at Exeter High School last year. Mr. Civiello spent seven years working in the Office of Admissions at Lesley University, most of them as the Senior Assistant Director of Admissions. He will oversee all regional school visits and his expertise will be a great asset to our School.
- Nathan Flachbart and Jacob Keene, Automotive Technologies students from Exeter High School, spent the summer at a paid summer internship at BMW of Stratham. Through the internship, the students were able to earn their New Hampshire State Inspection Certifications. They also learned that welding is a very valuable asset to an automobile dealership. As a result, both boys are currently taking Welding Technologies in addition to Automotive Technologies. Marketable skills are what SST is all about!
- Looking for the perfect gift for your child? How about an SST sweatshirt, tee-shirt or baseball hat? These are just a few of the items available through the Marketing Technologies program. Email SSTMarketing@gaggle.net for more information.

Please tell two friends about SST!

Sincerely,

Margaret E. Callahan
Principal

SEACOAST SCHOOL OF TECHNOLOGY

2011-2012

IMPORTANT DATES

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| Friday, October 28 | 1 st Quarter Grades Close |
| Thursday, November 10 | NO SCHOOL/Teacher In-Service |
| Friday, November 11 | NO SCHOOL/Veteran's Day |
| Friday, November 18 | SST College Fair, 7:45 am – 1:30 pm |
| November 23, 24, 25 | Thanksgiving Recess |
| December 15 & 16 | SST Mid-Term Exams/Mandatory |
| Thursday, December 22 | HOSA Santa Spaghetti Supper, 5:30 pm |
| Friday, December 23 | Early Release Day/No P.M. Session |
| December 26 – January 2 | Holiday Break |
| Friday, January 6 | Senior Scholarship Meeting |
| Monday, January 16 | NO SCHOOL/Martin Luther King Jr. Day |
| Friday, January 20 | 2 nd Quarter Grades Close |
| Wednesday, January 25 | Early Release Day/No P.M. Session |
| February 20 | Applications for Year II at SST Due |
| February 27 – March 2 | Winter Break |
| Friday, March 16 | NO SCHOOL/Teacher In-Service |
| Tuesday, March 20 | SST National Technical Honor Society Inductions 9:45 am – 10:30 am Talbot Gym |
| Friday, March 30 | 3 rd Quarter Grades Close |
| Tuesday, April 10 | SST Scholarship Applications Due by 3:30 in Main Office – NO EXCEPTIONS |
| April 23 – April 27 | Spring Break |
| Wednesday, May 9 | Early Release Day/No P.M. Session |
| Monday, May 28 | NO SCHOOL/Memorial Day |
| TBD | SST Certificate Ceremony, 5:30 pm Arthur Hanson Performing Arts Center Exeter High School |

SEACOAST SCHOOL OF TECHNOLOGY

BUDGET INFORMATION/CONCERNS

Founded in 1980, the Seacoast School of Technology is the regional Career and Technical Center serving high school students from Epping, Exeter, Newmarket, Raymond, Sanborn Regional and Winnacunnet High Schools. Twelve programs are offered including: Animal & Plant Science; Automotive Technologies; Biotechnology; Building Construction Technologies; Computer Programming; Culinary Arts; Digital Communications; Early Childhood Education; Health Science Technologies; Marketing Technologies; Pre-Engineering and Welding Technologies. Currently 670 students attend the Seacoast School of Technology – the highest enrollment in the School’s history.

Tuition is paid for each student to attend a Career and Technical (CTE) Center in the State of New Hampshire. The tuition is based on the per-pupil rate of the receiving district. In the case of SST, the Exeter Region Cooperative School District is the receiving district. The other five districts are known as sending districts. The rate is calculated at 2/5 of a student’s day, or 40%. To use round numbers, Exeter’s per-pupil rate is about \$12,000. Forty percent of that is \$4,800.

Historically, the State of New Hampshire has reimbursed the receiving district 75% of the tuition to attend a CTE Center, or about \$3,600. The sending schools pick up the 25% difference.

The State reduced funding for CTE Centers (known as Tuition & Transportation or T & T) for the current school year, 2011/2012. This year, instead of 75% reimbursement, the State is paying 71.63% of 75%. At SST, this resulted in a loss more than \$200,000 and the elimination of six (6) positions and a significant reduction in supplies for programs.

The State’s current plan for 2012/2013 is to reimburse 63.69% of 75%, again another cut of more than \$200,000. It seems unlikely that any school in the region will be able to absorb such a dramatic reduction.

The Seacoast School of Technology provides an outstanding education providing skills essential in ensuring a strong economy in New Hampshire.

Reduction in SST Funding by the State

- Historically, SST has received 75% reimbursement on tuition from the State
- In 11/12, SST will receive 53.72%
- In 12/13, SST will receive 47.77%
- SST anticipated \$1.19 million for 11/12 and will receive a reduction of \$220,000
- SST anticipated \$1.19 million for 12/13 and will receive a reduction of \$414,000
- The regional schools cannot make up for the loss in State funding without a significant property tax increase