

The Southern Regional Theatre Company
will present it's Spring Musical

Cinderella

on February 24, 25, 26 & 27, 2010.
For more information, call 609-597-9481 ext. 4454

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SOUTHERN LIGHTS

The Official Newsletter of Southern Regional High School District



Vol. 53 No. 1

Southern Lights

November 2009

High School's Access for Joey Project

Southern Regional High School is helping with a local version of Extreme Home Makeover and raising funds to help one student's family. The project is called "Access for Joey." Joey Annarumma is diagnosed with Cerebral Palsy and is confined to a wheelchair. He is preparing for his 16th surgery. His house is not wheelchair accessible.

The "Access for Joey" project is being coordinated by the Exchange Club of Beach Haven. The project chairman is Mr. Ron Chaffee. The plan is to convert the present garage into two bedrooms. The present kitchen will be removed for the installation of a handicap-accessible bath. The new kitchen will be placed in the present dining room making a large eat-in kitchen. Permits are in place to begin construction. Local contractors will be donating their time to complete the job. It is estimated that the project will cost approximately \$35,000 in materials. The Exchange Club is accepting tax deductible donations. Their mailing address is The Exchange Club of Beach Haven, PO Box 1225, Beach Haven, NJ 08008.

After weeks of fundraising the High School students and staff, who opened their hearts and wallets, raised over \$12,000 to be donated to the project. Teachers and administrators spent two days in a dunk tank during the students' lunch periods. A Bean Bag Toss Tournament was held, collections at two home football games, collections in each main office and lunchroom, t-shirts and flip flops were sold with all profits going to the "Access for Joey" project. Various school organizations, including the Michael Lorenzi Philanthropic Fund, also donated to the cause.

For more information, please go to:

<http://www.bhexchangeclub.org/>



Teacher Mrs. Jackie South gets dunked!

Middle School's Crusade for Christian

Christian Barrett, an 8th grade student at Southern Regional Middle School, was diagnosed in August with Rhabdomyosarcoma, a serious form of cancer. At his diagnosis, he was already in stage 4, with tumors in multiple locations, including the bones. He is being treated at Robert Wood Johnson Pediatric Oncology Center. Since this will be a long battle for this family, the Middle School sprang into action to help the family with expenses.

Since September, the Middle School's "Crusade for Christian" has raised over \$15,000 for Christian and his family. Funds came in through t-shirt sales, a two hour Walk-A-Thon in October, donations from students, parents and grandparents, local businesses and with assistance from the Stafford Recreation Department, who donated the money raised from the Fall Festival Chili Cook-Off. Also received were collections from the high school facilitated by various clubs (Student Council, Honor Society, Interact, and SADD) and a \$1,000 donation from the Donny Fund.

Middle School students also researched information about childhood cancers and created an informational flyer that was available to the community at the October 24th Drive 4 UR Future event.

Dr. Elisabeth Brahn, Middle School Assistant Principal, said "We consider this not only a testament to our students and staff who have donated their finances, time and talents, but also to our greater school community who has supported the efforts of these students and given so generously to assist this family during this time."

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MS Ass't. Principal Dr. Beth Brahn, Christian's dad, Ray Barrett and Gregory Porcino, director of the Fighting Children's Cancer Foundation.

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Southern Regional Education Foundation Drive 4 UR Future

The Southern Regional Education Foundation (SREF), working in partnership with the Causeway Ford Family of Dealerships, participated in a unique fundraiser. The Drive 4 UR Future event that was held on October 24th consisted of cars being supplied by Causeway Ford for test-driving. The Foundation will receive \$20.00 for each person who test-drove a Ford car the day of the event.

All proceeds from this benefit will go to the Southern Regional Education Foundation. The mission of the Foundation is to financially support programs that nurture the interests, aptitudes and talents of the students of the Southern Regional School District. These funds will go to purchasing education technology that will be placed in classrooms to supplement the teaching and learning process for all of the students. Specifically, Smart-Boards (interactive white boards) and multimedia projectors are the targeted teaching technologies that will be the outcome of this initiative.

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"Beyond Tolerance" performed by the High School Theatre Company



The Southern Regional High School Theatre Company's annual fall play got rave reviews for its' performances on Oct. 28th and 29th. Director Jim McCabe chose a very ambitious one-act play entitled "Beyond Tolerance" by Alan Haenel.

The play is set in a school (U. Burnem); a bizarre world, but according to the character P.T. Burnem (founder of the school), "the finest educational institution in the world." At U. Burnem, tolerance and political correctness are taken to extremes. A new student to the school, Gracious Mary Sensible, discovers that her old ideas of right and wrong don't make any sense here. She must change her ways and conform to the new order. It is a requirement of the school. Noncompliance could mean death.

The author of the play, Alan Haehnel, is a high school English and Theatre teacher. He has published over a dozen one-act plays. He was awarded the Vermont Playwright's Award as well as several Vermont State Championships.

The cast of the play is from Mr. McCabe's Advanced Improvisation class. The staff includes musical director, Mr. Larry DelMasto, costumes by Mrs. Roslyn Brunner, set design by Mr. Chris South and Mr. Tom Ackers, sound design by Mr. Phil Senseney, lighting design by Mr. Rob Hilliard, playbill production by Ms. Sharon Faith, and production coordination by Mrs. Beverly Vollrath. The logo for the playbill and t-shirts was designed by a student, junior Moriah Lynk.

Pinelands Experience

On October 16th, 362 seventh grade students from the Middle School took part in the Pinelands Experience at Camp Ockanickon. Over the course of the day, students participated in six different activities: two different challenge courses, archery, boating, shelter building and a scavenger hunt. The goals and objectives of the program are: team building, problem solving & learning about the unique environment (Pine Barrens) in which we live.

Crusade for Christian cont'd.

MS students compiled *Chicken Soup from Southern's Soul*, a collection of student-created and student-selected inspirational poems, stories, letters and pictures. Two copies of the book were presented to Christian's family at the Walk-A-Thon. One copy is for Christian and one will go to the Pediatric Oncology Unit where he is receiving treatment.

An extra surprise happened at the Walk-A-Thon. Gregory Porcino, director of the Fighting Children's Cancer Foundation found out about the Middle School's efforts and wanted to help. He came from their headquarters in Annandale, NJ and presented a check for \$2,500 to Christian's father, Ray Barrett. For more information on this foundation, a web site is available: <http://www.fccf.info>

Wing Fest

On Friday, October 9th, before the home football game vs. Jackson Memorial, the Class of 2013 hosted a chicken wing competition between local businesses called *Wingfest*. Wingfest hoped to answer the question of who makes the best wings in Southern Ocean County. The event was held in the 9/10 high school parking lot. The \$10 admission ticket included samples of the wings from each business, a drink and celery and blue cheese. Attendees had the opportunity to vote for their favorite wings at the event.

The establishments competing in Wingfest included Buckalew's, California Grill & Pizza, Calloway's Restaurant, The Chicken or the Egg Restaurant, Costco, The Lighthouse Tavern and Ray's New York Pizza. A special thank you to all the businesses who donated their time and wings!

The winner was the Chicken or the Egg Restaurant, with the Lighthouse Tavern coming in 2nd place, Buckalew's coming in 3rd place and California Grill & Pizza coming in 4th place. The event raised \$1,030 for the Class of 2013 and they will definitely be hosting Wingfest next fall and hope to make this an annual event that the students, community and local businesses look forward to.

Child Development Learning Lab Wows Preschoolers

The Child Development Learning Lab classes are taught by high school students under the supervision of Mrs. Catherine Latshaw and Mrs. Rosemarie Tamarato. Child Development classes in the high school are within the Family and Consumer Sciences Department. Classroom activities are designed to help each child grow physically, intellectually, socially and emotionally at his or her own pace. The aim of the class is to meet the children's individual needs in a clean, safe nurturing environment.

The classes are open to all residents of the Southern Regional district as well as the sending districts. Children must be three years old by October 1st of the current school year and not yet enrolled in Kindergarten.

Children experience a variety of developmentally appropriate activities during the day. Among these are activities that promote fine and gross motor skills, art, music, dramatic play and block play. Academic areas include math, science, language arts and social studies.



Halloween was a special treat for the preschoolers. They were able to "trick-or-treat" in selected areas of the high school. They were then treated to a Halloween story read by 9/10 librarian, Mrs. Darlene Kowalski. A great day for all.

PHOTO RIGHT: Middle School students Cody Rasmussen, Aliya Charles, Emilee Jo Adams, Vanessa Renner at the Changing of the Guard in Arlington National Cemetery.

Earth Experience Student Trip

The Earth Experience trip is in December to the Tampa/Orlando area. While in Tampa, students will snorkel with manatees, search for fossils in the Rainbow River and feed giraffes at Busch Gardens. In Orlando, students will swim with dolphins and get a behind the scenes look at SeaWorld.

French Club Student Trip

February takes the French Club to Quebec City. The four day trip to the annual Ice Festival will immerse the students into a French culture and give them an opportunity to converse in the language. Students will tour the city and take part in several of the activities of the Ice Festival.

German Club Student Trip

March brings another opportunity for students to travel to Germany, Austria and Switzerland with the German Club. This nine day adventure will include many of the breathtaking and emotional adventures that these countries have to offer. Students will be doing walking tours, riding cable cars, visiting castles and touring the concentration camps from World War II.

Homecoming a Success in the High School

Homecoming week (October 19th-23rd) was full of activities for the students in the high school. There were theme dress days each day. There was wall decorating, a competition between the classes using the Student Council's spirit theme for the year. This year's theme is FIESTA (Focused Individuals Express Spirit to Achieve). The Senior Class was the winner. Friday was the big day. The Juniors received their high school rings at the Ring Ceremony. At the homecoming football game that evening the King and Queen candidates were announced at halftime. The Queen candidates were Nicole Siberry, Jillian Rosengarth, Casey Balch, Alexandra Aguilar, and Neha Sahay. The King candidates were Andrew Concepcion, Christopher Kaszuba, Chris Annarumma, Scott Richwine and Tommy DeCore. The Homecoming King, Chris Annarumma, and Homecoming Queen, Neha Sahay, were crowned at the dance later that evening after the game.

Washington D.C. Trip

In October, over the course of two days, 8th grade students from the Middle School traveled to Washington, D.C. On the first day of their trip, students visited the Smithsonian Museums of Natural History, Air & Space and American History, the U.S. Holocaust Museum and Washington National Cathedral, a Monument Tour (WWII, Korean, Lincoln, Vietnam, FDR and Jefferson) and the White House. Day two included the Iwo Jima Memorial, Arlington National Cemetery, Botanical Garden and Capitol. This trip is totally funded by the students. It has become an annual event for





Southern Regional Manufacturing Class Teams Up With Waretown Parks Dept. & Deputy Mayor Joe Lachoweic.

Individual education programs take many forms and include both in and out of district programs. At Southern Regional High School, Mainsail is one of two alternative programs that serve students who would benefit from a more nontraditional school structure.

Alternative methods and materials are utilized in order to encourage success, both academically and socially. One such alternative method is through the Manufacturing Class. Students learn workshop skills, teamwork and production methods in order to produce a marketable product. Various products have been constructed throughout the different semesters. Many outdoor projects have included kayak racks, planter boxes, trash corrals, birdhouses and Long Beach Township Greenhead Flytraps. For the past eighteen years, the Mainsail students and staff have contracted more than 175 jobs within the community. "We are always looking for building projects within our community." said Mr. Don Graham, Manufacturing teacher. The partnership between community and school has provided not only a quality product for customers but hands-on training for many at-risk students.

Last year Mayor Robert Kraft, of Ocean Township, contracted the Mainsail Manufacturing Class to build durable weather resistant, one piece construction picnic tables suitable for coastal conditions. Two tables were put in place last year and one this year was placed at the Crystal Bay Peninsula Park in Waretown on Thursday, October 29th.



Teachers, Don Graham and Joe Tomczuk were very proud of the job the students did in construction. Deputy Mayor Joe Lachoweic and Councilman Dennis Tredy were on hand to accept the table. Student builders present were Eric Mora, Ryan Reid, Gian Carlo Farano and Hunter Sprague. Zach Smith also helped in the construction but was unable to be present.

Knitting for Peace Club

The Knitting for Peace Club will now serve as a collection site for Warm Up America squares. Forty-nine donated crocheted or knitted squares are used to assemble each blanket that is donated locally. The "squares" need to measure 7" x 9" and can be sent to Mrs. Colleen Neil, Southern Regional High School, 600 North Main Street, Manahawkin, NJ 08050. More information about patterns and needle size is available at :

www.warmupamerica.org

This is a charity that has warmed peoples' lives since 1991 and Southern Regional is in its second year of participation with this national group. It started in a small Wisconsin town with neighbors knitting and crocheting afghans for neighbors in need. It has since grown to a national effort of having volunteers knit or crochet small sections and then others join them together. Today Warm Up America distributes warm afghans, caps and other items to tens of thousands of people in need. The Southern Regional effort is headed by teacher, Colleen Neil. This club teaches new and experienced knitters with the goal of using this craft to give to others through a variety of charity projects.

Teachers at Southern Continue to Give

The Southern Regional Education Association (SREA) is involved in the fundraising of the district throughout the school year. Teachers have already participated in the "Access for Joey" project and the "Crusade for Christian" project. During the holiday season, the teachers contribute to the food drive for the Atlantic City Rescue Mission and the Teen Gift drive that donates gifts for teens to the Stafford Township Police Department holiday project. Their giving does not stop there. The teachers have learned that the local food banks are in dire need of supplies and have jumped into action.

The SREA has now formed a philanthropic committee dedicated to helping the local food banks. The SREA food drive, Food for Friends, is had its initial drive in October. The first donations went to St. Mary's Food Bank which services many families in Manahawkin and Waretown, as well as Barnegat. They requested such items as diapers, baby wipes, boxed stuffing, cranberry sauce, dry pasta, macaroni & cheese, spaghetti sauce, soups, canned veggies & fruits. In reality, just about any non-perishable food item is welcome. Cash is always accepted and a committee of teachers shop for items to be donated.

After the holidays, there will be another drive to support other local food banks (St. Stephen's in Waretown, St. Francis in Brant Beach and King of Kings in Manahawkin).

Cheerleaders Sponsor Clothing Drive

The SRHS Cheerleaders will be holding a clothing drive on Saturday, November 28th, at high school in the 9/10 building parking lot on Route 9. Cheerleading coaches, Mrs. Jackie South and Mrs. Lisa Merlo are organizing the effort. They will be collecting clothes, coats, hats, gloves, shoes, boots, etc., and toys in good condition. Donations will be collected on Wednesday, November 25th before and after school or items can be dropped off on Saturday, November 28th, between 9 am and noon.



Stafford Community Gallops for the Gobbler with 5th Annual Turkey Trot

Stafford Township will celebrate its 5th annual "Turkey Trot" on Sunday, November 22nd, in the Southern Regional High School Football Stadium. The Turkey Trot is a series of running races for all age groups beginning with a crawler event known as the "Diaper Derby" for babies 5 to 15 months old. Other races include 10, 20, 50, and 100 yard dashes for age groups ranging from toddlers to adults, as well as a 5K cross country run, for anyone wishing to take the challenge. Winners from each race receive a frozen turkey donated by Pearlmart ShopRite. Cost of the event is free to all participants, however racers are encouraged to instead bring a canned or non-perishable food item that will be collected and donated to local food banks and needy families in the area for the holiday season.

The event has proved to be a tremendous success and part of the holiday tradition in the Stafford community. "I know that families look forward to the Turkey Trot as the kick-off to the holidays. It has become part of our community's tradition to go out the Sunday before Thanksgiving and have some fun running the Turkey Trot with their entire family, and for a great cause – the food drive." notes Sam Fierra, one of the organizers of the event, as well as a Guidance Counselor at Southern. "My kids prepare all year practicing their running for the Turkey Trot. They all want to win the turkey that we eat on Thanksgiving Day", Fierra laughs, "it has become such a great event for our community, just another reason why we love living in Stafford so much."

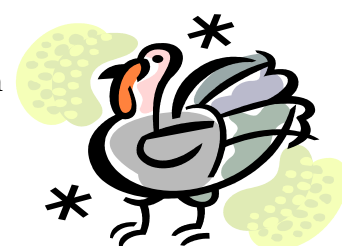
The Turkey Trot is being sponsored by a potpourri of organizations which include the Stafford Township Recreation Department, the Southern Regional Home and School Association, the Stafford Township PTA, the SRMS Boys and Girls Cross Country teams, the SRHS Varsity Club, and the SRMS Builders Club. The 5K race registration starts at 11:30am with a start time of 12:15pm, and all other "Turkeys" register at 12:30pm with a start time of 1:00 pm. Rain date for the race is the following Sunday (after Thanksgiving), November 29th. Any questions please call 597-1000, extension 8557.

Intergenerational Council Off to a Productive Start

The Intergenerational Council has begun its programs for this academic year. The Council was established in 1994 with students from the Middle School and High School working with adult members of the community. The Council's objective is to bridge the gap between the students and the adult community.

Student members plan activities to carry out with the adult members. The students look to the adult members to share their life experiences and help provide an understanding of history and tradition. Activities have included an outing to a local farm in the fall for crop-picking, picnic, pizza party and attendance at the District musical in the winter, a holiday activity, visits by students to local nursing homes to interact with adults who can't come to the other gatherings, and an annual end of the year picnic just before Memorial Day.

Any member of the community is welcomed at any time. If you are interested in joining, please contact Mrs. Charlene Collamer at 609-597-9481, extension 4502.





Musical Notes

◆ The **Southern Regional Golden Rams Marching Band**, led by **Andrew Wright**, competed on November 15th in the Cavalcade of Bands Championships in Hershey, PA. The band placed 4th out of 16 in the American Conference with a score of 91.10. The band was the highest scoring in the state of New Jersey, finished 1st overall in Ensemble Visual, 3rd in Color Guard, and 4th in Percussion. **Great job Rams!**

◆ High School students Lydia Johnson and Cassandra McVicar have been accepted to the Garden State Symphonic Youth Orchestra.

◆ Middle School students, Britt Bjornberg, Emily Peraria and Amulya Veldanda have been accepted into the Garden State Concert Youth Orchestra.

◆ The **High School Select Choir** once again reaches out into the community and performed the national anthem for the Motorcycle Toy Run and the Cavalcade of Marching Band Competition. This December they will be performing for the SOCH Auxiliary, LBI Women's Club, A.A.R.P. and Ocean County Retired Teacher's Association. You can hear the High School Select Choir as well as the Concert Choir, Chorus and Middle School Chorus at their winter concert, in the auditorium, on December 8th at 7pm. Admission is free.

Grant Awarded...

Michelle Chrzanowski, a Southern Regional Middle School teacher, was awarded a grant from the New Jersey Veterinary Medical Association (NJVMA) in the amount of \$750.00 to incorporate the NJVMA teaching guide "Taking Care of your Community by Taking Care of Your Pets". This is what Mrs. Chrzanowski said about the grant: *"The grant from the NJVMA is for \$750. The money is to be used for supplies for the program, guest speakers to be brought into the classroom, along with a field trip opportunity. The program that the grant is covering is titled "Taking care of your community by taking care of your pets". The program covers animal care, cruelty prevention and teaching others proper care and compassion for animals. At the conclusion of the program we are to go to an elementary school to teach some children about cruelty prevention and proper animal care. In my grant application, I wrote about a unit I already do in class involving animal cruelty. With this unit we read the book Rescued, which talks about the animals left behind during Hurricane Katrina. The book also covers how people could not bring their pets to a shelter when evacuated. From our research we create a brochure which includes items to bring for your pet, emergency vet numbers and places you can evacuate with your pet in our area. I will also be taking my students to the Popcorn Park Zoo in the spring. At the end of that trip, we will choose an animal to support and donate money for that animal."*



Class of 1960

to Hold its 50th Reunion

The Class of 1960 will hold its 50th class reunion on September 18, 2010, at the Holiday Inn in Manahawkin. Contact persons for the event are:

Michael Connor brookeconnor1@me.com &

Bill Middleton eileenandbill@bellsouth.net

There is also a web site set up for the reunion:

<http://web.me.com/brookeconnor1/>

[CLASSOF60/Welcome.html](http://web.me.com/brookeconnor1/CLASSOF60/Welcome.html)

Did You Know?

◆ Southern Takes Part in New Jersey State-Wide Mock Election

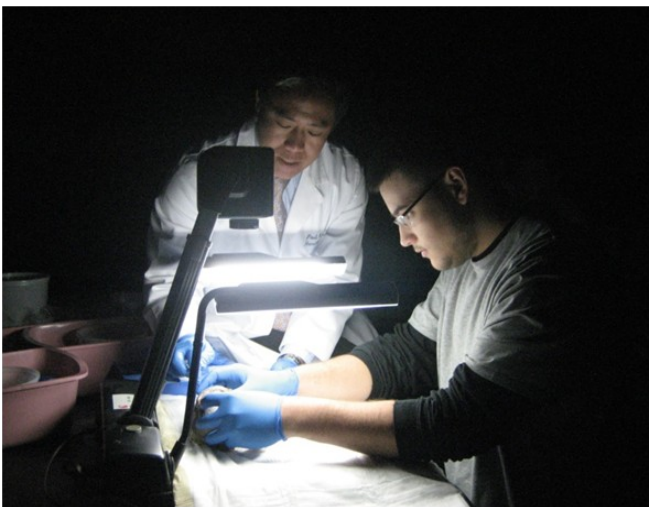
Students at Southern Regional High School took part in the nation's largest civic education project; The National Student/Parent Mock Election (NSPME). Students in New Jersey voted for the Governor as well as the Public Question asking for \$400 million in funding for Green Acres, water supply, floodplain protection in addition to farmland and historic preservation projects through the sale of State general obligation bonds. A sample ballot was provided by the NSPME.

Working with Humanities Supervisor, Mr. Robert Johnson, history teachers prepared the students for this mock election held on October 29th. Curriculum in history classes include the election process as well as information on candidates. Ballots were obtained with all ten pairs of candidates for Governor and Lieutenant Governor. Southern's results will be sent to NSPME to be added to the student results from across the state.

◆ SOCH Physician Addresses High School Classes

On Wednesday, November 11th, Dr. Paul Chung, Oncologist from the Cancer Center of SOCH, did a presentation for students in the AP Biology and the Anatomy and Physiology classes. As part of his presentation, Dr. Chung brought several diseased organs affected by cancer for the students to examine.

In his introduction, Mr. Dan MacPhee, Assistant Superintendent at Southern Regional, told the students that this would be "a real life experience beyond the textbook. Most students would not get the opportunity to examine actual human organs until college or graduate school." Dr. Chung began his presentation by discussing the steps to become a doctor. He then gave the students a comprehensive definition of cancer and how treatments work. The students' questions continued throughout the presentation. It was easy to see that Dr. Chung loves working with the students. He said that he "enjoys the teaching opportunity very much and hopes to inspire students to go into medicine." He voiced his concern about a possible shortage of doctors in the future.



Senior, John Bulman, a student in Mrs. Tummey's AP Biology class, examines an organ affected by cancer with Dr. Chung assisting him.

PROJECT A.S.P.I.R.E

(Actively Seeking Placement in Real-Life Employment)

Project A.S.P.I.R.E is an unpaid structured learning program designed to foster vocational skills for students ages 16-21, with multiple disabilities and autism in a community-based employment setting.

For more information please call 609-597-9481 ext. 4538 or email aspire@srsd.net.

Sports Corner.....

◆ At the State Meeting in December: **Eric Maxwell** will be recognized for outstanding coaching in Volleyball and **Brian Zatorksi** will be honored for Cross Country coaching.

CONGRATULATIONS to our awesome coaches!

◆ **High School Boys Cross Country** team was undefeated and Division champion for the 4th time in five years! Over that five year period the Rams have compiled a 38-3 record. Jimmy Ward, Mike Evans, Sean Howley, Tim Keizer and Cody Raynor finished in the top 17 at the county Championships. The Junior Varsity placed 7 runners in the top 10. David Marino finished 1st in the JV championship race!

◆ **High School Girls Cross Country** won A South, 2nd in the Ocean County Meet, Chelsea Cox won Shore Conference.

◆ **High School Football** current record 5 wins & 4 losses. Southern will play Barnegat High School on Thanksgiving Day at 10am, on Barnegat's field for the **Battle of the Bay Trophy**.

◆ **Middle School Football** current record: 7 wins & 4 losses. Standout Athletes are: Mike Gesicki, Brandon Mullin, Bailey Bellissimo, CJ Lovas & Dylan Jinks.

◆ **High School Boys Soccer Team** reached the Shore Conference Tournament and the NJSIAA State Tournament for the first time since 2001. The Boys exploded in first round of the Shore Conference Tournament with a win 3-0 against Point Pleasant Boro who avenged the first season encounter in the beginning of the season. The win was considered the upset of the year, by Asbury Park Press. Southern lost in the second round to the Shore Conference Finalists Raritan.

◆ **High Girls Soccer Team** reached the Shore Conference Tournament and the NJSIAA State Tournament! This was the 3rd time in the past four years that the girls qualified for both the Shore Conference Tournament and the State Tournament.

◆ **High School Field Hockey:** Won Shore Conference Class A South.

◆ **High School Gymnastics:** Chelsea Vaughan competed in the Shore Conference Tournament - qualified all around, all four events; State qualifiers: Chelsea Vaughan all four events, Margaux Terhune - vault, beam, floor, Megan Scherer - vault and Sarah Alegre - beam.

◆ **High School Girls Volleyball:** Class A South Champs! #1 Seed in Shore Conference Tournament, took 2nd place at the hands of T.R. South. Advanced all the way to the Finals of the Group 4 State Tournament!

◆ **High School Surf Team** took 2nd place in the State at the NSSA (National Scholastic Surfing Association) State championships on October 18th! The team finished its season with an individual State champion - Connor Willem! Congratulations!

◆ **Middle School Boys Cross Country:** Overall record 8-0, Division record 5-0 Second place in Ocean County meet.

◆ **Middle School Field Hockey:** current records 8th grade 6-2-4, 7th grade 10-0-2.

For sports schedule please go to www.srsd.net