

# VOTES

## Annual School Election

# April 15



Southern Regional High School District  
105 Cedar Bridge Road  
Manahawkin, NJ 08050

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**SOUTHERN LIGHTS**  
The Official Newsletter of Southern Regional High School District

Vol. 51 No. 23

Southern Lights

April 2008



### Leader of the Pack: The Ellie Greenwich Musical

For 23 years, the Southern Regional Theatre Company has earned a long-standing tradition of providing quality theatre entertainment in the community. This year was no exception as over 50 cast members, band and crew presented *Leader of the Pack: The Ellie Greenwich Musical*. Based

on the life of famous songwriter Ellie Greenwich, the musical was filled with chart-topping hit songs such as "Be My Baby," "Da Doo Ron Ron," "Do Wah Diddy," "Chapel of Love," and "River Deep Mountain High." "Audience members had their toes tapping and were swaying to the music each night. The students worked hard and it showed every night on stage" said director Carolyn Placa. The production was enhanced by an on-stage pit band under the direction of Larry Del-Masto and show-stopping dance numbers choreographed by Lisa Carlson. New staff members to the theatre company, Andy Essinger and Jennifer Miller, added their expertise in set construction and scenic artistry. In addition, a number of Southern alumni assisted in the production with lighting, sound, staging and dance.

### BOARD OF EDUCATION

- Christopher Taylor,  
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### DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION

- Craig Henry,  
*Superintendent*
- Daniel MacPhee,  
*Assistant Superintendent*
- Lynn E. Shugars,  
*Business Administrator/Board Secretary*

### NEWSLETTER

- Carolyn S. Placa,  
*Editor/Public Relations*



## THE NEW SOUTHERN NEWS NETWORK

Southern News Network, the Southern Regional School District broadcast channel, recently began a new era in broadcast journalism. Following the Community and School District's Strategic Plan, a more informative and entertaining Southern News Network has emerged.

A new "crawl," (a line of written information that moves across the bottom of the TV screen) will supply the viewing audience with current information, sports scores, program listings and school closings. In response to the public viewing survey conducted in September, the content of broadcasts has also been revised. More Middle School activities and programs such as "Middle School Student of the Month" and Middle School sporting events will be aired. Additionally, the network can now broadcast weather reports along with a real-time radar loop.

The students "behind the scenes," operating the cameras, running the sound system and writing

scripts as well as the "on air" broadcasters reading the teleprompter, are all elite members of the new "Studio 100 Club." These students have studied and trained on the broadcasting equipment and have earned their black and gold SNN shirts.

Broadcast Coordinator Craig Sackett and Assistant Broadcast Coordinator Heather Clarey, along with Supervisor Bob Johnson have orchestrated the new changes with the support of the Board of Education, Superintendent Craig Henry and Assistant Superintendent Dan MacPhee.

Keep watch for the first annual "Ramsy Awards." Modeled after the Emmy Awards, it will highlight the best programming produced by the Television Production students throughout the year.

SNN Logo Design by Mike Braswell

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## School Budget 2.7% Under Cap

At the Public Hearing on March 19th and thirteen municipal and civic meetings, Superintendent Craig Henry presented the 2008-2009 school budget. "To be respectful of peoples personal economics and gain consumer confidence in the quality of education Southern is known for, we have come in 2.7% under cap," stated Craig Henry.

The State of New Jersey allows school districts to increase their budget by 4% each year. Southern has scrutinized various aspects of the budget in order to remain under the allowable growth ceiling.

In three of the seven district municipalities, the average assessed homeowner will experience tax relief. The average homeowner in Barnegat Light will see a decrease of \$141.45, in Ship Bottom \$27.14 and Surf City \$24.44. After seeing tax adjustments in previous years the remaining municipalities will bear only minor changes averaging \$19.95 in Stafford, \$0.23 in Long Beach Twp., \$108.54 in Beach Haven and \$16.07 in Harvey Cedars.

"This budget includes no new programs," stated Henry. In addition to administrative costs going down, Southern has "gone green," and is cutting costs by conserving energy and expanding the

continued on page three

## 2008-2009 Southern Regional School District Budget

*RESOLVED, that there should be raised for the General Funds \$37,110,642 for the ensuing school year.*

The statement above is what you will see in the voting booth or on the sample ballot during the upcoming school election on April 15th. What does this statement mean?

The "General Fund" is the main operating fund for the district. Day to day expenses and operations are funded and tracked in this fund—everything from salaries, benefits, textbooks, electricity and fuel for the busses. The question that is posed to the voters in the voting booth asks for approval of the tax levy needed to fund the General Fund – or in other words – the day to day operations of the school district. There are two other funds that are also part of a school district budget: the Special Revenue Fund, for the tracking of federal and state grant dollars, and the Debt Service Fund, for the payment of debt from previously approved bond referendums.

Due to a change in law, the 'budget cap' that school districts have had imposed has been eliminated and replaced with a 'tax levy cap.' School districts, unless they qualify for a waiver, cannot increase property taxes more than 4% than the year before. For this year's budget, Southern was able to hold the property tax increase to only 1.3%. This year's budget is considered a "preservation budget;" in other words, the district will be able to preserve what it had in the previous year's budget, with some modest restoration of some of the many items cut

from last year's budget. This new budget will accommodate reinstatement of a teaching position at the Middle School, several assistant coaching positions and the purchase of equipment for the school's television studio that will meet the goals of the recently developed District Strategic Plan. Savings from the school's energy management program as well as a reduction in other areas, particularly administrative costs, are helping Southern to limit the property tax increase.

Southern Regional School District continues to provide a comprehensive and diverse academic program that results in 84% of Southern graduates attending college. Southern's High School Proficiency Assessment scores are above state average and in the top three in Ocean County. Southern has also implemented an In-District Autism Program that will provide a superior educational setting and opportunities for autistic children at a considerable savings to the district. Southern also continues to provide an adult diploma program – one of only two left in the Ocean County. Southern's extracurricular and athletic programs serve thousands of students.

Please take time to review the information below. Additional information is provided on the Southern Regional School District website [www.srsd.net](http://www.srsd.net) or by contacting the Superintendent's Office at (609) 597-9481.

### Questions and Answers

#### How many budgets am I voting on? TWO!!

On each sample ballot and in each voting booth you will find a budget question for Southern Regional. You will also find a budget question for your community's elementary district: Long Beach Island Consolidated, Beach Haven or Stafford Township. Please be sure to consider each question carefully and vote on both the REGIONAL school district budget and the ELEMENTARY school district budget.

#### How is the rate and municipal share of each constituent district determined?

This is the result of a rather complicated state formula which annually allocates shares of the regional district for tax purposes. It should be noted that the STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION and NOT the Southern Regional School District calculates the regional apportionment formula. The regional apportionment formula takes two factors into consideration: equalized real estate valuations and the total elementary and high school enrollment in each community. Small changes in enrollment may cause dramatic shifts in the tax burden. The "Percent Share by Town" chart shows how the municipal share has fluctuated over the past five budget years.

##### PERCENTAGE SHARE BY TOWN

Municipality	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09
Barneget Light	6.82%	6.17%	6.26%	6.34%	5.81%
Beach Haven	9.37%	10.26%	10.35%	10.77%	11.40%
Harvey Cedars	7.31%	6.58%	7.37%	6.21%	6.19%
Long Beach Twp.	40.51%	41.54%	40.54%	39.56%	39.29%
Ship Bottom	7.18%	6.94%	6.72%	6.61%	6.47%
Surf City	8.42%	8.93%	9.06%	9.72%	9.49%
Stafford	20.38%	19.58%	19.70%	20.78%	21.35%

#### What is the tax impact of the proposed budget?

Tax impact varies among constituent districts and overall, the tax levy supporting the budget will be increasing by \$410,228. The "Tax Levy Comparison" chart shows the tax impact in each constituent district.

##### TAX LEVY COMPARISON

Municipality	2007-2008			2008-2009		
	Levy	% Share	Rate Per \$100	Levy	% Share	Rate Per \$100
Barneget Light	2,474,833.89	6.34	0.230	2,292,503.75	5.81	0.216
Beach Haven	4,206,674.37	10.77	0.256	4,499,285.60	11.40	0.276
Harvey Cedars	2,423,825.50	6.21	0.176	2,443,850.05	6.19	0.179
Long Beach Twp.	15,449,162.62	39.56	0.210	15,505,458.78	39.29	0.210
Ship Bottom	2,581,836.25	6.61	0.278	2,551,301.01	6.47	0.234
Surf City	3,798,694.32	9.73	0.271	3,742,190.11	9.49	0.248
Stafford	8,114,878.05	20.78	0.189	8,425,543.70	21.35	0.197

**Voting hours  
are from  
1 p.m. to 9 p.m.**

#### How does Southern Regional fund its budget?

The "Revenue" chart below shows where Southern gets the funding to support the budget. The district continues to receive little State aid in support of the budget.

##### REVENUES

	2008-2009	% of Budget
<b>General Fund</b>		
Budgeted Fund Balance	\$5,075,311	8.95%
Local Tax Levy	\$37,110,642	65.43%
Tuition	\$7,363,510	12.98%
Transportation Fees	\$600,000	1.06%
Unrestricted Misc. Revenues	\$301,000	0.53%
State Aid	\$3,264,371	5.76%
<b>Total General Fund</b>	<b>\$53,714,834</b>	<b>94.71%</b>
<b>Special Revenue Fund</b>		
State Grants	\$10,938	0.02%
Federal Grants	\$641,520	1.13%
<b>Total Special Revenue Fund</b>	<b>\$652,458</b>	<b>1.15%</b>
<b>Debt Service Fund</b>		
Budgeted Fund Balance	\$59	0.00%
Local Tax Levy	\$2,349,491	4.14%
<b>Total Debt Service Fund</b>	<b>\$2,349,550</b>	<b>4.14%</b>
<b>TOTAL BUDGET</b>	<b>\$56,716,842</b>	

##### APPROPRIATIONS

<b>General Fund</b>		
Fund 11 (General Operating)	\$50,971,778	89.87%
Fund 12 (Capital Outlay)	\$2,266,240	4.00%
Fund 13 (Special Schools)	\$476,816	0.84%
<b>Total General Fund</b>	<b>\$53,714,834</b>	<b>94.71%</b>
<b>Special Revenue Fund</b>		
State Grants	\$10,938	0.02%
Federal Grants	\$641,520	1.13%
<b>Total Special Revenue Fund</b>	<b>\$652,458</b>	<b>1.15%</b>
<b>Debt Service Fund</b>		
Payment of Principal	\$1,700,000	3.00%
Payment of Interest	\$649,550	1.15%
<b>Total Debt Service Fund</b>	<b>\$2,349,550</b>	<b>4.14%</b>
<b>TOTAL BUDGET</b>	<b>\$56,716,842</b>	

## Budget 2.7% Under Cap

continued from page one

district-wide recycling program.

Through the retooling of existing programs the following will be included in the 2008-2009 budget all while remaining 2.7% under the State imposed budget cap.

- Through necessary technology upgrades, SNN, the district broadcast channel will change from analog to digital allowing for more up-to-date daily information and a higher quality programming.
- One additional Middle School mathematics teacher will provide supplemental instruction and assist students with the "No Child Left Behind" federally mandated benchmarks.
- Reinstatement of four to six assistant coaches, from the over 20 that were cut last year. This will provide after-school opportunities for more than 200 students who are currently not participating in extracurricular school activities.

### WHERE DO YOU VOTE?

#### STAFFORD TOWNSHIP

##### DISTRICT #1 & #15

Stafford Township Fire Company #1  
133 Stafford Avenue

##### DISTRICT #2 & #17

Saint Mary's Parish Center  
179 South Main Street

##### DISTRICT #3 & #4

Stafford Township Community Center  
1199 Mill Creek Road

##### DISTRICT #5

Fawn Lakes Community Center  
6 Sycamore Road

##### DISTRICT #6, #8, #9, & #12

Ocean Acres Community Center  
489 Nautilus Drive

##### DISTRICT #7, #10, #11, & #19

Ocean Acres Elementary School  
Multi-Purpose Room  
489 Nautilus Drive

##### DISTRICT #13

Jennings Road Recreation Center  
385 Jennings Road

##### DISTRICT #14

Atlantic Hills Clubhouse  
98 Atlantic Hills Boulevard

##### DISTRICT #16

Perry's Lake Clubhouse  
4 Princeton Drive

##### DISTRICT #18

Marine Academy of Technology &  
Environmental Science Center  
195 Cedar Bridge Road

#### LONG BEACH ISLAND

Long Beach Twp. Public Safety Building  
Brant Beach

##### First United Methodist Church

Beach & New Jersey Avenues  
Beach Haven Terrace

##### Long Beach Island Art Foundation

120 Long Beach Boulevard, Loveladies

##### Barneget Light Fire House

Barneget Light

##### Harvey Cedars Municipal Building

Harvey Cedars

##### Ship Bottom Borough Hall

Ship Bottom

##### Surf City Fire House

Surf City

##### Beach Haven Town Hall

300 Engleside Avenue, Beach Haven

## COMMUNITY CONNECTION

### \$80,000 Donation for NEW WEIGHT ROOM



L to R Principal Eric Wilhelm, Amy Occhipinti, Mark Occhipinti, Coach Chuck Donahue, Health & Physical Education Supervisor Malcolm Smith and Superintendent Craig Henry.

Through their most generous donation, Mark Occhipinti and his wife, Amy, are providing a lifetime of fitness for the students at Southern Regional. "To say we are ecstatic is an understatement," said Principal Eric Wilhelm. This donation has refurbished the 11/12 weight room with over 50 different pieces of weight training-Hammer strength equipment, Ivanko competition bars and a new rubberized black floor with gold specks matching Southern school colors, and also mirrors from Causeway Glass to evaluate strength training positions throughout student work-outs.

Owners of *American Fitness Professionals & Associates (AFPA)*, the Occhipinti's are no strangers to purchasing, managing and owning a gym facility. "We wanted Southern Regional to have the best weight room in the state. It's that Ram Pride," stated Mark who is a 1978 Southern graduate and longtime resident of Stafford. "We wanted the students to have the proper equipment that works and is up to date with the quality of the coaching staff that already exists here at Southern," he continued. Athletic Supervisor Kim DeGraw-Cole, Health & Physical Education Supervisor Malcolm Smith, High School Principal Eric Wilhelm and Football Coach Chuck Donahue, Sr. were asked to create a "wish list" as the Occhipinti's oversaw the weight room overhaul.

It's a gift that keeps on giving as the older equipment that was once housed in the 11/12 weight room moves to the 9/10 and 7/8 building weight rooms. This will allow even more students to benefit from healthy, fit lifestyles.

"We hope this donation will inspire other local businesses and companies in town to make a difference in our schools," stated Amy Occhipinti.

### Southern & SOCH Partnership Expanded

High School students already benefit from an ongoing partnership with Southern Ocean County Hospital; the relationship has now been expanded to the newly formed Center for Health Sciences.

SOCH physicians from various specialties such as internal medicine, oncology and orthopedic surgery, have been instructing Advanced Anatomy and Physiology classes at Southern. The students have been able to interact directly with physicians who are experts in their respective fields. "This has been a hands-on experience you cannot get from books," said senior Lauren Pona.



Alexandra Musarra and Chloe Snyder after observing the day in the operating room at SOCH.

Recently, several students had the opportunity to observe orthopedic surgery in the operating room. "Witnessing the surgeries at SOCH definitely increased my interest in pursuing a career in the medical field. The practical experience of watching Dr. Jason Wong gave me an even greater appreciation for the field," said Chloe Snyder, senior.

Senior Morgan Logue added, "I recommend anyone interested in the medical field to take advantage of the electives offered at Southern. You can discover your strengths and interests before applying to college."

### Assistant Coaches Donated

When Darren Steadman heard about the cut of an assistant coach from the SRMS Baseball program, he took action. As President of the *Stafford Little League*, he formed a committee that helped organize the funding of an assistant coach position. "We run the Doc Cranmer Baseball Tournament at the end of July. This tournament helped pay for the coaching job" stated Steadman.

*Stafford Little League* wanted to give back to the kids that have been in their program over the years. They know that more coaches allow for more student involvement.

*The Walters Group* and *Friends of Southern Sailing* have also generously donated funds for assistant coaches.

### Lynn Photo Donation

*Lynn Photo* closed for business, but has opened the doors of opportunity and hands-on experience to many students for years to come with a \$6,700 donation of photographic equipment. "It goes beyond generous" says Melissa Ardoin, photography teacher. "Some of this equipment you would never dream of seeing in a high school photo room. We are truly grateful. *Lynn Photo* will be missed. It was a business that always knew the answers to our questions and offered job opportunities for our skilled students."

### Scholarship Kick-Off

Southern Regional's Scholarship Program held its annual kick-off breakfast on March 14th. Last June, the Class of 2007 was presented with \$567,058 from local individuals and businesses. As a result, 341 students were recipients of the donors' generosity. Scholarship awards throughout the years have enabled Southern Regional students to attend prestigious colleges and universities while also providing help to students who desire to attend local colleges, technical and trade schools. Joining this year's donors were former scholarship recipients Dan Ivancich, Class of 2002 and Bill Entriakin, Class of 1995. They expressed their gratitude to the donors and related how important their scholarships were to their lives. "You believed in us and believed in what we would do," stated Dan Ivancich.

If you are interested in becoming a donor please contact Cheryl Barrett at 609-597-9481.

AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY  
RELAY FOR LIFE  
SOUTHERN REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL  
MAY 30 & 31, 2008  
3:00 P.M.— 8:00 A.M.

<http://events.cancer.org/RFLmanahawkinNJ>

## Honor Roll Reward Lunch

7<sup>th</sup> graders on Southern Regional Middle School's

Challengers team that made either the high or regular Honor Roll were invited to a special luncheon on February 28<sup>th</sup>. This luncheon was coordinated by the Challengers' core academic teachers: Jason Lister, Deneen Pona, William Beers, Kathleen Hillblom, and Anthony Iacono, with the assistance of academic supervisor Barbara McHale.

The luncheon was special on more than one level. Of course it was primarily held to reward the hardworking academic efforts of 31 students, but it also afforded the team teachers an opportunity to educate most students and reinforce in others proper table etiquette.

Students were escorted to the Administrative Building, where, in the "Ram Room," they were treated to a fine dining experience. Their teachers were their servers, while Mrs. Lorraine Airey, their school principal, and Mrs. Barbara McHale, academic supervisor, acted as their bussing and dishwashing crew. Students were instructed through an informational brochure about proper table etiquette. Everything was covered: proper table setting, waiting for the whole table to be served before eating, how gentlemen are expected to stand when a lady sits or excuses herself from the table, where the napkin should be placed upon excusing oneself from the table and why there are two forks, to name a few! The students all appeared to enjoy the experience and really stepped up to the challenge.



Seventh graders on Challengers Team enjoy an Honor Roll lunch.

### Congratulations to...

Physical Education Teacher Doreen Rhoads-White for receiving the 2008 Dance Teacher of the Year award from the New Jersey Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance.



## The Jelly Bean Conspiracy

On February 26<sup>th</sup> Southern Regional High School Advanced Improv students participated in the Ocean County Council PTA Kick-Off Event for the Ocean and Monmouth County Challenger League. The Challenger League was created to provide outside of school social and recreational opportunities for children with mental and physical handicaps. Under the direction of Jim McCabe, the Advanced Improv Acting Class, and students from the autistic and special education programs performed "The Jellybean Conspiracy." This series of monologues, scenes and vignettes teaches acceptance and kindness. The performance was so well crafted that both the Parents of Autistic Children (POAC) and individuals from the State PTA have been in contact with Southern Regional to have the Advanced Improv Acting Class perform at a larger venue.



Sean Dooley and Lauren Boyan acting out a scene.

## Did You Know?

- ◆ Reported by librarian Johanna McCauley, The Middle School library has signed out close to 8,600 books within the last six months. Literacy Period is probably the reason. Students, who are required to read for 20 minutes a day are always looking for a good story!
- ◆ Since the Ecology Club began a full scale recycling program at the High School under advisor Kim Fonteix, over 8.61 tons of paper and 1.84 tons of bottles and cans have been collected for recycling.
- ◆ The Middle School S.T.Y.L.E. students performed for "Kick Butt's Day-Choose to Be Tobacco Free" at the Ritacco Center in Toms River on April 2nd. All the Elementary Schools in Ocean County were invited with well over 2,000 students in attendance.
- ◆ The Intergenerational Council enjoyed their annual "Make Your Own Pizza" Party with over 37 in attendance and another night of live theatre with over 22 participating. Membership consists of students from the MS and HS and adults from the community. Students plan activities that they can share with their adult members in an effort to "bridge the gap between the generations" says Rosemarie Tamarato. If you are interested in joining or want more information please call 597-9481 ext. 2311.
- ◆ The National Honor Society has created a "Buddy Program" with the special needs students in the district. This program meets during study hall periods several days a week and once a month after school. Special events such as a Valentine's Day Dance and an Easter Egg Hunt have been organized.
- ◆ The Earth Experience will be hosting a trip to the Presidential Inauguration January 18-20, 2009. This trip is open to all students entering 9-12th grade. See Mrs. Dougherty in room 105 to reserve your spot!

◆ Juan Ramon-Aquino who attends the Vocational Ocean Culinary program won first prize in the SkillsUSA contest.

◆ Key Club members have volunteered to help students twice a week in the Stafford Oxycoccus School with reading and organizational skills.

◆ Congratulations to the following FCCLA students who were awarded medals at the 61st Annual Spring Leadership Conference: Caitlin McMenemin, Krystin Vrabell, Louisa Befumo, Leanne Schwartz, Arielle Ford, Ashleigh Hegedus, Dan Hirrel, Kristen Parker, Lauren Alessi, Sarah Dreher, and Allison Weigle who placed 1st in the State of NJ.

◆ LBI Foundation of the Arts has been exhibiting some of the best and brightest artists from both the MS and HS. The next exhibit will be held in May.



## Musical Notes

World renowned trumpet and flugelhorn player, Randy Brecker and his wife, saxophonist Ada Rovatti, conducted several workshops with the three Jazz Bands at the High School and Middle School on Feb. 20th. Brass and saxophone sectionals were held along with performance critiques from Brecker who was genuinely impressed with the talent of the musicians. This experience was made possible by the Music Department and Jazz Band Parents Association.

"Java & Jazz" was held on March 16th in the HS Cafeteria. More than 300 parents, friends and supporters of the HS Jazz Ensemble, HS Jazz Band and MS Jazz Band were in attendance. Tunes such as "Moondance," "Mr. Zoot Suit" and "Orange Colored Sky" rang out while people enjoyed desserts and coffee.

Congratulations to the following students who earned membership into All-South Jersey Band: Julia Beekman, Nicole Ciccone, Joseph Allen, Emily Moench, Cameron Sammartano, Brian Coyle, John Dondero, Grace Bohn, Jess Whelan, Matt Hillblom, JC Holdsworth, Rebecca Knott, Tyler Wagner, Kayla Ibe, Justin Gregg, Jimmy Merchant, Zach Strouse, Austin Schwerzel, Alex Scherzer, Katie Cleland, Victoria Tamburro, Noelle LeBlon and Tom Scherzer. Congratulations to Taryn O'Keefe and Lauren Migalski who earned membership into All-South Jersey and All-State Band.

## Students of the Month

### December

Comets Team-	Francesca LaBianco & Tyler Galgano
Grade 9	Barbara Farace
Grade 10	Robert McMinn
Grade 11	Justin Brearley
Grade 12	Forrest Hammarstrom

### January

Challengers Team-	David Rossi
Grade 9	Kaitlyn Olson
Grade 10	Jerome Montalbano
Grade 11	Patrick Kelly
Grade 12	Margaret Hade

### February

Lightning Team-	Kelsey Ranson
Grade 9	Christina Luell
Grade 10	Brette Cox
Grade 11	Barbara DellaValle
Grade 12	Tim Erickson

### March

Surf Team-	Natalie Einselen & Tyler Lipositz
Grade 9	Luke Sheehan
Grade 10	Tabitha Greenwood
Grade 11	Steven Banyasz
Grade 12	Jocelyn Harth

### Congratulations to...

Brian Zatorski named New Jersey Track Association Coach of the Year!

## Southern Sports.....

Jillian Smith, named Press Athlete of the Year capped her undefeated season by winning the mile in 4:53.68 at the Nike Indoor National Championships. Her fastest mile time, 4:48.83 places her first in the U.S. for high school girls. Chelsea Cox finished 3rd overall in the 800m at Nike Indoor Nationals. Her time, 2:12.42 broke the NJ State Sophomore record and also establishes a new school, County and Shore Conference record! The 1600 Meter Relay Team consisting of Alyssa Barrow, Nyrae Newman, Julia Beekman & Katherine Wymbs won the Eastern State Championships with 3:54.82.

The Varsity Black Cheerleaders ended their most successful season by placing 3rd at the Northeast Regional. At Nationals they placed 40th out of 80 teams. At the NJ State Championships they placed 8th out of 24 teams. The Varsity Gold squad competing as JV placed 2nd at the County Championships. The MS squad placed 4th at the State Championships and 3rd in the County.

A first for Southern, the Girls Swim Team won the Class A-South Championships and placed 8th in the Shore Conference. Jackie Behr was the Ocean County Champion for the 50 yard freestyle.

For the 7th consecutive year the Wrestling Team was awarded The District 24 Championship Title. Junior Glenn Carson has been named The Press Wrestler of the Year along with earning 2nd Place in the NJ State Wrestling Tournament.

The Bowling Team was named Shore Conference South B Champions.