



Sturgis Charter Public School

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sturgischarterschool.org

August, 2009

Dear Sturgis Students and Parents,

The time has come for the 2009-10 school year! We are looking forward to welcoming our new and returning students to Sturgis for the upcoming year. Our recent graduates from the Class of 2009 were quite successful with their International Baccalaureate exams, college admission, and financial aid, and we expect similar or even stronger results from our graduates in 2010 and beyond. We believe that the IB helps our students develop the habits of the mind to be successful in life and that the IB is the best university preparation program available. We strongly encourage you to attend Sturgis Convocation and Strawberry Social on August 31 in Tilden Auditorium at Cape Cod Community College to hear more about the coming year.

At the forefront of our thinking as we develop our curriculum and student activities is our fundamental purpose: student learning is why we are here. We strive to help all students maximize their individual student potential not only in knowledge and skills but also in habits, attitudes, and values. It is our goal that each student is continually challenged to learn not only in our classrooms but also through the help and support of our faculty beyond the classroom. We feel fortunate to have many highly capable faculty returning to Sturgis for the 2009-10 school year. In addition, we also were able to recruit several outstanding new faculty who no doubt will be significant contributors to the program.

We encourage all of our students to get involved in the life of the school beyond the classroom. A Sturgis education is enhanced a great deal when students participate in activities, sports, and service opportunities. We will have a wide variety of activities this year, including student government, Model United Nations, jazz band, student newspaper, mock trial, and others. We also congratulate Athletic Director Jim Barrasso on the quality of and the participation in our athletic program. In addition, our involvement in the IB contributes to the commitment that our students already demonstrate in the area of community service.

Our students find that Sturgis Charter Public School is a very special place with a dynamic, caring, and outstanding faculty, a world class curriculum in the IB, a vibrant student body that is highly motivated yet caring for one another, and a very supportive parent community. All of these aspects come together to help us create a school culture that will have a great impact on the lives of our students.

We look forward to sharing with you a very productive and challenging school year. Please do not hesitate in contacting us at any time if we can be of assistance.

Sincerely,

Eric Hieser
Executive Director

NOTE: Please review the important enclosures regarding the start-up of school and changes in policies and programs at Sturgis Charter Public School. The 2009-10 Student Handbook will be given to students on the first day of school and will be available for parents at the School Office.



Sturgis Charter Public School

August Mailing 09

Sturgis Charter Public School Convocation/Strawberry Social—Monday, August 31

All students and parents are invited to attend the Convocation and Strawberry Social at the Tilden Auditorium at Cape Cod Community College on Monday, August 31 at 7:00 p.m. This event is an important evening, especially for grade nine students and parents, as we will be introducing the faculty and giving an orientation to the school year, including some of the new opportunities, curricula, programs, and policies. Several school leaders will also be making presentations about their areas of responsibility. Sturgis car window decals will also be available. Students will have their first opportunity to meet with their advisor for the year. We will also be organizing groups of parents from each town who might be interested in meeting one another and in car pools for transportation to and from school. At the end of the program, we will be having our annual Strawberry Social in order to give students, parents, and faculty an opportunity to get acquainted or reacquainted. We encourage all Sturgis students and parents to attend this event.

First Day of School

On Wednesday, September 2, all students should report to school by no later than 8:20 a.m. We will be holding orientation assemblies in the morning and then continue through the day with normal classes. Students will receive their schedules, lockers, and information about school supplies on this day. All students should bring a notebook, pen, and pencil.

Lunch

Sturgis students will once again have the privilege of leaving school during the lunch period as long as the students demonstrate that they have the personal responsibility to handle this privilege appropriately. Please refer to the attendance policy for information about the relationship between tardies to school and the open lunch privilege.

Students in grades 10-12 will have open lunch beginning on the first day of school on Wednesday, September 2. Students in grade 9 will need to bring a sack lunch from Wednesday, September 2 through Friday, September 4. During lunch on these days the grade 9 students will be grouped for lunch in Sturgis classrooms for some getting acquainted activities and some discussions about the responsibilities inherent in the open lunch privilege.

NOTE: All students must complete and return to their advisor the enclosed **Lunch Permission** by Tuesday, September 8 in order to be allowed to have the privilege of open lunch.

Ordering Lunch

We have an agreement with the White Hen Pantry, which is across Main Street from Sturgis, to allow students to order lunch in advance so that it is already prepared when the lunch period begins. Students must complete the lunch order form prior to 8:20 a.m. each day.

Free or Reduced Lunch

Parents or guardians of students who qualify for free or reduced lunch are encouraged to come to the School Office and complete application forms. For students who qualify for a free or reduced lunch, Sturgis will implement the necessary steps to provide these lunches.

Sturgis Statement of Purpose: Student Learning is why we are here. We strive to help all students maximize their potential not only in their knowledge and skills but also in their habits, attitudes, and values.

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Parent Volunteers

We are seeking your involvement in the activities of our school as parent support is critical to our success. Please read, complete, and return the enclosed *Survey of Volunteer Interest* so that our school can benefit from your contributions.

Cape Cod Transit Information

This year all Cape Cod Transit busses will again be available to our students. You can find further information at www.capecodrta.org. The CCRTA bus for Sturgis students will start running on September 2. Students coming off-Cape can check the schedules of the Plymouth and Brockton Bus at www.p-b.com.

Health History Form for Grade 9 Students

The school nurse is requesting that new students complete and return the health history questionnaire. Please contact the nurse if a student has a medical problem of which the nurse should be aware.

Accessing Sturgis Forms

On the Sturgis website under Parents and then Forms, you can access copies of forms that you might need to complete and return to Sturgis.



Sturgis Charter Public School August Mailing 09

Sturgis Charter Public School Lunch Permission 2009-10

Sturgis Students are permitted, with the consent of a parent or guardian, to leave the building during lunch period. It is a highly valued privilege for our students and a reflection of our confidence in their maturity and sense of responsibility. We expect students' behavior during lunch to meet the following three standards. If it does not, we will withdraw the privilege and assign them to supervised lunch until we feel they are ready to use the opportunity appropriately.

- They are to protect their own safety.

They are to cross the streets on crosswalks without exception.
They are to wait for all traffic to come to a complete stop before crossing.
They are not to run across the street.
They are to cross with the WALK sign at intersections.

- They are to act in a manner that supports Sturgis' reputation in the community.

They are to put all refuse in trash containers and not litter.
They are not to congregate on sidewalks in a way that interferes with others' passing.
They are to be polite and respectful in interactions with people working in the stores and with other customers.
They are not to smoke.

- They are to return to school to begin their next class having consumed all their food before they enter the classroom.

Understanding these conditions I grant _____ my permission to leave the building for lunch.

parent/guardian

date

I have read and agree to these conditions.

student

date