

**Sturgeon Composite High School
School Council Meeting
Sept. 8, 2008
SCHS Staff Room**

Attendees:

SCHS Staff: Brian Brigden, Ron Pollmann, Ruth Kuik

School Board: Wendy Miller

RCMP: Shane Turvey

Student Representative: Connor Schafers

Parents: Carol Arnold, Eileen Chauvet, Patti Selman, Irma Zembal, Tammy Morris, Becky Williams, Helen Van Der Kley, Veronica Lee, Norma Cartwright, Karen Anderson, Reesa Schafers, Jan Hirschi, Darlene Torok, Terri Rigby, Jeannine Kaup

1. Call to order @ 7:25 p.m. by Veronica Lee.

Introductions by all. Mr. Brigden introduced the new RCMP Liaison Officer (Shane Turvey) for SCHS. Shane has lots of experience working with youth, especially those @ risk. He will be a welcome addition to SCHS (2) days /week, MCHS (2) days/week and Primeau (1) day /week.

2. Motion by Irma to accept minutes of last meeting. Seconded by Tammy. Carried

3. Business arising from the minutes: Doors have been painted school colors, new shale for track. New website www.sturgeoncomp.ca Linked to new school division web site www.sturgeon.ab.ca Mr. Pollmann discussed computer hook ups - will be four fully functioning labs when all complete. New cell phone policy has NOT been met with as much resistance as anticipated; several students have received 1st offence warnings but only one has been caught on the 2nd offence which resulted in the parent having to come to the school to retrieve the phone.

4. Reports:

- 4.1 Student Rep: Connor reported that SRC will be having their planning meeting on Wed., Sept. 10, 2008, and look forward to a fun filled year and welcome all those who are interested in joining.
- 4.2 School Board: Wendy reported on the June Board meeting. She was impressed with the presentation made by Const. McKay and Mr. Brigden and the positive impact the RCMP in the school was having. The School Board will continue to support this and welcome the new member to the position. Central Office staff & Board job descriptions have been completed. Wendy attended the Public School Board Association meeting in Southern Alberta; the Minister is planning to 'dialogue' with the Boards to look @ education needs; now and in the future i.e. 2020. She noted that it is important, as a school & a School Council, to bring ideas forward & she encouraged parents and staff to contact her with comments or concerns. **Action item:** Further discussion on this to be on next agenda. Irma questioned re: 4x4 in Cardiff. Same has not been approved by the Minister and although it involves +/- 60 students, SCHS has NOT lost any students to MCHS.

4.3 Administration:

Brian welcomed Ruth Kuik as the new Vice Principal. She joins us from Lilian Schick. Best wishes for Carol Raczynski in her new role as Principal @ Redwater. Brian noted that registration and course changes went smoothly. There have been no froshing incidents; extra supervision was on hand in case of same "Great kids & Great staff." He has been given the go ahead to hire 1-2 more staff and will place them where they are needed the most to reduce class sizes. Current enrollment is 1013. Brian discussed the continued success with the joint football program with Bellerose - four of our students have moved on to play in AJFL (1) for the Wildcats, three for the Huskies. This year's team has begun league play and hope for continued success.

Ron continued with an update on sports. Volleyball teams are in the midst of tryouts. The senior girls went to train in Cuba this past summer. The senior boys had a tournament on W/E and were very competitive. Junior tryouts are going well. The golf team is underway. News around the school - The music program has again seen an increase in numbers. Both gym floors were resurfaced over the summer. The parking lots have had stall lines painted. Expanded bus lanes will allow for some visitor parking spots. The vocational parking lot has been expanded as well and there will be security cameras installed in that area. Other outside lighting was improved and the roof had a lot of work done on it. The Lifeskills area will be undergoing renovations as well. The school sign will have power to it @ some point and the caretaker has offered to maintain/change same. Kudos to the caretaking staff and all others who coped during the "Great water shortage of 2008." Water issues during the 1st week of school necessitated hauling water for use in the washrooms and also was the reason that the cafeteria was not open on the 1st full day of class. Ron noted that students were notified of this closure when they came to register.

Ruth noted that her area of focus is special needs; more integration into the main stream will be occurring. **Action item:** on agenda for next meeting - integration-implications/ resources/needs. Lifeskills class changing- renos being done, track lifts installed and bathroom being revised. She is also overseeing the Morinville Learning Center; looking @ home school students and how they are supported.

4.4 Chairperson:

Veronica had reviewed the Division 3 Year Plan. A copy of same will be filed with the minutes. Discussed videoconferencing and the increased use of same. Ms. Smook and Ms. Jeske attended a conference regarding this. This will be the last cycle of the AISI project, with the continued focus being on keeping kids in school, improving study skills and improved diploma results.

5. New Business:

SCHS trialing some 'late starts' instead of full PD days; Mr. Brigden feels this will be a more productive use of staff time, and will decrease the need for Subs. Each department (Professional Learning Committee) will bring forward ideas for discussion and will bring in guest speakers as available. Agenda and minutes will be reviewed by Administration. Concerns were brought forward by parents of students attending from Edmonton area, as

these buses only run @ regular times so students will be @ school for the entire day. Mr. Brigden will have support staff available to supervise these students but will check with the bussing and see if alternative plans could be made.

6. Old Business:

Interim report cards and comments on same; the concern being that there are only two options- "Your child is / is not adapting well in this course." Availability of additional comment choices will be discussed at the department head meeting and any changes will be communicated via the school newsletter.

7. Meeting was adjourned by the Chairperson @ 9:00 pm.

NEXT MEETING: OCTOBER 20th, 2008

