

**Sturgeon Composite High School
School Council Meeting
Sept. 14, 2009.
SCHS Staff Room**

Attendees:

SCHS Staff: Brian Brigden, Ron Pollman, Ruth Kuik

School Board: No representative

Student Representative: No representative

Parents: Reesa Schafers, Norma & Tom Cartwright, Carol Arnold, Ellen & Chuck Lamarre,
Bianca van der Schaaf

1. Annual General Meeting- Called to order @ 7:05 p.m. by Mr. Brigden. Introductions of members present. Reviewed role of School Council and gave brief history of same. Call for nominations. No acceptances for position of Chair- left vacant. Vice- Chair by acclamation- Bianca van der Schaaf. Reesa Schafers agreed to continue in the role of Secretary. Mr. Brigden agreed to continue to chair the regular meeting.

2. Regular Meeting- Minutes of the June 8th meeting reviewed. Accepted by Ruth Kuik, seconded by Reesa Schafers. Carried

3. Business arising from the minutes:

Concerns voiced as to why School Board representation has been so sporadic- Mr. Brigden will look into same and advise Trustee as to next meeting.

Mr. Pollman noted that the planned school maintenance was completed over the summer- with lots of newly painted walls and several new parking spaces. Student parking has NOT been an issue thus far the year.

PUFF Headstart students will NOT be housed in the drama room but will be @ Namao church.

The students taking their Early Childhood development Certificate are still able to do their placement with this group as well as at the Guthrie Day Care.

22 students and 2 staff attended World Skills in Calgary as observers. SCHS hopes to be receiving some of the equipment from that event.

4. Reports:

4.1 Student Rep: No student Rep present- SRC just getting up and running. Parents questioning how to get their students involved in same. Advised to have student check with office as to day and time of meetings.

4.2 School Board: No representation

4.3 Administration: Mr. Brigden noted that registration and start up went smoothly and for the 7th year in a row there have been no Froshing @ SCHS. There are about 1000 students registered with the average class size being about 23 for the CTS classes, 28 for most other classes; with the exception of English and Social that gave about 30 and Choral and Band that have almost 60 students per class. There are 8 students in the Lifeskills program, 20 in the Challenge program

and 42 severe needs integrated students. Several extra support staff are on board to assist with these students. Extra Foods & Building Construction classes have been added in order to try to meet student requests. Mr. Brigden was @ NAIT today as talks continue to try and have some the 30 level CTS classes so closely aligned with the NAIT curriculum that when a student finishes @ SCHS they will be eligible to write off their 1st year @ NAIT. Noted that several classes will be enhanced by the visiting Latin musicians, BOMBA, as they will not just be working with the music program but will be Artists in residence so will be working with the Spanish class and the foods class. Construction hopes to be part of a drum making project during this time. Their stay will culminate with a show @ the DOW in Dec. 1/09

Mr. Pollman reviewed some of the maintenance projects that were completed over the summer. Noted there is an AED in the front lobby. Resource Officer Shane Turvey will again be working with the Comp and will be replaced by a female officer for about a month in November when he leaves to join the Musical Ride. Parents voiced their appreciation for his services.

Mrs. Kuik agreed to be the contact person for School Council as unfortunately Vi Pearce is retiring- she will be missed as she has provided a lot of assistance to the Council over the past several years. Voting member emails will be submitted to Ruth by the secretary so minutes can be sent to them directly. All minutes are on the website for review. Ruth reviewed how registration occurred this year- several changes from the usual way of doing things. The new system seemed to work very well. Question arose as to how students are advised about course choices and how can parents be involved when the forms are to be filled out and returned on the same day. Requested that parents get a heads up as to when this will be occurring so they can at least have a discussion about course choices with their student. Ruth noted that if there were any concerns about course choice to speak with the Counseling department as they have the latest information as to transferability to other provinces as well as entrance requirements to post secondary institutions, Briefly discussed funding for the Special Ed program and noted that about 10% of student numbers are children with special needs. Discussion ensued as to the caring and supportive nature of the school community for these students and their families.

4.4 Chairperson: Position vacant. Reesa noted that the incoming mail, Alberta Council of Councils' Association newsletter and the Sturgeon School Division 3 year plan, will be available on file with the minutes as well as @ the school office. The report is also available at the division website @ <http://www.sturgeon.ab.ca/Publications/ThreeYearEducationPlan/tabid/115/ItemId/10/Default.aspx>.

5. New Business: None at this time.

6. Old Business: Most was discussed under business arising from the minutes and nothing had been carried over from the summer. Mr. Brigden noted that neither of the 15 passenger vans are to be used for student transport and 2 buses are on order. We have been loaned (free of charge) 2 24 passenger replacement buses to use in the interim. One van will be stripped of seats and used to haul band equipment etc. The other is for sale for \$4500.00. It has 100,000 km & new tires.

7. Adjournment: Mr. Brigden adjourned the meeting @ 8:35pm.

NEXT MEETING: October 19th, 2009 @ 7pm