

Executive Director's Newsletter

Sturgis Charter Public School– West Campus

U.S. News & World Report Ranks Sturgis #1 in MA

The U.S. News & World Report has just announced its 2012 rankings of the Best High Schools in the U.S., and Sturgis was ranked #1 in MA and #15 in the U.S.! The magazine uses a very complex formula to develop the rankings, one that includes student success on statewide testing (MCAS in MA), success on MCAS of students with special needs and high needs students in comparison to similar students at other schools in the state, and the participation and the achievement results of seniors on IB or AP exams. While Sturgis has received very high ranking on other lists in the past several years, this U.S. News ranking is the highest recognition that the school has achieved. We expect that the 2012 rankings of Newsweek and the Washington Post will also be announced in the coming weeks. As each organization that ranks schools uses different methodology to determine their rankings, it will be interesting to see where Sturgis is placed on the other two lists!

Sturgis West Modules Arriving This Week

The permanent modules that will be put together to form the new Sturgis West building at 105 West Main Street in Hyannis are starting to arrive this week, and the huge crane will start putting the modules into final placement in the next several days. You will be able to watch the progress by accessing a link on the Sturgis website. It is an exciting time for Sturgis West as they watch their new school being assembled very quickly before their eyes!

Congratulations

from SPA

to our Faculty and Staff for their ongoing excellence and commitment to our Sturgis Community. U.S. News & World Report has ranked Sturgis at #1 in MA and #15 in the U.S. among almost 22,000 U.S. High Schools.

As parents we are thrilled to be part of this outstanding community.

More Congratulations Due...

To Eva Fahey

Out of 500 entries, Eva won first prize for the art/design that will go on all of the tee shirts for the TD Bank Pops by the Sea Concert this summer! Job well done, Eva!



May, 2012

We provide parents with this Newsletter as a means of helping you become better informed about events and activities at Sturgis. We hope that this type of communication is helpful. Communication, of course, is a two-way street. Please do not hesitate in calling us with a question.

IB Mission Statement

The International Baccalaureate aims to develop inquiring, knowledgeable and caring young people who help to create a better and more peaceful world through intercultural understanding and respect.

To this end the organization works with schools, governments and international organizations to develop challenging programmes of international education and rigorous assessment.

These programmes encourage students across the world to become active, compassionate and lifelong learners who understand that other people, with their differences, can also be right.

We are on the Web!
sturgischarterschool.org

Check out ***StormWatch***, The student newspaper, by clicking on the link on homepage of our site!

We send a lot of information through our "School Reach" email system.

If you do not receive our emails, please contact the main office to verify your email address.

STUDENT EXCHANGE WITH HIGH SCHOOL IN SICILY

Twenty-nine students and two teachers from a high school in Piazza Armerina, Sicily will be visiting Sturgis West, plus touring Cape Cod and Boston historical sites, August 31 to September 9. While here, the students will be hosted by Sturgis West students and their families. In April 2013, during the Spring Break, the same Sturgis West students will travel to Sicily, to be hosted in return by the Sicilian students and their families. Students will visit the school there, plus go to Syracuse, Taormina, Agrigento, and Palermo, to see sites of historical interest in those cities.

Living with a host family--having a "brother" or "sister" in the host country, eating meals as a family, seeing real, everyday life--is what sets this program apart from other student exchanges. Wes Baden, a Sturgis West Latin teacher, conducted an exchange with the same high school in Sicily four years ago. He says that in many cases his students made friends with whom they still maintain contact and decided to study subjects such as Italian and Italian history at the college level.

2012 WORLD CHALLENGE TRIP TO ECUADOR

Sturgis East and Sturgis West are excited to announce that the summer of 2013, the World Challenge destination is Ecuador.

Ecuador is a country in South America, neighboring both Columbia and Peru. Although small, Ecuador is rich in cultural and diverse ecological habitats. It is home to exotic animals such as the giant tortoise, marine iguana, and numerous birds, including the famous Blue-footed booby.

This 15 day adventure will consist of four main parts, trekking one of numerous volcanoes, exploring the rainforest, working with locals on a community service project, and relaxing on one of island off the coast. This trip will push limits and expand minds. It is an adventure not to be missed.

STUDENT POETS PERFORM AT CHATHAM MIDDLE SCHOOL

Poetry Out Loud Regional Finalists Diana Milkey (Grade 9, Sturgis West) and Molly Brennan (Grade 10, Sturgis East) were invited by Lisa Sjostrom, Principal of Chatham Middle School, to perform at their April 26th Poetry Out Loud Assembly. Diana and Molly did a wonderful job. You could have heard a pin drop in the auditorium when they were on stage – no easy feat for a room filled with 200+ middle school students!

The assembly included performances by Chatham Middle School students and teachers. Molly and Diana gave excellent performances at end of the program as a grande finale. Ms. Sjostrom said she could certainly see how they made it to the state finals of Poetry Out Loud.

< *Molly Brennan and
Diana Milkey*



Final Exam Schedule

June 7: Exams for "G" and "F"

June 8: Exams for "E" and "D"

June 11: Exams for "C" and "B"

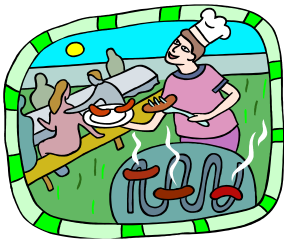
Dismissal at 1:00 each day

June 12: Exams for "A" and make-up exams. *Dismissal at 10:35*

FIELD DAY

May 23rd, 10:50-2:20

Students can be picked up at school at 2:20. Buses will pick up students at the regular time.



GUIDANCE NEWS

The Guidance Team will be presenting during sophomore English classes throughout the month of May. Students will be introduced to personality type and work environments in order to begin career and college exploration. They will learn about Myers-Briggs/Jung Typology as well as John Holland's people and work environments.

Upcoming Events

Math MCAS: May 15 and 16

Field Day: May 23rd

Awards Night: May 24, 6:30-8:30 at the Hyannis Resort and Conference Center

Science MCAS: June 5 and 6

Final Exams: June 7-12th

Sturgis SAT Prep Course: This Summer!

We are pleased to offer a **summer SAT prep course** led by Sturgis teachers Alicia Watts (critical reading and writing) and Sheila Gilligan (mathematics). The 6-week course offers study of SAT topics and strategies in test-taking. As **bonuses**, students may sit for **two full-length practice SATs**, learn about the **ACT**, and attend a **fall review session** before the October SAT. The core class meets **at Sturgis East** on Tuesdays in late June and July from **5:30-8:30p.m.**, with bonus sessions on most Thursdays, and includes a **make-up session** and one-on-one extra help.

The course fee is **\$375**, which includes all sessions and a SAT prep book. Please express interest in an email to awatts@sturgischarterschool.org.

S.T.A.G.E. LEFT

S.T.A.G.E. Left (Sturgis Theatre Arts Guild of Entertainers- West Campus) would like to cordially invite you to our first production!!

An evening of two shocking one-act plays:

Country Gothic

by Tim Kelly

&

The Lottery

by Brainerd Duffield

May 18th, 19th & 20th

Buzzards Play Productions

Cranberry Highway

Wareham

Friday and Saturday @ 7

Sunday Matinee @ 2

Tickets \$10.00

JUNIOR CLASSICAL LEAGUE

Mrs. Lee and ten students attended the Junior Classical League (JCL) state convention at Barnstable High School the weekend of April 27-29. Over 600 Latin students from around the state attended the convention and got to participate in many Latin-related activities. Joshua Hassler earned fifth place in two academic tests: Hellenic History and Roman Literature.