



Executive Director's Newsletter

Sturgis Charter Public School—West Campus

October 2016

Sturgis MCAS Results Among the Top in MA

Sturgis East and West grade 10 students (who are currently in grade 11) once again ranked among the top schools in MA on their 2015 MCAS tests. Sturgis students tied for #1 out of 290 school districts in English Language Arts, tied for #15 in Math, and tied for #12 in Science. In addition, the Sturgis Student Growth Percentiles (a value added statistic) were significantly higher than average, the highest that Sturgis has ever achieved. Congratulations to the current grade 11 students and parents in addition to their faculty who helped achieve such exemplary results.



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.

Disseminating Best Practice

Sturgis is more active than ever in disseminating best practices to other schools in the Americas and around the world. Associate Director/Principal, Paul Marble, has been leading Equity and Excellence workshops for the IB in Georgia, California, and Texas during the past few weeks. In early November, Susan Voigt will be leading a workshop in Atlanta, GA entitled *Creating Inclusive Classrooms: Access for All Students in the IB Diploma Programme*. Executive Director Eric Hieser spent two days in New York at the Clinton School for Writers and Artists as their IB consultant mentoring their application for IB authorization.

In early September, Sturgis West and East hosted a two-day visit from a school leader from North Star Academy, a high-performing charter school in Newark, NJ as they are quite interested in developing an IB Diploma Programme. Sturgis also hosted a visit from the Principal of the American School of Rio de Janeiro as he was seeking strategies for transforming his school into an IB for All program.

Finally, Mitchell Chester, the Commissioner of Education in MA, visited Sturgis West in mid September as he wanted to learn more about the Sturgis IB for All experience. Following his visit, Commissioner Chester noted that he was quite impressed with the depth of the discussion in Matt Hodge's Theory of Knowledge class and with the true impact that the IB can and does have on "all" students.

Sicily Trip, April 2016!



Sturgis is traveling to Sicily, Italy in April 2016 with Travel for Teens. Students will explore an ancient Greek theatre overlooking the sea, swim in the sparkling blue Mediterranean and complete a meaningful community service activity. This trip aligns powerfully with the Sturgis mission of helping students to engage with the world through experiential learning and service to others.

There are currently just a hand-full of open spots for travelers. Learn more and enroll at: <http://www.tftschooltrips.com/scps2016>.

Sturgis Homecoming



Homecoming Games (Soccer) are Friday Oct 23rd:
1st Game: Girls Soccer at 5:00
2nd Game: Boys Soccer at 6:30
Old Townhouse Field in Yarmouth

Homecoming Dance is Saturday Oct 24th at the Holiday Inn Hyannis from 7:00 to 10:00pm. It is semi-formal. Only open to Sturgis East and West Students. Tickets are \$15 each. Only 200 tickets per campus available so don't delay in purchasing a tickets. Cash or checks accepted (make checks out to Sturgis Charter School)



Save The Date—Fall Musical!

S.T.A.G.E. Left & Right Present

Once on this Island

The 2015 fall Musical!

November 13 @ 7 pm

November 14 @ 2 & 7 pm

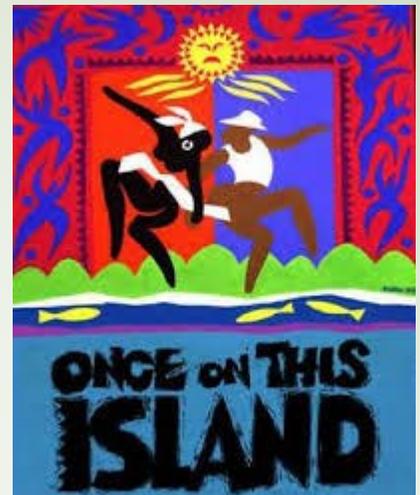
November 15 @ 2 pm

Mashpee High School

\$15.00 General Admission

*Order tickets by emailing your request to:

stagetix@sturgischarterschool.org



Guidelines

October 2015

The opening of school is a time of dynamism and optimism. Harnessing this wellspring of energy, counselors welcomed all students in classrooms with a wealth of relevant information.

In contrast, the hallways were very quiet on October 14th while the PSAT was administered to all sophomores and juniors. This is a Practice SAT. Students were offered a “What to Expect” workshop the week before, providing tips, advice and context for standardized testing and its role in the college application process. Score reports will be sent to students in late December.

West Juniors recently visited Bridgewater State University and Stonehill College. They experienced the “how to’s” of visiting a college campus, learned to see the differences between public and private colleges, and picked up some new jargon, like, “internship”, “study abroad” and “RA’s”.

Seniors have met with counselors during classes to work on the finer points of the Common Application, accepted by over 600 schools.

Seniors intending to apply “Early” should check in with counselors to make sure all the documents will be arriving at the colleges by deadline.

Next week we will be hosting almost 50 college representatives here at Sturgis West over the course of three days. Please encourage your child to attend the Sturgis College Mini-Fairs on Tuesday - Thursday, 10/20, 10/21, 10/22. Our advisory classes have been discussing how to navigate a college fair, how ask questions about colleges, and how to find schools they might want to research more.

Next week on Wednesday, October 21 the annual All Cape College Fair will be held at Barnstable High School from 3:30 - 5:30. Almost 200 colleges, technical schools, and Armed Services will be represented. This fair is open to all students in the Cape Cod area, and admission is free.

ACT Practice Test: A New Option for Juniors

Friday, December 11th

12:00 Noon

Registration Required

Over the years we have learned that some of our students have come to regard the ACT college admissions test as a welcome alternative/addition to the SAT. In order for students to experience the similarities and differences between the two tests, we are offering an ACT practice test. Like the SAT, the ACT is accepted at all colleges and universities.

The test will be administered free of charge by Kaplan Test Prep. While December 11th is a half day for Sturgis, Juniors opting to take the ACT practice test, should bring two #2 pencils, a calculator and a lunch with them that day. Testing will begin promptly at 12:00 noon. As the test will run until 4:30 PM, please make arrangements for transportation.

To register your child, e-mail slocascio@sturgischarterschool.org. In the subject line please note your child's name (last name first), your child's campus (East or West), and the letters ACT.

Upcoming Events:

- October 20-22 **College Mini-Fairs** at Lunchtime.
- Over 45 representatives will be here over the three-day span.
- 11/9 6:30 pm **College Financing Seminar** for Senior Parents
- with Massachusetts Educational Finance Authority MEFA The seminar is offered through MEFA (The Massachusetts Educational Financing Authority), the Commonwealth's resource on planning, saving and paying for college.

Location:

Cape Cod Synagogue
145 Winter Street
Hyannis

2015—2016 School Calendar

STURGIS CHARTER PUBLIC SCHOOL 2015-16 School Calendar

August

26 New Faculty and Lead Teachers Meetings
27 Opening Meetings for Faculty
28, 31 Professional Days for Faculty

September

1 Professional Day for Faculty
2 First School Day for Students
7 Labor Day—No School

October

9 Teacher Professional Half Day—Half Day for Students
12 Columbus Day—No School

November

11 Veteran's Day—No School
23 Parent Teacher Conferences—Half Day for Students
25-27 Thanksgiving Holiday

December

11 Teacher Professional Half Day—Half Day for Students
24-31 Winter Recess

January

1 Winter Recess
18 Martin Luther King Day--No School

February

15-19 February Vacation

March

11 Teacher Professional Half Day—Half Day for Students

April

18-22 April Vacation

May

30 Memorial Day- No School

June

4 Sturgis Graduation—10:00 a.m. for West & 2:30 p.m. for East
22 Last Day (includes 5 inclement weather days)

Upcoming Events

October 20
Health and Wellness
Safety Night

October 20-22
Mini College Fair
during lunch

October 23
Homecoming Soccer
Game

October 24
Homecoming Dance/
Fall Parent Social

November 3
Health and Wellness
Safety Night

November 10
Photo Retakes

November 11
Veteran's Day—No
School

November 23
Parent Teacher
Conferences—Half
Day for Students

November 25– 27
Thanksgiving
Holiday

Health and Wellness Safety Nights

We will hold two Health and Wellness Safety Nights this year. Megara Bell will be working with our 9th graders on building healthy relationships, developing a positive body image, understanding human sexuality, and making good choices. She will present to parents on Tuesday, Oct. 20th at Sturgis East, at 7:00p.m. in room 213. Will Slotnick will be working with our 10th graders on managing stress, healthy coping mechanisms, and increasing awareness of the effects of negative coping mechanisms (alcohol, drugs, etc.). He will present to parents on Tuesday, November 3rd at Sturgis West, at 7:00 p.m. in room 113. These are great opportunity to hear a professional perspective on the challenges and choices facing today's youth. Will and Megara are very informative and engaging – encouraging questions and feedback. Please join us!

We strongly encourage parents of all students to attend these evening sessions. Last year's seminars were instructive, valuable, and made a significant impression on both students and adults in the Sturgis community. Their material and approach can be very helpful for students, teachers, and parents when tackling these difficult issues.

Little Sandwich Shop offers lunches delivered daily

The Little Sandwich Shop is our new lunch vendor.

All lunches are \$6 (paid in cash to the main office).

Check out their menu choices and order online from the West Campus page of our website:

[Little Sandwich Shop](#)

Work Permit Packets

Students 14-17 years of age who plan to work a summer job will need to obtain a work permit. They should see Ms. Chaprales for a "Permit Packet". The forms enclosed need to be completed and returned to Ms. Chaprales so that a permit can be issued.



[Follow us on Facebook!](#)

To gain an understanding of Sturgis "IB for All" culture, follow us on Facebook for the latest updates on Sturgis news, activities and community involvement.