

School Opening 2010

STRATHMORE HIGH SCHOOL

Volume 1, Issue 1



September 16, 2010

Welcome Back!



Mr. G. Reagan, SHS Principal.

Welcome back to another exciting school year. A special welcome to Grade 10 students and all who are new to Strathmore High School.

Our first day of classes was September 1st and everything went incredibly well. It was one of the best school openings ever: Over 95% of all students were present on the first day. We have 718 students including 60 International students and 50

Great News

Last year, graduates of Strathmore High School earned \$100,600 in Rutherford Scholarships. Students who earn an average of 75 or better on select courses are automatically awarded funding upon acceptance at a post-secondary institution. Congratulations to all the

Native Students. We look forward to an exciting year as we continue our AISA project, introduce new courses and curriculum, and continue to work on helping all students achieve personal excellence.

We have mailed this newsletter to you to ensure that you are aware of key dates, events, and issues. As well, we want to encourage you to access our school website to keep current on life at Strathmore High School.

New and Used Staff

New to Strathmore High are Mr. Jerry Flaws (Physical Education), Mrs. Eulalia Running Rabbit (Native Counselor) and Mrs. Linda Jensen (Career Counsellor). We are sad to see Mrs. Susan Riese-

winners. To those students at Strathmore High School this year: It's Never Too Late To Earn a Scholarship.

We have some outstanding Diploma Exam and Advanced Placement Results from last term. Of special note are the Math, English, Social and Biology results

and the excellent achievement in both Calculus and English Advanced Placement courses. Visit our website where complete results will be posted soon.

berg leave but know that Mrs. Jensen will do a great job. She is available for career counseling Wednesday, Thursday and Friday for now. We hope to see an increase as the term goes on. Mr. Wes Clark has taken over the Construction Technology Program. During the year, there will be a number of changes in our staff as some will be gone for medical repair and others will leave or return from maternity leave. Leaving for repairs are Ms. Ruzek (Nov. – Jan.), Mrs. Daverne (Dec. 13 – 17) and Mr. Larsen (Dec. – Jan.). Leaving on maternity leave are Mrs. Greep (Nov.) and Mrs. Roberts (Feb.). Returning are Mrs. Barwacz-Rio (Dec.) and Mrs. Douglas (Apr.)

Registration Verification

INCLUDED WITH THIS NEWSLETTER IS A ONE PAGE DOCUMENT WITH YOUR SON'S OR DAUGHTER'S KEY DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION. PLEASE MAKE SURE THE INFORMATION IS CORRECT, SIGN IT, AND HAVE YOUR SON OR DAUGHTER RETURN IT TO THEIR T.A AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

- IF THE SCHOOL DOES NOT HAVE YOUR CELL PHONE AND EMAIL, PLEASE BE SURE TO ADD THEM. THANKS!

Important Dates:

Flex Friday	Sep 24
GPS CONFERENCE	Sep 29
NO SCHOOL (PD)	Oct 8
FIRST REPORT CARD	Oct 15
PARENT-TEACHER INTERVIEWS	Oct 21
END OF QUARTER 1	Nov 3

Please see our website calendar for the most current dates. Strathmorehighschool.com

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School Council

Once again we will try to form a School Council. The first meeting will be October 27th at Strathmore High School. Our School Councils in the past have been infor-

mal advisory ones will no formal structure and no fund-raising. If you are not interested in attending meetings but would like to be on a Virtual Council that provides

feedback on issues via email, please let me know at gary.reagan@ghsd75.ca. Hopefully, though, there will be enough interest to form a council on October 27th.

THIS IS THE ONLY NEWSLETTER THE SCHOOL WILL BE MAILING HOME. FUTURE ISSUES WILL BE SENT HOME WITH STUDENTS. YOU CAN ALSO SIGN UP FOR AN ELECTRONIC VERSION OF THE NEWSLETTER ON OUR WEBSITE THAT WILL BE EMAILED TO YOU.

Issues

Smoking - we do not support smoking; however, we realize that some students will smoke regardless of the rules against it. Therefore, we tolerate students smoking off school property beyond the north gate. This is the only area where smoking will be tolerated. Students

caught smoking elsewhere will face automatic suspension.

Cell phones - We are continuing our policy of restricting cell phone use to non-class time. Students caught violating this policy more than twice will face a 30 day ban and possibly suspension. It is

vital our classrooms remain free of the distractions cell phones create.

Drop-Off and Pick-Up - Please DO NOT use the bus zones in front of the school to drop students off or to pick them up. Use the East entrance next to the Civic Centre.

New Math

The new math program has arrived at Strathmore High School this fall. We are offering Math 10C and Math 10-3 as well as an Honors Math 10 C course which is a Strathmore High School developed course. Math 10 C is a common math course for the majority of Grade 10

students. Next year, students will be expected to choose between Math 20-1 which is for mathematics based post-secondary programs and Math 20-2 which is designed for non-math post secondary programs. Math 20-3 will also be offered. The new math is different in philoso-

phy as the new focus is more on reasoning and personalizing learning. If you would like more information on the new program visit the Alberta Education website at <http://education.alberta.ca/home.aspx>.

GPS – Get Planning for Success

Are you confused or intimidated by post-secondary education?

Join us on Wednesday, September 29 at 6:30 in the Strathmore High School gym to find out about all of the exciting programs being offered at institutions here in Alberta.

More than 20 institutions -

colleges, arts & tech schools, and universities - will be in attendance to help you navigate your way through post-secondary confusion.

Parents, students and the public welcome.

Brought to you by Strathmore High School, Holy Cross Collegiate, & Community Futures Wild Rose.

GPS - 'Get Planning for Success'
Wednesday, Sept 29, 2010
Displays 6:30 p.m. @ SHS
Post-secondary fair and "Rapid Fire Session" begin promptly at 7:00 p.m.
We welcome students, parents, the public.

Athletics

The 2010 – 2011 athletics season is once again off to a quick start.

Cross country is already up and running, the golf team will be playing in the zone tournament on Thursday September 16, football has already had two home games and the volleyball teams are now ready for their seasons

to start. The football team will have two more home games on September 18 and October 23. The JV Girls volleyball team will be playing at home on September 21 and October 26 and their home tournament is on October 1 & 2, the Senior Girls are at home on September 29, October 20 and Novem-

ber 10 and our Boys team will be playing at home on October 12 and November 2. The Boys and Girls tournament is on November 5 & 6.

We are looking forward to another exciting year of sports here at SHS and would like to encourage everyone to come out and support the

EUROPE 2012 TRIP MEETING - FRANCE & ITALY - TUESDAY, OCT 5

There is an upcoming meeting for the 2012 Europe trip to France & Italy. The meeting is being held in the SHS theatre on Tuesday, Oct 5 at 7:00 p.m. The trip runs over Easter 2012 and takes in the amazing destinations of Paris, Florence, Sienna, San Gimignano, Pisa, Rome, Capri, Sorrento & Pompeii. All students and

parents of SHS are welcome to attend the trip and the trip is capped at 110 people. The trip is already 2/3 full as participants can sign up anytime before the meeting on Oct 5th. The trip costs @ \$3600.00 and includes all flights, hotels, breakfasts, suppers, tour guides, buses, trains, and most excursions.

People signed up before the end of October will receive \$150.00 off of their trips. If you have any questions about the trip, contact Kenton Zandee ASAP for more information at kgzandee@shaw.ca or by phoning the school at (403) 934-3135.

Teachers Focus on Assessment for Learning Strategies

You may have heard the term, “assessment for learning,” and wondered what it meant. It is a phrase used often by teachers at SHS, because they are focused on improving student learning, along with all teachers in Golden Hills School Division, as part of a three-year program initiative. Assessment strategies have undergone a significant shift away from end assessments to a variety of assessments that help students and teachers determine where students are on a regular basis. The assessment for learning strategies are the activities that teachers and students engage in while the students are learning.

Through the use of these strategies, students are aware of where they are going with their learning, where they are at now, and how to close the gap between the two. The interaction necessitates a high degree of student engagement and requires students to actively assume responsibility for their learning. Teachers share with their students the learning targets using student friendly language, as well as providing them with meaningful assignments where expectations are made clear. Criteria are developed by teachers with their students, and teachers offer descriptive feedback and use models or ex-

emplars of expected work. In addition, teachers focus on using effective questioning techniques and engage students in peer self-assessment, which involves students in tracking, reflecting on, revising and communicating their own progress. Assessment for learning strategies will also involve a backward design planning process to achieve better alignment between curriculum and instruction. Teachers at SHS will be involved in learning more about the strategies that maximize student learning potential throughout the coming year as a part of their ongoing professional development.



SHS'S UNIQUE
HOCKEY
ACADEMY IS
UNDERWAY
AGAIN.

Photo: Colt Phillips