

Meade School District
46-1

In Touch

A publication of Meade School District

December 2014

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www.meade.k12.sd.us

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Christmas Programs Page 3



"To Build Knowledge and Skills for Success Today and Tomorrow"

Music Booster soup dinner is Dec. 7

The 22nd annual Music Booster Club sponsored Holiday Music and Soup Dinner will be held from 4-7 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 7, in the west gym at Sturgis Brown High School.

Menu items include choice of soup, beverage and dessert.

Musical entertainment will be as follows:

4 p.m. - SBHS choir

4:40 p.m. - 7th grade band

5 p.m. - 8th grade band

5:20 p.m. - 7th & 8th grade choir

5:40 p.m. - SBHS symphonic band

6:10 p.m. - SBHS jazz band & drum line

Tickets are \$7 each and may be purchased at the door, from any middle or high school music student, or by calling event chair Janell Gerberding at 347-7846.

Sign-up underway for driver education classes

Sign-up is currently underway for driver education classes offered this spring through the Meade School District Curriculum Office. The session is scheduled for 3:30-5:30 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, May 4-28, 2015.

Cost is \$274, which must be paid in advance. Registration deadline is April 24, however, once the class is full, registration ends. Placement will be on a first-come, first-served basis. The class will be held in Room 116 at Sturgis Brown High School.

Students must be at least 14 years of age and must attend the entire 30 hours of classroom instruction. In addition, six hours of driving time is required, which must be individually scheduled with the instructor and completed by mid-June 2015.

Many insurance companies give discounts to

those who have completed a driver education course. Completing the course also reduces the time a student must hold an Instructional Permit from 180 days to 90 days before that student can get a Restricted Minor's Permit or an Operator's License.

The registration form can be downloaded from the school district website:

www.meade.k12.sd.us/Curriculum/DriversEd.html or is available at the offices of Sturgis Williams Middle School and Sturgis Brown High School and at the curriculum and technology office.

The registration form and class fee should be dropped off or mailed to Meade School District, 1230 Douglas Street, Sturgis, S.D. 57785.

For further information call 347-4454.

In Touch

Kristine Hubbard, editor
Meade School District 46-1
1230 Douglas Street
Sturgis, S.D. 57785
Phone: 605.347.2523 x 3

Questions or comments about the contents of this newsletter should be directed to the editor. Contents may be reprinted or otherwise reproduced as long as attribution is given.

Front page photo: Zia Wallace, Maireen McGrath and Kiara Brown during last year's Christmas program at Whitewood Elementary School.

Substitute teacher training Jan. 9

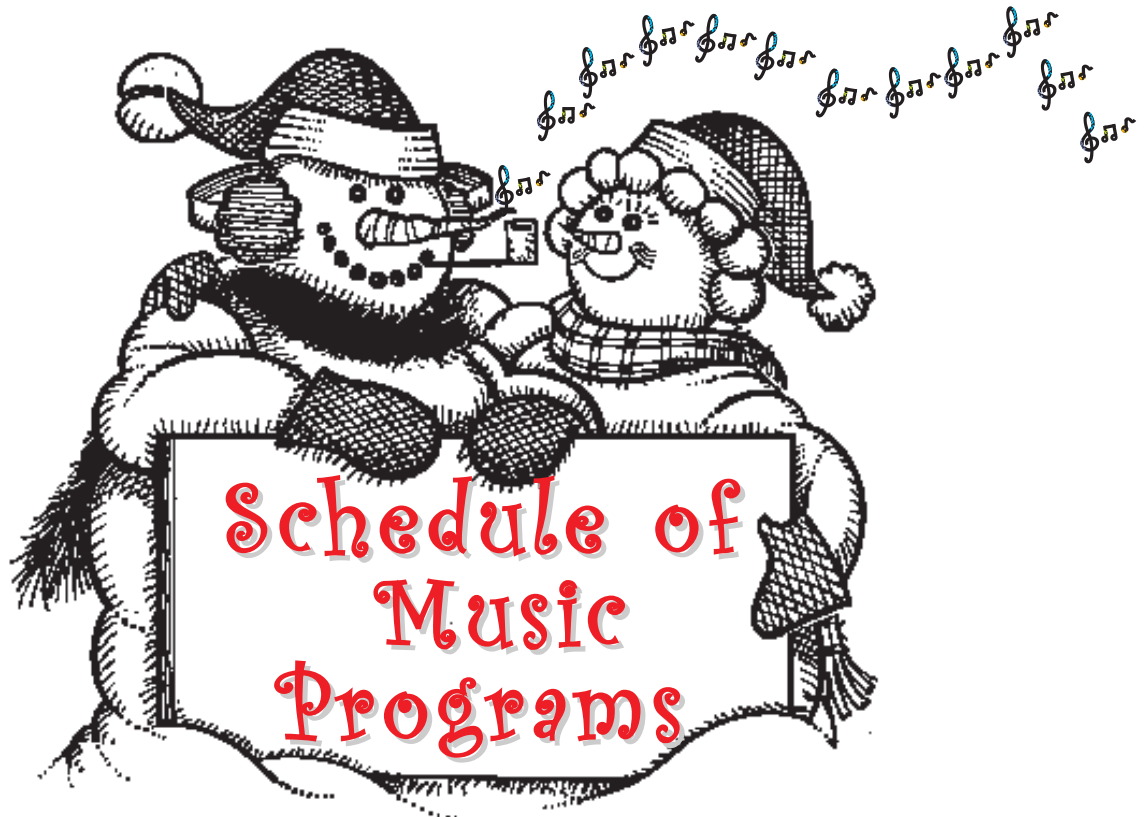
A training for persons wishing to serve as substitute teachers in Meade School District will be held at 9 a.m. Friday, Jan. 9, in the board room of Williams Administrative Building, 1230 Douglas Street, Sturgis.

The purpose of the training is to review the district's substitute teacher handbook and to answer questions about local procedures and policies.

Persons holding a high school diploma, GED, college degree or teacher's certificate are eligible to substitute.

Substitutes are needed in Sturgis, Piedmont, Whitewood and the rural areas of Atall, Elm Springs, Enning, Hereford, Opal and Union Center.

For further information call Donna Trigg in the district office at 347-2523, option 1.



The public is invited to the following Meade School District music programs to be held during the month of December.

The winter concert presented by the Sturgis Brown High School band will be 7 p.m. Monday, Dec. 1, at the Sturgis Community Center Theatre. A combination of patriotic and Christmas songs will be performed including "Days of Glory," "Christmas March" and a medley of other well-known tunes. Directors are Dave Martinson and Gary Nelson.

Sturgis Elementary School students in first and second grades will be performing "A Bugz Christmas" by John Jacobson and John Higgins on Thursday, Dec. 4, at the Sturgis Community Center Theater. The students are divided into three performance groups by classes. Group A (Treloar, J. Schieffer, Schnell, Langenfeld) will be performing at 5:30 p.m. Group B (Covel, Inhofer, Witcraft, Domogalski) will be performing at 6:30 p.m. Group C (Erfman, Kistler, Anderson, Keffeler) will be performing at 7:30 p.m. Hillary Hill is the music teacher.

Piedmont Valley Elementary School holiday concert by the third through sixth grade students will be held at 8 a.m. and 12:45 p.m. Friday, Dec. 5, in the school multi-purpose room. The sixth grade band performs from 8-8:15 a.m.; sixth grade, 8:15-8:45 a.m.; fifth grade, 8:45-9:15 a.m.; fourth grade, 9:15-9:45 a.m.; third grade, 9:45-10:15 a.m.; and, for the afternoon concert: sixth grade, 12:45-1:05 p.m.; fifth grade, 1:05-1:25 p.m.; fourth grade, 1:25-1:45 p.m.; and third grade: 1:45-2:05 p.m. Several parents will also be performing with the sixth and third grade students. Becky Fischer is the music teacher.

Sturgis Williams Middle School winter choir concert will be held at 7 p.m. Monday, Dec. 8, at the Sturgis Community Center Theatre. Connie Feekes and Gary Nelson are the directors.

Atall School Christmas program is 6:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 12, in the school basement. Amy Wicks is the music teacher.

MUSIC PROGRAMS: See Page 4

The Whitewood Elementary School program and Christmas play will be 7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 12, in the school gym. The sixth grade band, school choir and kindergarten students will open the program and will be followed by the play "It's Christmas, Carol." The play borrows the theme of "The Christmas Carol" by Charles Dickens. In the school's play, it is holiday time and the elves are putting the final touches on the presents that will soon be delivered. All are excited except for Carol, the lead elf played by sixth-grader Zia Wallace. As in the famous book, she is visited by various ghosts who help her see why the holiday is a big deal. Marlene Kotab is the music teacher.

Elm Springs School Christmas program is 6 p.m. Monday, Dec. 15, at the Elm Springs Hall. Amy Wicks is the music teacher.

The winter concert by the Sturgis Brown High

School choir is 7 p.m. Monday, Dec. 15, at the Sturgis Community Center Theatre. For the third straight year, the students will be performing their favorite carol "Enniscorthy." The program also includes happy songs such as "Ding Ding Merrily," "It's the Most Wonderful Time of the Year," "32 Feet and 8 Little Tails," "How Great Our Joy," and "On Christmas Night." Student teacher Kendra Iverson will direct four numbers while freshmen Kaitlin Gill and Sarah Jordan are featured soloists in the Girls Chorus. Bart Torbert is the director.

Enning/Union Center School Christmas program is 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 16, at the Central Meade County Community Center, Union Center. Opal School Christmas program is 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 17, at the Opal Hall. Hereford School Christmas program is 6 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 18, at the Hereford Hall. Amy Wicks is the music teachers for these rural schools.

Board members to discuss changing the SBHS intersection during its Dec. 9 meeting

The regular monthly meeting of the Meade School Board will be held at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 9, in the board room of the Williams Administrative Building, 1230 Douglas Street, Sturgis.

The meeting will be preceded at 5:15 p.m. with a dinner prepared by the Sturgis Brown High School culinary arts students.

Action will be taken on financial reports, amending the general fund budget, personnel items, City of Sturgis zoning amendment, and school board policies DB "Annual Budget," DI "Fiscal Accounting and Reporting," and DID "Inventories/Capital Assets."

Board members will discuss changing, for safety reasons, the west intersection at Sturgis

Brown High School so that those exiting the school onto Highway 34 will only be allowed to turn right (west). Those wanting to go straight into Fort Meade will be unable to do so from that intersection. Those wanting to turn left onto Highway 34 would only be allowed to do that from the parking lot's east exit.

Board members will also discuss blinking speed zone signs for the high school. These warn-

ing signs are activated by radar and display the speed of oncoming vehicles.

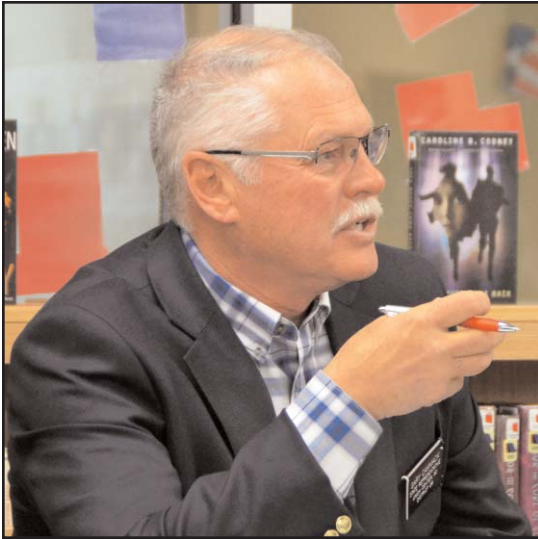
Discussion items also include the Stagebarn property, district strategic plan, naming of the west gym, renewal of the National Guard lease, and the county's public hearing on a tax increment district.

An executive session for personnel matters will be held at the conclusion of the public meeting.

High school science fair is Dec. 10

The Sturgis Brown High School Science Fair is scheduled for Wednesday, Dec. 10, in the west gym at Sturgis Brown High School. Featured exhibitors are high school students enrolled this semester in biology and honors biology. The exhibits are open to the public that day from 5:30-6:15 p.m. The awards ceremony is set for 6:15 p.m.

School funding and other education issues discussed by school officials and legislators



Legislative District 29 Sen. Gary Cammack, above, and Rep. Dean Wink, right, respond to questions during the roundtable discussion hosted by members of the Meade School Board.



Funding for education including a seasonal sales tax and incentives for students to pursue a career in education were some of the topics discussed at the 13th annual roundtable hosted by the Meade School Board for area legislators.

The gathering is held as a way for the school board members, administrators, and staff to ask questions of the legislators and to inform the lawmakers of their concerns regarding education, and for the legislators to share their perspectives on education issues.

Superintendent Don Kirkegaard, who also serves as president of the South Dakota Board of Education, expressed his concerns about the shortage of teachers. "The state must step up and provide better incentives for students to pursue a career in education," he told the legislators. "I am nervous because the numbers of our best and brightest entering the field aren't there like they need to be."

PTA & PTO event and meeting dates

Dec. 8: Piedmont Elementary PTA members only call-in meeting, 6 p.m.

Dec. 12: Whitewood PTO members will be selling baked goods at the school Christmas program, 7 p.m.

Jan. 6: Rural PTO meeting, Enning School, 6:30 p.m.

Feb. 11: Sturgis Elementary PTA meeting, school library, 3:30 p.m.



Rep. Tim Johns from District 31, left, listens to Meade School Board president Bob Burns talk about the need for more money from the state.

Strategic plan topic of Dec. 3 special meeting

A special meeting of the Meade School Board will be held at 4 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 3, in the board room of the Williams Administrative Building, 1230 Douglas Street, Sturgis.

The purpose of the meeting is to discuss with Dr. Rick Melmer the results of the strategic planning survey conducted by Dakota Education

Consulting. The board will also review the outcome from various community and staff focus group meetings held to discuss the survey results, which are displayed below and on the next page. The meeting agenda and survey attachments are posted on the school district website: www.meade.k12.sd.us.

Strategic Plan Survey Results - Teachers

Teachers		134 Responses
Strengths	Concerns	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Dedicated and committed staff ▪ Quality administrators ▪ Strong technology ▪ Communication ▪ Cooperative working environment ▪ Facilities ▪ Supportive parents, community support, good students 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Low teacher compensation ▪ Lack of instructional space (Piedmont most frequently mentioned) ▪ Class size ▪ Student discipline issues ▪ Lack of Technology, Lack of planning time (tie) ▪ Communication within district ▪ Lack of staff to meet specific student needs. ▪ (Curriculum/Common Core, School location issues, quality of teachers, lack of parental support, lack of administrator support - tied) 	

Area	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	No Opinion
Teachers	83	48	2	1	0
Administration	53	59	17	5	0
School Board	37	69	18	4	4
Facilities	38	64	27	4	1
Extra-Curricular	38	67	22	2	4
Instructional Program	38	81	12	2	0
Communities' Support	40	64	26	3	1
Communication from District	46	62	23	2	1

Challenges	Opportunities
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Low teacher pay/benefits; Losing teachers due to salary 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Professional Development (!)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Lack of technology and training 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Increased technology
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Need more instructional space 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Add elementary art
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Location of schools/improved facilities. (MS/HS in Piedmont – most frequent answer) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Individual/Team Planning
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Class sizes are too large & ▪ Student discipline/bullying (tied) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Improvement to teacher pay and benefits
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Safety issues (traffic, bussing, security in facilities) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Curriculum improvements (some comments related to Common Core)

Strategic Plan Survey Results - Parents, Community Members

Group		Responses
Parents		129
Community Members		23
Other		7
Strengths		Concerns
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Teaching staff ▪ Facilities/Buildings ▪ Community Support of Schools ▪ School Board ▪ Communication 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Student Discipline/Bullying ▪ Class sizes ▪ Curriculum/Common Core ▪ Teacher issues (quality, commitment) ▪ Communication ▪ Sports, Bussing, Teacher pay, Math curriculum, Facility location (tied)

Area	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	No Opinion
Teachers (128)	62	48	16	2	0
Administration (128)	46	49	22	8	3
School Board (127)	27	45	26	7	22
Facilities (127)	35	66	20	3	3
Extra-Curricular (127)	25	55	33	6	8
Instructional Program (127)	29	57	25	10	6
Communities' Support (128)	31	54	23	13	7
Communication from District (127)	34	43	29	11	10

Challenges
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Facilities (Location, need for MS/HS in Piedmont) ▪ Enrollment growth – responding to larger numbers ▪ Security, bullying, student discipline ▪ Retaining high-quality teachers ▪ Technology issues, Teacher pay, Curriculum/Common Core (tied)
Change One Thing
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Curriculum – Common Core ▪ More enrichment opportunities ▪ Class Sizes ▪ Hiring, maintaining and retaining quality teachers ▪ Need MS/HS in Piedmont, improve student discipline, improve sports programs, better communication with parents (tied)



This Old School House

Meetings of the Board of Education of the Independent School District No. 12 of Sturgis:

July 9, 1915:

The question of getting a Yaggy Geographical Chart for the school was discussed and it was found to be highly recommended by all who knew of the chart and its method. A motion was made by Mr. Rooney that one be ordered to be sent C.O.D. with the privilege of examination before approving it. The motion carried.

Aug. 29, 1916:

It was moved and seconded that the following resolution be adopted by the board: Be it Resolved: Whereas the work of the teachers of the Public Schools of the City of Sturgis is being seriously handicapped by the tendency of many of the pupils to smoke and therein neglect their studies and become unfit mentally and physically to attain a high degree of efficiency.

And whereas the legislature of this state has seen fit to prohibit the use of cigarettes in any form by minors.

Now therefore be it resolved, that in conformity with the statute and for the promotion of the best interests of the pupils who shall attend the public schools of Sturgis, and in order

that the debasing and evil effects of the smoking habit on growing young people shall be kept from the public school of this district. That from and after the 14th day of October 1916 no pupil attending this public school shall be allowed to use tobacco in any form, at any place or at any time during the term of any school year that said pupil shall be in attendance, save and except no part of this rule shall be construed to interfere of parents or lawful guardians within the bounds of their own private premises.

That any pupil attending the public schools of this district who shall use tobacco in any form at any place or at any time during the school year...shall within the discretion of the Board of Education be subject to summary dismissal from any and all attendance upon said schools.

July 25, 1919:

Bids of Sturgis Lumber and Grain Co. and Thompsen Lumber Co. to furnish coal for the school for the ensuing year were opened. Sturgis Lumber and Gr. Co. bid \$7.49 and Thompsen Lumber Co. \$7.43. Moved and carried that clerk be instructed to enter contracts with both companies to furnish coal in equal amounts.

Moved and carried to postpone opening of school to Sept. 8, 1919, to accommodate farmer patrons.

March 25, 1920:

A special committee of students consisting of Lynn Milne and Misses Freda Wesgate and Edna Hanson appeared before the Board with a verbal petition for a tennis court upon the school campus. They presented estimates of costs.

Moved and carried that not to exceed \$50 be appropriated from the General Fund for this purpose and that said committee of students proceed with the building of the courts, as presented.

Nov. 25, 1921:

Mr. Glen Shaw presented the matter of the re-organization of the Boy Scouts and proposed that the members of the Board constitute a Council for that purpose.

Each member of the Board contributed a dollar for annual dues as Council members and Mr. Shaw was granted the use of the mathematics room, one evening each week.

May 2, 1923:

Moved, seconded and carried that a reward of \$50 be posted for the arrest or conviction of any party or parties caught defacing public school property.

Dec. 26, 1925:

Moved and carried that any girl coming to school with lips painted or cheeks rouged shall be dismissed from school indefinitely.

Meade School District calendar for 2014-15

The following is the calendar for the remainder of the 2014-15 school year. Any snow days will be made up by adding additional days at the end of the school calendar. Furthermore, Feb. 16 (Presidents' Day), March 13 (Spring Break), and April 6 (Easter Monday) will be used as make-up days if more than two snow days have been used prior to Feb. 1, March 1, or March 31, 2015. Please note that the dates of the February parent teacher conferences for the elementary schools are Feb. 17 and 19, and that April 20 has been added as an additional inservice so that staff can attend the TIE Conference that day in Rapid City. Make-up days for inclement weather will commence following the second snow day.

Christmas Vacation (no school)	Dec. 22-Jan. 2	Parent-Teacher Conferences:	
Inservice Day (no school)	Jan. 16, 2015	Elementary Schools: 4-7 p.m.	Feb. 17, 2015
Parent-Teacher Conferences:		Elementary Schools: 4-7 p.m.	Feb. 19, 2015
Middle School: 4-7 p.m.	Feb. 9, 2015	Inservice Day (no school)	Mar. 12, 2015
High School:4-7 p.m.	Feb. 10, 2015	Spring Break (no school)	Mar. 13, 2015
Middle & High Schools: 4-7 p.m.	Feb. 12, 2015	Good Friday/Easter (no school)	April 3-6, 2015
Presidents' Day (no school)	Feb. 16, 2015	Inservice Day (no school)	April 20, 2015
		Graduation	May 17, 2015
		Last Day of School	May 20, 2015

Check out the activities calendar

The Meade School District activities calendar includes more than just sporting events. Also listed are concerts, speech tournaments, open houses and more. The calendar is continually being updated so check back often to remain current with all districtwide events: <http://www.meade.k12.sd.us/calendar/calendar.htm>

Check out the Website and Facebook Pages

Meade School Board firmly believes that communicating accurate, complete and timely information about the school district - its programs and operations, staff and students - not only enhances the district's image but also promotes support for education in the community while also strengthening its relationship and partnership with parents and community members. The district's website and Facebook pages are two ways of accomplishing this. Check out Meade School District and its schools at the website and facebook as follows: www.meade.k12.sd.us and [facebook.com/MeadeSchoolDistrict](https://www.facebook.com/MeadeSchoolDistrict).

Directory for Meade School District

Schools

Rural Schools

Bev Rosenboom, principal.....269-2264

Atall.....985-5916
16375 Atall Road, Union Center, S.D. 57787

Elm Springs.....798-2492
21309 Elm Springs Road, Wasta, S.D. 57791

Enning.....985-5364
Highway 34 Box 22, Enning, S.D. 57737

Hereford.....985-5380
15998 Cross S Road, Hereford, S.D. 57785

Opal.....748-2426
18010 Opal Road, Opal, S.D. 57765

Union Center.....985-5367
1700 Highway 34, Union Center, S.D. 57787

Office.....985-5532

Piedmont Valley Elementary School

16159 Second Street, Piedmont, S.D. 57769
Ethan Dschaak, principal.....787-5295

Sturgis Brown High School

12930 E. Highway 34, Sturgis, S.D. 57785
Toll-free 1-888-568-3514

Jeff Simmons, principal.....347-2686
Don Lyon, assistant principal.....347-2686
Mike Paris, activities director.....347-4487

Academy.....347-9349

Sturgis Elementary School

1121 Ball Park Road, Sturgis, S.D. 57785
Chantal Ligtenberg, principal.....347-2386
Ann Nonnast, assistant principal.....347-2386

Sturgis Williams Middle School

1425 Cedar Street, Sturgis, S.D. 57785
Toll-free 1-888-567-8274

Lon Harter, principal.....347-5232
Ann Nonnast, assistant principal.....347-5232

Whitewood Elementary School

603 Garfield, Whitewood, S.D. 57793
Bev Rosenboom, principal.....269-2264

Superintendent

1230 Douglas Street, Sturgis, S.D. 57785
Don Kirkegaard.....347-2523 x2
Toll-free 1-877-522-6251

Business Manager

1230 Douglas Street, Sturgis, S.D. 57785
Brett Burditt.....347-2523 x1
Toll-free 1-877-522-6251

Buildings and Grounds

12940 E. Highway 34, Sturgis, S.D. 57785
Cody King, maintenance foreman.....347-2649

Communications Office

1230 Douglas Street, Sturgis, S.D. 57785
Kristine Hubbard.....347-2523 x3

Curriculum and Technology

1610 Fulton Street, Sturgis**
Jeff Ward, director.....347-4454

Food Service

1121 Ball Park Road, Sturgis, S.D. 57785
Joe Schaffer, director.....347-3601

Nurses' Office

1121 Ball Park Road, Sturgis, S.D. 57785
Randi Oviatt.....347-2610

School Social Worker

1121 Ball Park Road, Sturgis, S.D. 57785
Ginger Johnson.....347-2386

Special Services

1230 Douglas Street, Sturgis, S.D. 57785
Chrissy Peterson, director.....347-2523 x4
Deb Kerstiens, assistant director.....347-2523 x4

Harlow's School Bus Service

2237 West Sherman, Sturgis, S.D. 57785
Andy Ellingsen, transportation manager.....347-5066

Woodle Field

600 Woodland Dr., Sturgis**347-2003

**Not a mailing address