



CONNECTING WITH PARENTS

About Assessment and Technology

SEPTEMBER 2011

Welcome back to another exciting school year in Sturgeon School Division. We are in the third year of our school improvement projects (A.I.S.I) and in this month's edition of 'Connecting With Parents' we would like to focus on how schools can communicate more effectively with parents about how their child is progressing, and share a technology tip that relates to how teachers are using new instructional technologies with their students.

Improving Communication between School and Home with the Report Card and Online Portal

Last year we introduced new division report cards for all grades 1 to 12. Teachers and parents were invited to provide feedback on the report cards and we have taken that feedback and made some changes that are intended to communicate better about how your child is progressing.

Our next step (this year) will see some teachers and some schools in the division break down your child's overall grade into how they did in each unit, strand, theme or outcome on the report card. By showing the breakdown parents can see where the child is being successful and where he or she might be struggling with particular content.

In addition, parents can go online and check on their child's progress by going to the Power School Parent Portal (<https://pschool.sturgeon.ab.ca/public/home.html>) and logging in. This will give parents access to detailed information about their child's progress such as grades, attendance, missing assignments, etc. It is a great way to be informed as teachers are updating it every couple of weeks. If you need assistance getting logged in or have questions please contact your school for more information.

21st Century Learning, Technology Integration in the Classroom, and Digital Citizenship

As the school year begins, there is a renewed commitment to use a variety of instructional technologies (Promethean boards, document cameras, projectors, video conferencing, web 2.0 tools, wikis, blogs, online media, etc.) to create a classroom that fosters critical thinking and problem solving, creativity, communication, and collaboration.



To further our focus on the responsible uses of technology, we will be assisting your child in becoming an active digital citizen through the safe use of technology. For additional information and resources regarding the nine elements of digital citizenship please visit:

<http://www.digitalcitizenship.net>