

October 16, 2020

We hope the everyone is healthy and taking care of themselves at this time. There is a lot of important information below. Reminder, if you or your student needs help there are a variety of supports at Sands to help students. Please do not feel that you are alone in this journey. We are here to help.

Upcoming Events

- Fee Day – October 19
- Pro D Day – October 23, no school
- Remembrance Day – November 11, no school
- Quarter 1 end – November 17

Midterm Report Cards and MyEd

Midterms Report Cards are now available for viewing on MyEd. For more information, please refer to the email that was sent to you on Thursday. If you have any concerns about your student's progress, please contact the teacher directly via email. If there are problems logging in, please contact the office for some help – we cannot give out passwords but they can be reset.

Only quarter classes are being reported on at this time. For semester classes, you should receive an informal interim if your student is struggling or has a mark below 60%. For linear classes, your first report won't be until November 25, end of Quarter 1. Parents, at any time, you are encouraged to contact teachers if you are seeking information on the progress of your student.

Student Fees

Student fees and deposits will be assessed for all classes prior to October 19 (**new date**). Some fees are being reduced to reflect the reality of COVID and that some opportunities will not be available to students. We are encouraging families to use the online feature in Parent Connect to pay – see attached. If families want to pay by cash or cheques they can do so on October 19 – Fee Day. More details will come out closer to the date. If there is a financial need please contact me and we can discuss how Sands can help.

We know Grade 12 is an exciting time in students' lives and they are keen to celebrate the wonderful milestone of graduation. We will be engaging with our Grad Committee members early in the school year to begin to discuss and plan how best to celebrate Grad 2021 given that we may still be subject to COVID-19 health and safety restrictions next year. There is no question there is a great deal of uncertainty with respect to what types of events will be permitted in Spring of 2021. As such, we will be keeping in touch with Health Authorities for updates on restrictions for any type of events and gatherings as we plan for grad events. Despite a great deal of uncertainty with what June 2021 will look like, we still want to ensure that we don't lose out on the opportunity to secure potential venues, and other important details for grad events. Given this, we feel it is prudent to move ahead with the collection of grad fees at this time. We will adapt and adjust Grad events due to COVID restrictions as required and if events cannot go ahead, or need to be re-organized, refunds will be provided.

Student Support Time

Flex times, for student support, can be booked using Student Connect. Some teachers will have open drop in times instead of flex sign up. If your student misses a class or they are struggling, please get them to make use of this time. Learning moves very quickly in a quarter system.

Permission Forms

Families, if you have not completed them please log in into Parent Connect, review the notices and select the appropriate response to each form. Please do this asap.

Safety Protocols

We are about to enter into the cold, dark, rainy days of fall, and cold and flu season will be upon us. It is important that if your child is sick or not feeling well that they stay at home until they are symptom free and feeling better. Please refer to the link below for the Daily Health Checklist <https://www.deltasd.bc.ca/wp-content/uploads/sites/2/2020/09/BCCDC-Daily-Health-Check-Sept-11-2020.pdf>

With Halloween fast approaching, the BC Centre for Disease Control has released some tips on how to celebrate as safely as possible:

<http://www.bccdc.ca/health-info/diseases-conditions/covid-19/social-interactions/halloween>

Grad Information

The first week of November, the counsellors, Career and Post-Secondary Advisor and Mr. Reefschlager will be visiting grade 12 classes and nutrition breaks to talk about the following:

- Transcript Verification and Grad Checklist requirements – students will be looking at their transcript for accuracy, i.e. missing a course, and that they have and are enrolled in all the courses they need to graduate
- Mr. Reefschlager will introduce information about Capstone and Career Life Connections, both are grad requirements
- Ms. Sansregret will talk about post-secondary information, scholarships, her website and other important information

The Sands Career and Post-Secondary Centre is up and running. Please check out the website (<https://sandscareercentre.weebly.com/>) for important information about admission, options, and scholarship information. We encourage grade 12 students and their families to visit the site often and subscribe to the email list for the most up to date information. Our Career and Post-Secondary Advisor, Ms. J Sansregret is accessible via email at jsansregret@deltalearns.ca to answer questions or book an appointment. Please do not drop in.

As we keep moving through this quarter I am proud of the students who are learning a different way to do school and meeting the COVID restrictions head on and thriving.

Take care, be safe and healthy.

Mark Robinson,
Principal

Joanna Macintosh,
Vice Principal