

October 9, 2020

I want to wish everyone the very best on this Thanksgiving weekend. It is a good time to be with family and take a short break from school and to recharge for the next 5 weeks of the quarter.

Upcoming Events

- Thanksgiving Day – October 12, no school
- Pajama and/or Flannel Spirit Day – October 14
- Grad Council meeting – October 14, 3:30pm via zoom – Grads, check your deltalearns account for info
- Midterm Report Cards for Quarter classes – October 15 viewable on students’ MyEd portal
- Fee Day – October 19
- Pro D Day – October 23, no school

Midterm Report Cards and MyEd

Midterms Report Cards will be available for viewing on MyEd starting in the evening on Thursday, October 15. Currently, there is no parent portal so parents are going have to use their students’ portal in MyEd to view the Report Card. Parents, please ask your child to log in so that you can view it. There will be a parent portal at some point this school year. If you have any concerns about your student’s report card, please contact the teacher directly via email. This system is new for all of us and we are hoping that it will run smoothly, fingers crossed. If you are having problems, please contact the office for some help – we cannot give out passwords as we don’t have access to them, we can only reset them. In a worst case scenario, we can print the report card and send it home with your student. Parents would need to ask their student to pick it up at the office.

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 how your student is doing.

Student Support Time

Flex times are open for student support, usually in the afternoon. Please have your student use Student Connect to sign up for some help from their classroom and/or support teachers. 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.

LA/LD/Grad Quest and Supportive Learning teachers are available each afternoon to support students in these programs. Some students may be required by the program teacher to attend certain afternoon sessions to receive help. This is an enrolling credit course. Program teachers will work with students to build a support system designed for them. Students in these support classes should also be seeking help from their individual class teachers when needed.

Permission Forms

I want to thank all the families for completing the permission forms on Parent Connect. 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. The forms are:

Personal Information Consent Form, Outside Media in Schools, Electronic Communications, Walking Field Trips Permission, BC Fruits and Vegetables Program Permission, Demographic Information, and Student Emergency Release.

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>

FYI – The BC Centre for Disease Control has released some tips on how to celebrate Thanksgiving as safely as possible:

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

Attendance Notifications

At this time, we are not sending email notifications to families due to technical issues in the migration of data from MyEd. Families can review attendance information on Parent Connect under the Attendance Tab. The district has developed a new reporting symbol for students in Hybrid courses. The symbol “O” refers to offsite for those students who are enrolled in a hybrid or linear class, but they are not present as it is not their turn for in-class instruction.

Grad Information

There will be a Grad Council meeting on Wednesday, October 14 at 3:30pm via Zoom. Grads, check your deltallearns account for information. The first week of November, the counsellors, Career and Post-Secondary Advisor and Mr. Reefschlager will be visiting grade 12 classes 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@deltallearns.ca to answer questions or book an appointment. Please do not drop in.

Student Fees

Student fees and deposits will be assessed 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. 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.

Updated – Quarter Date and Reporting Date for 2020-21

We have updated the quarter dates to make each quarter equal in length and also the Reporting Dates.

Q1 = Sept 14(M)- Nov 17(T) = 43 teaching days
Q2 = Nov 18(W) - Feb 2(T) = 43 teaching days
Q3 = Feb 3(W) - April 22(Th) = 43 teaching days
Q4 = April 23(F) - June 25(F) = 43 teaching days

Interims from teachers to families will be in the form of either a phone call or an email. These Interims will be for students who are struggling or have a mark below 60%. Not all students will get an Interim. Midterms and Final report cards will be formal and can be viewed on MyEd using the student portal when they are available.

Reporting Dates for 2020-21

QUARTER CLASSES

		Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4
Interim	Send by	02-Oct	04-Dec	19-Feb	14-May
Midterm	Send on	15-Oct	17-Dec	11-Mar	27-May
Final	Send on	25-Nov	11-Feb	29-Apr	29-Jun

SEMESTERED CLASSES

		Semester 1	Semester 2
Interim	Send by	15-Oct	11-Mar
Midterm	Send on	25-Nov	29-Apr
Final	Send on	11-Feb	29-Jun

LINEAR CLASSES

Interim	Send by	25-Nov			
Midterm	Send on		11-Feb	29-Apr	
Final	Send on				29-Jun

Counsellors, Youth Care Worker

If your student needs to meet with a Counsellor or Youth Care Worker, please email them for an appointment using their deltalearns account. We are not accepting drop ins. If there is an emergency and your student needs to see a Counsellor or Youth Care Worker have them please see our receptionist at the office.

Mr. A. Randhawa – Counsellor (arandhawa@deltalearns.ca)

Ms. K. Mcphedran – Counsellor (kmcphedran@deltalearns.ca)
Ms. K. Watters – Youth Care Worker (kwatters@deltalearns.ca)

When students are done for the day, we are asking that students leave the building as quickly as possible. We would like to ask that students do not congregate in groups on the school property or in the community, especially if they are not wearing masks, and return home ASAP.

As always, if you need support or are seeking answers please contact teachers, counsellors, admin or contact the office. We are here to help families and students.

Take care, be safe and healthy.

Mark Robinson,
Principal

Joanna Macintosh,
Vice Principal