

November 13, 2020

Let me start by thanking all of the students who performed, taped and organized the Remembrance Day acknowledgement. It was Great! If you haven't seen it yet click on the link –

<https://youtu.be/kW28rhF7xvY>

As the number of positive cases of COVID 19 in the Lower Mainland continue to rise unfortunately we will likely be sending more exposure notices home to families. Fraser Health gives the school directions on which letters to send and whom will receive them. They are the health experts. They are identifying whom we should be contacting through contract tracing. Fraser Health does not provide us the name(s) of the person(s) for whom the exposure is related to, only the dates. Getting these messages, I know, are stressful and often create certain levels of anxiousness. What I can assure families is that Sands is following all of the safety protocols to keep your student safe. If your student is healthy and symptom free they can come to school. Let's continue to follow the safety protocols when at school, at home and in the community as set by Provincial Health Officer and Fraser Health:

- Try to keep at least 2 metres from people outside of your bubble/cohort
- Wear masks
- Wash and Sanitize your hands often
- Avoid gatherings that are beyond your immediate family
- Stay home if you are sick
- For medical advice call 811 or see your doctor
- Encouraging your student before and after school not to be gathering with other students

Daily Health Check

It is imperative that families monitor their student's health daily and keep students at home if they are not well. Please refer to the attached **Daily Health Checklist**.

<https://www.deltasd.bc.ca/wp-content/uploads/sites/2/2020/09/BCCDC-Daily-Health-Check-Sept-11-2020.pdf>

Provincial Restrictions

As you are aware Dr. Bonnie Henry recently announced new restrictions in Fraser Valley and Vancouver Coastal to address the recent spike in COVID-19 cases. These restrictions took effect on Saturday, November 7th at 10:00pm. This announcement did not place any new restrictions on the school system but we continue to stress vigilance to staff and students around Health and Safety Protocols. Please continue to follow all the health and safety protocols laid out by the PHO, Ministry, and school as we can continue to work together to improve our Provincial numbers and flatten the curve.

Upcoming Events

- Quarter 1 ending dates
 - Mandatory attendance for students November 16

- Optional attendance November 17. The optional attendance is an I Day, an opportunity for students to get caught up and finish any assessments
- Linear and semester classes are still in session.
- Q2 classes start – November 18
- Q1 Final mark and Semester 1 Midterm report Cards, November 25 on MyEd
- Pac Meeting – November 17 via zoom
- Photo Retake day – November 19.
 - Any students who did not get their photo taken are asked to come to school at 8:30, even if they do not have a Block A class. Students who are enrolled in HomeQuest and Delta Access courses are also invited to come for pictures at 8:30

Start of Quarter 2

Wednesday, November 18 is the start of Quarter 2. We are reshuffling cohorts. I would recommend that students wear masks in their new classes for at least the first 5 classes. Students should be checking either MyEd or Student Connect for their new classes and teachers. Grade 8's will get their Quarter 2 schedules on Friday in their Block A class and are encouraged to look for their new classrooms before Wednesday.

If any student is requesting a Quarter 2 course change they must email the appropriate counsellor: Grade 11 and 12 – Mr. Rhandawa (arandhawa@deltalearns.ca) or Grade 8-10 Ms. McPhedran (kmcphebran@deltalearns.ca). Student can not change cohorts after the quarter has started. Please do not attend the class until they have received communication back from their counsellor. We are going to be very limited in the number of changes that we can make to a student's schedule due to learning group restrictions and timetable limitations.

If your student is in a Hybrid class, they will attend face to face either on Monday/Thursday or Tuesday/Friday. Wednesday is a remote learning day. Teachers will assign work and learning to be completed on the days they are not attending face to face. Teachers have posted lists outside their classroom with a break down of who is coming on which days. It is also my understanding they will be emailing students to let them know. Hybrid classes are multi-cohorted classes and masks are mandatory for students.

Hybrid classes are:

- Block A - Photography 11/12 with Mr. Evans
- Block B - Textiles 9-12 – Ms. N. Sahaydak
 - Drama 11/12 – Ms. A. Thomson
 - Yearbook 11/12 – Mr. T. Evans
 - Drafting 11/12 – Mr. R. Zabudsky
 - Law 12 – Mr. E. Fahrman
 - Foods 11/12 – Ms. J. Fang
- Block C - Computers 10-12 – Ms. K. Wasik

How do I see my courses? Click on this link from our web site. <https://sa.deltasd.bc.ca/wp-content/uploads/sites/35/2020/11/How-to-View-Your-Course-Schedule-for-Quarter-2.pdf>

Grad Information

If Grads missed any of the presentations below please contact the appropriate person to get the information.

- Grad Photos – Feb 9-14. Book at <https://artona.com/schools/SNDS/programs/graduation>. Artona will bring a photo shoot trailer to Sands and will have safety protocols in place.
- Ms. Sansregret has been visiting all classes this week to discuss and inform Grads about post-secondary information, scholarships, her website (<https://sandscareercentre.weebly.com/>) and other important information. She has created a transition guide for students for life after Sands and has emailed it to their @deltalearns.ca accounts. 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. Ms. J Sansregret is accessible via email at jsansregret@deltalearns.ca to answer questions or book an appointment. Please do not drop in.
- Counsellors have visited Grade 12 classes November 6 to give out Transcript Verification Records. We recognize that there were numerous errors on some students TVRs. We are working on getting them fixed and will likely reissue the TVRs. The Grads will be asked again to look at their transcript for accuracy, i.e. missing a course, and are they enrolled in all the courses they need to graduate. If there are any discrepancies, please contact Mr. Randhawa ASAP.
- Grad Clothing is now for sale until November 29 at <https://sandsgrad2021.itemorder.com/sale>
- We are charging a Grad fee to help with securing potential venues, and other important details for grad events. 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.

Spirit Wear

Every year we offer Sands students and families the opportunity to purchase Sands Wear. This year we have added a couple of non-medical face covering options. We are using a local company, Pro Stock, to be our portal for the purchase of these items. Check them out at: <https://www.prostockathleticsupply.com/collections/sands-secondary-online-store>. They would make a great present.

Return to Sport

The Sands Athletics Program will be offering athletic training opportunities for students starting in the Quarter 2. Mr. McKay, Athletic Director, is currently working through the safety protocols with coaches. Students need to do this while they are in their deltallearns email account. If your student is interested in training, please fill out this google doc:

Volleyball

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1fq85ub1hmwcNsysXdUqMugt922jLpCmw5eNJEXlhmGE/edit>

Basketball

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1pnJOrudgcKpBYuWk_vEhTa-OYgZmyq8nhi4MznMnO_Y/edit

Students interested in training must sign up - there will be no drop-ins for training sessions. More athletic opportunities will be available as we move forward in the school year.

Pictures of Sands activities and events

Check out the yearbook instagram account (@sandsyearbook) and see visually what's going on. There are some great pictures of the Terry Fox run/walk, grade 8 Photo, Halloween door decorations and students in costumes.

Clubs at Sands

Slowly, clubs at Sands are starting to get going. There are protocols established, similar to classroom ones, to make sure that your student is safe while participating. Most meetings will be done via Zoom but there might be some situations where face to face meetings can happen. If your student is part of a club or team you will get an information and permission letter from the Sponsor teacher. The letter will outline the purpose of the club, how many students are involved and what the meeting procedures are. If you have any questions, please contact the sponsor teacher or myself. Clubs so far are: Student Council (Mr. B. Murray and Ms L. Viveiros), Ethics Club (Mr. G. Jamieson), Grad Council (Mr. M. Robinson), Library Club (Ms. K. McGreevey) and Health Science Club (HOSA) (Ms. A Thomson). As the year progresses I am sure that there will be more clubs starting up.

Student Fees

Reminder that student fees and deposits have been assessed for all classes and are viewable under fees on Parent Connect. Some fees have been reduced to reflect the reality of COVID and that some opportunities will not be available to students. We encourage families to use the online feature in Parent Connect to pay. If families want to pay by cash or cheques they can place cash or a cheque in an envelope with their child's name and student number and hand it in at the Sands office. If there is a financial need that prevents a family from paying fees, please contact me and we can discuss how Sands can help.

Take care and remember we are here to help in any way we can.

Mark Robinson, Principal

Joanna Macintosh, Vice Principal