

November 20, 2020

Well, we are a quarter of the way through the school year and I think that school is doing well. The move to Quarter 2 has gone smoother than I think we all anticipated. Students found their classes and have settled in to learning two new courses. I think the experiences staff, students and families have had will help with the transition to and success in Quarter 2. A reminder to families and students that support is available to all students from either their subject teacher or program teacher during Block C. Please make use of it. If students have been absent from class, Block C is also a good place to get caught up and be supported. Families, if you know your student is going to be away, please let the office know either by email (sands@deltasd.bc.ca) or phone (604 594 3747). I would also suggest either you or your student connect with the teacher via email or check on the google classroom for information. If there are supports that Sands can help with please contact me (mrobinson@deltasd.bc.ca), Ms. Macintosh (jmacintosh@deltasd.bc.ca), Mr. Randhawa (arandhawa@deltasd.bc.ca) or Ms. McPhedran (kmcphedran@deltasd.bc.ca). We are here to help.

As the number of positive cases of COVID 19 in the Lower Mainland continue to rise, I can't stress enough that we, collectively and individually, need to follow all of the safety protocols as set by our Provincial Health Officer and Fraser Health, including the latest province-wide restrictions:

- Complete the daily health check: <https://www.deltasd.bc.ca/wp-content/uploads/sites/2/2020/09/BCCDC-Daily-Health-Check-Sept-11-2020.pdf>
- Stay home if you are sick
- 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
- For medical advice call 811 or see your doctor
- Encourage your student to avoid gathering with other students before and after school
- Grad and Parent meeting
- November 24 at 7pm

Grads and Family meeting

I would like to invite you to a meeting to discuss and provide feedback on what the year end celebrations might look like for Grad Class of 2021. The meeting will be via zoom on Thursday, November 26 at 7pm. Please check your email for more information

Fraser Health Contact Tracing

As shared in the district letter to parents and guardians last week, Fraser Health will reach out directly to families if they think their child has come into close contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19, and will ask them to take specific action, such as go for a COVID test or self-isolate. In case of COVID exposures at our school, we encourage you to answer phone calls, even

if they are from an unknown number, as this will greatly assist Fraser Health with its contact tracing process.

Focusing on the Positive

As you may have seen on the [district's website](#) and social media channels already, over the coming weeks the District will be sharing some brief suggestions, tips and activities to help promote feelings of warmth, joy and gratitude.

Did you know that kindness is about the only thing in the world that doubles when you share it? I encourage you to take two minutes to watch this [interesting video](#) from the Random Acts of Kindness Foundation on the science of kindness.

Upcoming Events

- Q1 Final mark and Semester 1 Midterm report Cards, November 25 on MyEd
- November 23 – Fire Drill
- November 26 – Online session for parents on Managing Mental and Emotional Wellness during COVID-19: Visit the [district events calendar](#) for more information.
- Nov 30 – Pro D day
- Dec 2 – Practice Hold and Secure
- Dec 4 – Q2 interims
- Dec 17 – Q2 Midterm Report Card
- Dec 19 – Jan 3 – Winter Break

Hybrid Classes

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. Hybrid classes are multi-cohorted classes and masks are mandatory for all 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

Grad 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.
- 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.

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.

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