

Feb 5, 2021

Dear Families and Students,

This week featured the end of Quarter 2 and the start of Quarter 3. Students and staff are quickly transitioning to new classes to start a new experience. This is a perfect time to reflect on successes over the Quarter and how students can improve on their overall performance to make changes in their routines to experience improvement. Report cards for Quarter 2 will be posted in the Student Portal in MyEd on Thursday, Feb. 11th

As we hear more about the three new strains (UK, South Africa and Brazil) of COVID-19 being more easily transmissible and virulent, we must remain vigilant and REALLY ADHERE to the protocols that keep us and our families safe. Vaccines are on the way but we don't want anyone to get sick while we are waiting. Based on the information I have seen, the general public are not likely to get vaccines until the summer at the earliest. Keep up the good work up, stay safe and healthy.

The Ministry of Health and Education announced Updates to the Provincial Health and Safety Guidelines for K-12 School Settings on February 4. Please refer to the email that you received from Doug Sheppard, Superintendent of Schools for Delta - <https://www.deltasd.bc.ca/news-events/news/information-for-parents-guardians-novel-coronavirus/>. Below are some highlights of the changes:

Non-medical masks are now required for all staff in all K-12 schools, and all students in our secondary schools in all indoor areas, including when they are in their learning groups. The only exceptions are when:

- They are sitting or standing at their seat or workstation in a classroom
- They are eating or drinking
- There is a barrier in place

Mask exemptions remain in place for students and staff who cannot wear a mask for health or behavioural reasons.

Masks are not a replacement for physical distancing, be as distant from others as much as possible all the times.

Even when wearing a mask, staff and students will still be required to maintain physical distance from people outside of their learning group.

Sands is in a great position as the changes that are required are largely already in place. There are some areas that we need to make some changes and will be doing that immediately.

Reminder, that the school doors do not open until 8:20 in the morning. We would like students to avoid crowding under the covered area. Please don't drop your student off until 8:20am or ask them not to arrive until 8:20am.

Fraser Health Winter Update and Resources for Families

Recently, Fraser Health shared a brief update on how we can all help to prevent the spread of COVID-19 in schools. We encourage you to take a read: [click here](#) to view it. Also, a reminder that the Fraser Health website offers a wealth of valuable resources for families. [Click here](#) to access them.

Quarter 3

If your student is in a Hybrid class, then they will attend face to face either on Monday/Thursday or Tuesday/Friday. Wednesday is a remote learning day, except for PE 11/12 and Fit for Life. 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 AM Strength Training with Mr. Gaul
- Block A Law 12 with Mr. Fahrmann,
Philosophy 12 with Mr. Jamieson
PE 11/12 with Mr. Townsend
Fit for Life with Ms. Vivieros
- Block B Philosophy 12 with Mr. Jamieson
Photography 11/12 with Mr. Evans
Foods 11/12 with Ms. Fang

COVID Information

Contact numbers for Fraser Health for questions/advise specific to COVID and schools

*** Fraser Health COVID Hotline 604-918-7532**

*** COVID SCHOOL HUB Hotline 604-587-4769**

It is very important that we still 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 household
- Wear masks all the times except with seated in your classroom at your seat, when eating/drinking or when a barrier is present. At all other times students must 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
- Ensure your student knows that they must not gather with other students before and after school

Upcoming Events

- Feb 8 – Grade 8 Mentorship Zoom – learning about course selection and electives
- Feb 8-12 – MDI Survey, Grade 8's
- Feb 9 – Earthquake Drill
- Feb 11 – Report Cards Posted
- Feb 14-19 – Grad Photos
- Feb 15 – Family Day, school closed
- Feb 16 – MyEd open for course selection
- Feb 19 – last day for Interims for student who are struggling
- Feb 26 – Pro D Day
- Mar 5 – MyEd course selection closes

Course Planning

We have had three family Zoom meetings to provide information to families about Course Planning. If you were not able to make it, please check the school website – sandssecondary.ca. Under the “Programs and Courses” tab you will find “Course Planning”. We have recorded the meetings for your viewing. If you have any questions please either contact a counsellor, Ms. J Sansregret or one of the administration. Course selection opens up on Feb 16. Mr. Randawa will be Zooming into classrooms and going through the process with students starting February 16. In order to do Course Selection students will need to be able to access the student portal of MyEd.

Delta Careers Programs



Delta School District offers 3 different Career Programs that offer students the chance to gain skills, knowledge, and attitudes needed to be successful in the workplace.

Benefits

Explore career opportunities | **Gain** valuable work experience | **Develop** skills and attitudes for the workplace | **Transition** from school to work or post-secondary education | **Receive** personal references | **Develop** confidence and self-reliance | **Earn** four graduation credits per course

A blue-bordered box with a white background. At the top, "WORK EXPERIENCE" is written in white on a blue background. Below, it describes the program for Grade 11 or 12 students, mentioning practical experience and 4-8 graduation credits.	A green-bordered box with a white background. At the top, "ita YOUTH WORK IN TRADES" is written in white on a green background. Below, it describes a paid apprenticeship program under supervision, mentioning high school credits and 4-16 graduation credits.	An orange-bordered box with a white background. At the top, "ita YOUTH TRAIN IN TRADES" is written in white on an orange background. Below, it describes a dual credit program for Grades 11 and 12, mentioning elective credits, post-secondary credits, and 8-24 graduation credits.
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See the website for more information.

www.deltalearns.ca/careers



Numeracy Assessment

If your student missed the numeracy assessment there will be another opportunity to write it in June 2021. This assessment is a graduation requirement. All students must complete it. Also there will be a literacy assessment in April for Grade 10's and 11's.

MDI

This year, the Delta School District is participating in UBC's MDI (Middle Years Development Instrument) survey. The purpose of this survey is to gather information about the health and wellbeing of children in BC ages 10-13. All Grade 8s have the opportunity to participate in this survey. Information was sent to Grade 8 families in January. Families who do not wish for their student to participate are asked to contact the school.

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.
- This is a reminder for you to set up your Student Transcript Service accounts. **You need to do this if you are planning on attending a post-secondary institution (PSI) next fall.** If this is not done, your chosen PSI will not receive your marks and will therefore be unable to offer you admission.
- Reminder, Transcripts ONLY included classes that there is a FINAL mark for. Courses you are currently registered in, but have not completed yet, will not show up. If there is a missing course that you have finished and have a final mark for, please see Mr. Randhawa. We can get it added.
- The Sands Career Centre website, <https://sandscareercentre.weebly.com/>, is a source of information for you and our students. Ms. Sansregrets updates this site frequently so please check it on a regular basis. In addition to providing information on post-secondary education and scholarships, you will find registration links for information sessions hosted by various post-secondary institutions. Please note that at this time all information sessions are virtual. If you have any questions or require further information, please do not hesitate to contact me. Ms. Sansregrets can be reached by email at: jsansregret@deltasd.bc.ca or by phone at 604-594-3474 Local 249.

Family and Student support

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 (kmcphehdan@deltasd.bc.ca). We are here to help.

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

Mark Robinson, Principal

Joanna Macintosh, Vice Principal