

SANDS SECONDARY “Creating Our Future Today”

10840 – 82 Avenue, Delta, BC V4C 2B3 Tel: (604) 594-3474 Fax: (604) 594-1145 www.deltasd.bc.ca

September 17, 2021

Dear Families and Students,

Two weeks in and things are running smoothly (knock on wood!). School is looking and feeling more like pre-pandemic with some COVID twists thrown in. Students have been largely receptive to the COVID rules and protocols. Families - we would like to thank you for your support and encouragement with your students. This will be a busy month for students and staff. A reminder, Friday, September 24 is a Professional Day for the staff and the school will be closed.

COVID information

If we all do our bit then that will not only help ourselves, but also our families and our community. There are a few key items to keep in mind as we move into the fall:

- Get vaccinated
- Stay home when sick
- Do the daily health check with your student before they attend school - New health check form: <https://www.deltasd.bc.ca/wp-content/uploads/sites/2/2020/08/Updated-Daily-Health-Check-for-K-12-students-Sept-2021-English-version.pdf>
- Wear a mask
- Avoid long face-to-face non-mask exposures with others
- Seek a COVID test as soon as possible after mild symptoms occur. This will significantly help to speed up the contact tracing process if the test result is positive.
- For medical advice call 811 or see your doctor
- Wash and sanitize your hands often
- Follow all the school protocols
- Check the District website for updates - Also the COVID page on our website will continue to be updated whenever we have new info: <https://www.deltasd.bc.ca/news-events/news/information-for-parents-guardians-novel-coronavirus/>

Family and Student support

If there are supports that Sands can help with please contact me (mrobinson@deltashools.ca), Ms. Macintosh (jmacintosh@deltaschools.ca), Mr. Randhawa (arandhawa@deltaschools.ca), Ms. McPhedran (kmcphehdan@deltashools.ca) or Ms. K Watters, CYCW (kwaters@deltaschools.ca). We are here to help.

Wednesday mornings start time

A reminder that classes start at 9:15 on Wednesday mornings. This is a change of time from the past number of years. Please discuss this with your students. There have been many students that came late this past week and their major excuse was that “I thought school started at 9:30”. As always, it is very important for students to be on time and prepared to learn when the bell rings to begin the day.

Masks

By in large students have been great bringing a mask and wearing it when they enter the school. I have a request: that each student have at least one spare mask with them when they arrive at school. This could be a backup in their jacket, locker or backpack. If you could have a conversation with your student about this, it would be appreciated. We have given out over 50 masks so far this year. We will continue to supply masks for students who forgot or who have a mask that breaks during the day. With your help we can reduce the number of masks that we give out.

Canteen

Canuel Catering will begin hot and cold food service in the canteen starting on Monday, September 27. Payment can be in either cash or debit. They have implemented appropriate COVID protocols for food service. The school will set up stanchioned lines to keep the flow of students moving.

Sands PAC

The first meeting will be on Tuesday, September 21 via Zoom. The start time will be 7pm. During the meeting there will be elections held for the executive positions and a vote on the updates of the Constitution and By-Laws. School PACs provide feedback and input to the school administration. They also play an integral role in supporting extracurricular programs and student-led legacy projects and initiatives. All parents, especially our new Grade 8 parents, are invited to join our PAC. For more information, look on the PAC page on the Sands web site or email sandspac@deltasd.bc.ca

PAC Zoom Meeting

ca01web.zoom.us/j/66224713126?pwd=WjI0MTVMUVpSdkxwWGczWFI0KzUzZz09

Meeting ID: 662 2471 3126

Passcode: 160145

Grad News

Wednesday, September 21 at 3pm will be our first grad council meeting. It will be in the library. Our first order of business is talk about grad clothing. We will also talk about other ideas. We do have some things booked already, COVID dependent.

Grad Boat Cruise – April 27

Grad Banquet and Red Carpet – May 27

Dry Grad – May 27

Valedictory at ND – June 23

Mr. Reefschlager will be visiting Grade 12 classes in the coming weeks and talking to the Grads about Career Life Connections and Capstone. He will outline what they need to do right now and in the coming months.

Sands Career and Post-Secondary Centre

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. We are accepting drop-ins but an appointment is advisable.

Communications with Families:

Most of our communication will be done electronically through our website, monthly newsletters, emails and Parent Connect. Please ensure you have provided us a current email address, updated all your contact information and are able to log into Parent Connect. Please contact the office if you require assistance.

Permission Forms:

There are a number of permission forms on Parent Connect for you to review and authorize. Please log in to Parent Connect, review the notices and select the appropriate response for each form. It is mandatory that all forms be reviewed and responded to by each student's parent/guardian by September 30th.

Sands Athletics

Volleyball and Soccer tryouts have begun. See the announcements on the website for more information. We should have a full slate of sports this year. Our Athletic Director is Mr. McKay. If you have any questions please email him – mmckay@deltaschools.ca. We are often looking for coaches throughout the year. Please contact Mr. McKay if you are interested in helping.

Sands Wear

Thinking of getting some great Sands clothing this year? Order closes on Monday, September 27. <https://www.prostockathleticsupply.com/collections/sands-scorpions-online-store>

Presentations

Making Sense of Adolescence by Doctor Deborah MacNamara
Crossing the bridge from childhood to adulthood has never been so daunting. The time of adolescence is longer than ever and yet society today offers little support in understanding or facilitating this transition. What is meant to happen? What is nature's purpose and design? Discussion will centre on understanding the maturing dynamics occurring for the adolescent and the tools to help them through this journey. Topics may include (depending on time available) the seven rites of passage, increasing awareness and need for autonomy, teen resistance and becoming a sexual being. This presentation is suitable for participants with tweens and teens.

Wednesday, September 22, 2021, 6:30 pm- 8pm via Zoom

Please register in advance for this workshop:

https://ca01web.zoom.us/meeting/register/u5MlcOqprjguE9DYYWLgo9oBUHXHOfk_F5Tu

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

Upcoming Events

September 24 – Pro D Day – No school

September 28 – Terry Fox Run

September 30 – Day of Truth and Reconciliation – no school

October 6 – Photo retake day

October 11 – Thanksgiving – no school

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

Mark Robinson, Principal

Joanna Macintosh, Vice Principal