

Friday, October 27th, 2023

Mission Statement: Sands is an inclusive and nurturing community which challenges individuals to strive for educational excellence, as well as personal responsibility, integrity and growth.

School Inquiry Question: Will a school wide focus on fostering staff and student health and wellness have a positive effect on well-being, engagement, and achievement?

Acknowledging the traditional territory of the Tsawwassen First Nation and Musqueam Indian Band and all of the Hun'qumi'num speaking peoples who have been stewards of this land since time immemorial on whose land we live, learn and play. We would also like to offer our respect to all the elders who have gone before us, to the elders and First Nation people who are with us today and to all Canadians who are on the journey of Reconciliation.

Dear Sands Secondary students and families,

Last year, the Ministry of Education and Childcare provided districts with a one-time grant called the Student and Family Affordability Grant to help students and families cope with the demands of inflation in our present economy. Each school was provided a portion of this one-time grant to support families with food, clothing and other necessities. This year, school districts have been provided the Feeding Futures Grant to help students and families with food costs. We encourage families to connect with our Counselling Team of Mr. Abernethy, Mr. Randhawa or our Youth Workers, Ms. Watters and Ms. Sidhu, if your family requires support in these difficult times. All requests will be kept confidential and ultimately, we want to help those in need.

On Tuesday, we will be experiencing Halloween festivities where we encourage students and staff to wear costumes to celebrate. We ask that students wear appropriate costumes that are not offensive, do not include replica weapons and no full-face masks as we need to be able to easily identify students for safety reasons. Also, firecrackers and fireworks are prohibited on school property. According to the City of Delta website, selling, possessing, and transporting fireworks in Delta without a permit is prohibited. Ultimately, we cannot have fireworks or firecrackers at school as they pose a major safety risk to those who are igniting them and others in the vicinity. Thank you in advance to everyone for helping to make Sands Secondary a safe place for everyone.

On Monday, the Sands Secondary Student Council will be hosting a Halloween Dance in the Canteen from 6:30pm to 9:00pm. Students can purchase tickets from the main foyer at lunch for \$10.00. This dance is a school sponsored event, and the expectation is that students follow the Sands Secondary Code of Conduct. This dance is only open to Sands Secondary students.

Please see the important information items below:

Important Dates:

- October 30th Halloween Dance
Literacy 10 Assessment 8:30am-11:30am
- November 1st Literacy 12 Assessment 11:45am-2:45pm
Take Our Kids to Work Day (Grade 9 students)
- November 3rd Numeracy 10 Assessment 8:30am-11:30am
- November 5th Daylight Savings Time (set clocks back 1 hour)
- November 9th Remembrance Day Assembly (during FLEX)
- November 10th District Closure Day (classes are not in session)
- November 13th Statutory Holiday
- November 17th Reporting to Parents Early Dismissal (1:00pm Dismissal)

Musqueam Day – November 1st

Every year, Musqueam acknowledges November 1 as Musqueam Day – a holiday to celebrate the strength and determination of our ancestors to seek justice and protection of our inherent rights.

The day recognizes the landmark 1984 Supreme Court of Canada Guerin decision. The case was led by Musqueam's then chief, Delbert Guerin, and fundamentally changed Canadian law by challenging the:

- legal enforceability of the Crown's obligations to Aboriginal people in Canada
- fiduciary duty owed to Aboriginal people in Canada
- nature of Aboriginal title in Canada
- the Crown's duty to consult with Aboriginal peoples

To learn more about this day, please access this information in the link below:

<https://www.musqueam.bc.ca/musqueam-day-2021/>

Sands Secondary Drama Program Highlighted at North Delta Fright Night

On Tuesday, October 24th, the Sands Secondary Drama Program volunteered to participate at the North Delta Fright Night that took place at the Delta Centre for the Arts. Our students were in full costume and make up that transformed them into the scariest characters that garnered fearful reactions from both young and old. The feedback was tremendous from those who attended, and our students had a wonderful time and experience in their separate roles.

See the link below to watch a video of the event.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tf56Zu2Uo2Y>

Careers:

Please see the Delta School District's careers website for up to date opportunities for students in their investigation of a potential career path.

Career Corner: <https://deltalearns.ca/careers/newsletters/>

Highlights in this edition:

Junior Firefighting Camp Academy – Apply before November 17, 2023

Take our Kids to Work Day – November 1, 2023

Career Articles: School-Work Skills Gap

Take Our Kids to Work Day – November 1st

Take Our Kids to Work™ (TOKW) 2023 is just around the corner. As Canada's most recognized career exploration event, TOKW has been engaging youth with adults and the community for nearly 30 years. This year TOKW is led by Students Commission of Canada (SCC).

This year, the theme is "EVERYONE BELONGS HERE!" which reinforces the importance of diversity, equity, and inclusion in the workplace. SCC's goal is to provide students with a glimpse of what the workforce looks like and help them understand how they can contribute to a diverse and inclusive workplace.

Ms. Bergman, Careers Teacher, distributed information to all grade 9 students last week. Please talk with your child to read the information distributed and encourage your child to participate. We want all grade 9 students to have a work placement on November 1st. Students not participating will have an alternate assignment to be completed by the end of the school day.

Junior Firefighting Camp Academy

Do you have students in grade 11 or 12 that are interested in pursuing a career as a firefighter? Have them apply for the Delta Junior Fire Academy Camp. Applications are due November 17, 2023. Students should see their career program facilitator at your school or learn more here:

<https://deltalearns.ca/careers/firefighting-camp/>

Provincial Assessments

During the first week of October 30th, students in grades 10 and 12 will be completing the Provincial Assessments in Literacy and Numeracy. The completion of all of these assessments is a graduation requirement. The Assessment Schedule will be:

Monday, October 30th	Literacy 10 Assessment	8:30-11:30am
Wednesday, November 1st	Literacy 12 Assessment	11:45-2:45pm
Friday, November 3rd	Numeracy 10 Assessment	8:30-11:30am

Information outlining the details for the assessments will be sent to all families shortly. For more information on the Graduation Assessments, please follow the links below.

Graduation Literacy 12 Assessment

<https://curriculum.gov.bc.ca/provincial/grade-12-literacy-assessment>

Graduation Literacy 10 Assessment

<https://curriculum.gov.bc.ca/assessment/literacy-assessment/grade-10-literacy-assessment>

Graduation Numeracy 10 Assessment

<https://curriculum.gov.bc.ca/provincial/grade-10-numeracy-assessment>

Sands Secondary Spirit Wear

Would you like to order some school clothing for your child, or for yourself? Were you an alumni? This year's designs and colours celebrate Sands' 50th anniversary.

The online store will be open until November 8, so don't be late, so that clothing will arrive before Christmas.

The link to order the spirit wear is:

<https://sandsfall23.itemorder.com>

or

use your phone camera on the QR code on the flyer.



Sands 50th anniversary Spirit Wear

2 student made designs to choose from that celebrate Sands 50 years! 1974-2024
Throwback golden colour this year only

LAST DAY

Sands Secondary Fall 23
You can now purchase your items online in 3 easy steps:
1. Scan the QR code or go online to <https://sandsfall23.itemorder.com/>
2. Choose your items and add them to your cart
3. Securely checkout with your credit card

Online Store Deadline: Wednesday November 8th, 2023 (11:59pm MST)

Gilman 5000 Heavy Cotton T-Shirt	ATC Pro Spun Ladies' Tee	Russell Athletic Performance Tee	Russell Athletic Performance Long Sleeve Tee	Russell Athletic Di-Power® Fleece Crew Sweatshirt	Russell Athletic Di-Power® Fleece Hoodie
\$38.95	\$41.50	\$51.50	\$57.75	\$59.75	\$67.00
Gilman 5000 Heavy Cotton T-Shirt	ATC Pro Spun Ladies' Tee	Russell Athletic Performance Tee	Russell Athletic Performance Long Sleeve Tee	Russell Athletic Di-Power® Fleece Crew Sweatshirt	Russell Athletic Di-Power® Fleece Hoodie
\$24.25	\$28.95	\$38.95	\$45.25	\$46.95	\$54.75
Russell Athletic Di-Power® Mesh Shorts	Russell Athletic Fleece Jogger	ATC™ Sandwich Bill Cap	Sportsman Knit 12" Turque	Sportsman Pom Pom Beanie	
\$40.25	\$47.25	\$28.25	\$29.50	\$29.90	

Arrives mid-Dec

Questions?
Wendy Rodriguez
1-888-589-9990
wendy@sportfactor.net
<http://www.sportfactor.net/>

Graduates:

Grade 12 Scholarship and Post Secondary Night – Wednesday, November 1st

Ms. Sansregret, Career Advisor, will be hosting a Grade 12 Scholarship and Post-Secondary Night on Wednesday, November 1st at 6:00pm in the Sands Secondary Library. The presentation is open to all grade 12 students and their families.

The presentation will last for approximately a half an hour with a question-and-answer period following the presentation. We look forward to seeing many of our grade 12 families in attendance.

UBC Geering Up Events:

UBC Geering Up has two upcoming events on October 28th and November 9th!

Event 1: October 28th: Code World - A Race to Win (*All-Girls Event) - Grades 8-12

Code World: A Race to Win is an event sponsored by Ansys, an industry expert in software engineering solutions. The Code World event will focus on introducing you to main principles in software development and coding! With presentations from Ansys' professionals, you will hear first-hand about careers in software engineering to help envision your own future as a developer/engineer! As the day unravels, you will work in teams to develop a project using acquired skills. Teams will compete to win a race for the most holistic project after presenting to a panel of judges. May time be in your favour. The race is on!

Event Information: Code World: A Race to Win

Who: All-Girls* in grades 8-12

Where: University of British Columbia - UBC Hugh Dempster Pavilion

When: October 28th from 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM

Cost: Free!

How to Register: Click the "Register Now" button below!

Register [here](#).

Event 2: November 9th: Technovation Girls BC: Participant Information Session (All Girls* Online Session) - Grade 7-12

Technovation Girls is an international technology and entrepreneurship education program that equips young women ages 8-18 with the skills to become tech leaders and entrepreneurs by addressing real issues that are local to the communities they are based in! This a 12-week long program running from January - April 2024.

With support from volunteer mentors, girls work in teams to develop technology projects (mobile apps or AI Prototypes) that address real-world challenges. Girls learn programming basics to develop a working prototype and learn how to pitch and market their app.

In this Information session, you will learn all necessary details in order to succeed in the global competition. From registering as a participant to learning about what skills you will develop and what resources/curriculum will be available through the program, this information session will set you up for January 2024!

Event Information: Technovation Girls BC: Participant Information Session

Who: All-Girls* in grades 7-12

Where: Online!

When: November 9th from 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM

Cost: Free!

How to Register: Click the "Register Now" button below!

**We use the words “girls” and “women” inclusively. All trans, genderqueer and non-binary folks belong at and are welcome to attend our events.*

Register [here](#).

Cmolik Scholarship:

Grade 12 students can apply for the Cmolik Scholarship worth up to \$45,000 for books and tuition fees. Every year, the Cmolik Foundation awards up to 20 scholarships, each one a maximum of \$45,000 paid over five years of study, to students graduating from BC high schools. Scholarship recipients have faced adversity but have responded with positivity and tenacity, achieving academic and social goals. With hard work and support, their post-secondary dreams can become a reality.

What's more, students who are awarded the Undergraduate Scholarship are eligible to apply for Graduate Scholarships; three \$30,000 scholarships are awarded each year.

Eligible applicants must:

- Be a resident of BC
- Have lived in Canada for a minimum of 7 years
- Plan to graduate from a BC secondary school
- Plan to attend and study full time at a post-secondary university or college
- Be ineligible for the BC Tuition Waiver Program (for former youth in care)
- Have experienced adversity or hardship
- Have exhibited a good work ethic
- Have demonstrated financial need
- Evidence of leadership involvement

Application deadline is February 7th. Successful applicants will be notified in late March or early April. Applications and instructions can be found online at www.thecmolikfoundation.com.

UBC Women in Engineering

UBC Women in Engineering (WiE) is holding a mentorship program for high school girls interested in engineering! This program will run from November to April, and is focused on helping grade 11/12 students to:

- Learn more about engineering and the opportunities it offers
- Have questions about university applications answered by upper year students
- Receive guidance on the transition from high school to university
- Connect with current engineering students and learn from their experiences
- Explore different ways to get involved at university
- Join in on WiE events (eg. professional development workshops, design team presentations, etc)

The mentee application is currently open, and the deadline to apply is November 8th. The link for the application can be accessed here: <https://forms.gle/HdfwQ9BRfC83GyJv5>

Halloween Safety

Halloween is fast approaching and as students gear up for a night of tricks and treats, it's important to remember to stay safe and respectful while celebrating the spookiest night of the season:

- If wearing a costume to school, students should be easily recognizable and/or able to identify themselves to any staff members when asked.
- Costumes that are offensive in any way will not be allowed. Please consider the rights maintained in the *Canadian Human Rights Act* when selecting costumes (e.g., race, national or ethnic origin, colour, religion, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, family status, genetic characteristics, disability).
- School codes of conduct must always be followed, even when in costume. This includes maintaining respectful and appropriate behaviour with others and with school property.

- Replica weapons (guns, knives, etc.) are not allowed.
- The use and possession of firecrackers or fireworks at schools is strictly prohibited at all times.

In recent years, there has been an increase in anti-social behaviour from some youth in the community at Halloween. We recognize that this type of behaviour varies widely from school to school, from community to community, and even from year to year. However, we would like to remind students that vandalizing property, setting fires, fighting and underage drinking can have serious and potentially lifelong consequences including suspension from school, criminal charges, a criminal record, and injury.

We would appreciate all parents/caregivers having a conversation with their child(ren) regarding the need to respect our community and to keep Halloween safe and fun for everyone.

Family Opportunities:

We would like to invite you to our "In the Know" virtual events. All of the information to register is found in the links below. As always, our events are free to attend. These events are offered 5 times a month, so you can choose the date and time that works for you.

FamilySmart Virtual Event: Emotion Regulation

Description: Join us in watching a video conversation with Nicole Allen, Clinical Counsellor at Fraser Health's START Program. Nicole offers support to parents and caregivers with information and strategies to cope with emotion dysregulation and the challenges which many young people begin to experience as they enter and move through the adolescent years.

Registration: [FamilySmart - Events](#)

Dates: November 8th 6pm-7:30pm
 November 14th 6:30pm-8pm
 November 16th 12pm-1:30pm
 November 21st 6pm-7:30pm
 November 23rd 6:30pm-8pm

Legal Name Changes, Trans and Gender Marker ID

Proud2Be from Family Services of the North Shore would like to invite you to a free virtual event on Saturday November 4th for families looking for information on Legal Name Changes, Trans and Gender Marker ID.

Information can be found here: [website](#)

Registration can be found here: [eventbrite registration](#)

ERASE Learning Sessions:

Three virtual ERASE learning sessions for families and children will be held on November 8, 28, and 30, focusing on establishing safe, caring, and respectful digital communities. These online sessions are best suited for families and youth aged 10 and above.

Family Session: Establishing Safe, Caring, & Respectful Digital Communities – Everyone Welcome!

Details: Recommended for Parents/Caregivers/Grandparents and youth aged 10 and up as a way to facilitate the conversation of safe and caring use of technology at home and in the community. This session covers all things digital, from how to be a good digital citizen, the criminal consequences of cyberbullying, and how to report and receive support in cases of sexting/sextortion. Some of the most prominent concerns currently surrounding use of social media platforms, smartphones, and artificial intelligence will be discussed.

STUDENTS WILL LEARN:

- Digital media habits, oversharing, and digital addiction
- The permanence of online posts/activity
- The significance of your digital tattoo in how others perceive you (e.g., sports teams, college admissions, and potential employers)
- The importance of caring for peers both online and offline
- Geo-locational settings and the dangers of social media and cell phone misuse
- The social and legal consequences of cyberbullying behaviour as well as possession and distribution of intimate images (sexting and sextortion)
- An anonymous student reporting tool that can help you and your friends stay safe both online and offline

Schedule:

November 8, 2023 6:30pm – 7:30pm <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/732334942527?aff=oddtcreator>

November 28, 2023 7:00pm – 8:00pm <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/732343096917?aff=oddtcreator>

November 30, 2023 6:30pm -7:30pm <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/732346587357?aff=oddtcreator>

Homework Club

Sands Secondary offers many opportunities to support students in getting extra help with their course work. Another student opportunity is the Homework Club that takes place every Wednesday after school in the Library from 3:00pm-4:00pm. Ms. Lee and Ms. Papkosta sponsor the Homework Club and have assembled a group of dedicated and knowledgeable Peer Mentors to help students. We encourage all students to use this school support.

Student Fees

Families can check their child's student fee assessment in Parent Connect and can pay them online or in person in the main office. If families require assistance in covering these fees, please contact Mr. Mesich, Principal, or Mr. Inkster, Vice Principal.

Student Recognition Award

To recognize the positive contributions our students make on a daily basis to their own learning, to the learning of others and to our school community, we are going to be recognizing students with a weekly award. Staff will nominate students and describe the student's positive contribution. Nominated students will be called to the office to learn about their nomination and the staff member who nominated them. The student will receive a gift certificate to the Canteen for lunch.

We believe our students do not get enough recognition for their positive contributions to our school community and their learning. We hope this endeavour will provide an opportunity to demonstrate our appreciation of our students.

Reporting Student Absences

Please phone the school at **604-594-3474** or email **sands.sec@deltaschools.ca** to report a student absence. Students who need to go home due to illness or for other reasons should come to the office to contact a parent/guardian. Office staff will speak with a parent/guardian before students are given permission to go home. If appointments are scheduled during school hours, please send a note with your child. Parents should regularly monitor their student's attendance using Parent Connect.

Flex Time

Every week students can make decisions about their learning where they decide which class they will attend to obtain extra support. Sands Secondary is fortunate to offer this opportunity to our students every Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. We encourage students to sign up for their Flex Time periods early on Student Connect. The expectation is that all students attend Flex Time in order to support the learning they experience in their classes.

Permission Forms

There are several permission forms on Parent Connect for families to review and authorize. Please log in to Parent Connect, review the documents, and select the appropriate response for each one. It is mandatory that all forms be reviewed and responded by each student's family. We appreciate your attention to this process as your consent is extremely important for your child(ren) to participate in various school related activities and events.

Sands Secondary Career and Post-Secondary Centre

The Sands Career and Post-Secondary Centre is available for students who have questions about post-secondary options and scholarship opportunities. Our Career and Post-Secondary Advisor, Ms. J Sansregret, has provided a great deal of information for students and families on her website at <https://sandscareercentre.weebly.com/>. 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. Sansregret's office is located in the Counselling Suite and she can be contacted by email at jsansregret@deltalearns.ca to answer questions or book an appointment. Students can drop-in, but an appointment is recommended.

We hope that all our students have a successful school year. Please reach out to us if you have any questions about the upcoming events listed above.

Have a wonderful weekend everyone.

Rick Mesich
Principal

Tom Inkster
Vice Principal