

# SANDS SECONDARY

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

“Creating Our Future Today”

Friday, February 20, 2026

*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?*

Dear Sands Secondary students and families,

As a staff, we have been engaging in conversations about student attendance, as concerns about student attendance is being noticed both nationally and internationally. When students miss school frequently—defined as *chronic absenteeism*, or missing **10% or more** of the school year—their academic progress and overall well-being are impacted. When a student arrives late it interrupts the learning of classmates, the flow of the teacher’s lesson, and puts the student behind in their understanding of the class. It often doesn’t seem like much to be a few minutes late or to miss a day here or there, but please look at the chart below to see what kind of potential impact it can have:

### 1 or 2 days a week doesn’t seem like much but...

If your child misses...	That equals...	Which is...	And over 13 years of schooling that’s...
1 day every 2 weeks	20 days per year	4 weeks per year	Nearly 1 ½ years
1 day per week	40 days per year	8 weeks per year	Over 2 ½ years of school
2 days per week	80 days per year	16 weeks per year	Over 5 years
3 days per week	120 days per year	24 weeks per year	Nearly 8 years

### How about 10 minutes late a day? Surely that won’t affect my child?

He/she is only missing just...	That equals...	Which is...	And over 13 years of schooling that’s...
10 mins per day	50 mins per week	Nearly 1 ½ weeks per year	Nearly ½ year
20 mins per day	1 hr. 40 mins per week	Over 2 ½ weeks per year	Nearly 1 year
30 mins per day	Half a day per week	4 weeks per year	Nearly 1 ½ years
1 hour per day	1 day per week	8 weeks per year	Over 2 ½ years

### EVERY DAY COUNTS

If you want your child to be successful at school then, YES, attendance does matter!

When students attend regularly, they build strong routines, sustain learning momentum, and are far more likely to achieve their academic goals. By working together—students, families, and schools—we can ensure that every learner has the opportunity to succeed. Please help us reinforce the message that **every day of learning truly counts**.

Sincerely,

Mrs. T. Farnden (Principal)

### **Upcoming Important Dates:**

- February 17<sup>th</sup> – March 19<sup>th</sup> – Ramadan
- February 25<sup>th</sup> – Pink Shirt Day
- February 27<sup>th</sup> – MyEd closes for Course Selection
- February 28<sup>th</sup> – Deadline for applications for Train in Trades/Career Program opportunities
- March 3<sup>rd</sup> – Dry Grad Ticket Sales
- March 10<sup>th</sup> – Parent-Teacher Interviews (Early Dismissal @ 1:00 pm)
- March 16<sup>th</sup> – March 27<sup>th</sup> – Spring Break
- March 30<sup>th</sup> – First Day back after Spring Break
- March 30<sup>th</sup> – Student Learning Survey

### **2026/2027 School Year Budget Consultation Process**

The Delta Board of Education is inviting parents/caregivers, staff, students, partners, rights-holders and local community members to share their priorities for next year's budget. Your feedback will assist the Board in developing the budget as it allocates funds to various operating costs and capital expenses.

The deadline for this first phase of consultation is **4p.m. on Friday, March 13**. There are several ways to provide input:

- Complete a short [online survey](#)
- Email your thoughts to [budget@deltaschools.ca](mailto:budget@deltaschools.ca)
- Send a letter to Delta School District, 4585 Harvest Drive, Delta, B.C., V4K 5B4
- Connect with your school's PAC to share input

Please [click here](#) to learn more about this year's consultation process. You will have another opportunity to provide feedback in April before the budget is finalized.

### **Course Selection**

MyEd is open for students to complete course selection for next school year. MyEd will remain open until February 27<sup>th</sup> for students to complete this important process. Students are encouraged to have conversations with their families, School Counsellors and/or Ms. Sansregret (Career and Post-Secondary Advisor) in order to make informed choices that support their plans after highschool.

## **Athletics Fees Reminder for Families**

If your child tries out for and is selected to be part of a Sands school athletic team, please note that there are fees associated with participation. These fees help cover the costs required to run safe, organized, and competitive athletic programs for our students.

Athletics fees may include:

- South Fraser League fees
- Referee fees
- Delta School Sports fees
- Tournament entry fees (if the team is registered)
- Basic equipment wear and tear
- Athletic awards
- Jerseys/uniforms
- City field usage (if applicable)
- Additional equipment requests (if applicable)

Please note that athletics fees vary from team to team and may change from year to year. All fees will be posted on Parent Connect once teams are finalized. If your child has participated in Athletics this year, please check to ensure that these fees have been paid. Please reach out to Mrs. Farnden if you have questions or concerns.

We appreciate your support in helping make school athletics possible for our student-athletes.

## **Scholarship Information**

Students and families are reminded to check the [Sands Career Centre](#) website on a regular basis for up-to-date post-secondary and scholarship news. Ms. Sansregret, our Career & Post-Secondary Advisor, is available to answer your questions virtually or in-person, Monday-Thursday, 8:30-3:15. Email [jsansregret@deltaschools.ca](mailto:jsansregret@deltaschools.ca) with your questions or to make an appointment and drop-ins are always welcome!

## **Dry Grad 2026**

The 2026 After Grad Party that is set to take place after the graduation ceremony on May 22. The Dry Grad Parent Committee will be selling tickets during lunch hour in the lobby on the dates listed below. Further information will be shared in the coming weeks.

GRADUATING CLASSES OF BURNSVIEW, DELVIEW, NORTH DELTA, & SANDS



**Grad 2026**  
**After Party**

**FRIDAY MAY 22 AT 11:30PM - 5:00AM SATURDAY MAY 23**  
@ THE NORTH DELTA REC CENTRE

CASINO · MONEY BOOTH · MECHANICAL BULL · NON-STOP FOOD · AND MORE!  
Over \$14,000 in prizes including Beats, iPads, \$500 cash, and much, much more!

 **EVERYTHING INCLUDED WITH YOUR TICKET!** 

**Ticket sales**  
*in the foyer at lunch*

Early bird: Tue Mar. 3 - \$60  
Reg. Price: Wed Apr. 15 & Thu May 7 - \$75

Cash, e-transfer, or cheque payable to Delta North Dry Grad Committee

## Student Police Academy

The Delta Police Department Student Police Academy is now accepting applications from Grade 11 & 12 students. Applications are available at: <https://www.deltapolice.ca/communityprograms/schools/events>



**Delta POLICE** 

Are you currently in grade 11 or 12?  
Are you interested in a career in policing?

**2026 STUDENT POLICE ACADEMY**

**July 7<sup>th</sup> - 10<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> - 16<sup>th</sup>**

For more information, contact your School Liaison Officer or Career Counsellor, or scan the QR code below:

**SCAN ME!** 

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## Career Programs

## Start Post Secondary in High School

IF ACCEPTED  
TUITION IS  
PAID BY  
DELTA SCHOOL  
DISTRICT  
(FOUNDATION/LEVEL 1)



Apply  
before  
Feb 28,  
2026

See your Career  
Program  
Facilitator for  
more information



### Apprenticeship Opportunities in Delta

- |             |            |                   |                       |
|-------------|------------|-------------------|-----------------------|
| Electrician | Carpenter  | Motorcycle Tech.  | Auto Body & Collision |
| Plumber     | Millwright | Auto Service Tech | Commercial Painter    |
| Welder      | Metal Fab. | Professional Cook | Baking & Pastry Arts  |

[deltalearns.ca/careers/train-in-](http://deltalearns.ca/careers/train-in-)



## Junior Firefighting Program

Calling all Grade 11 & 12 students! Do you want to learn about becoming a firefighter!?

- More info and prerequisites can be found on the career website!
- See your school Career Program Facilitator for more info!

[deltalearns.ca/careers/](http://deltalearns.ca/careers/)

In Partnership with



Delta School District  
*Inspired Learning*



Apply  
before  
Feb 28,  
2026

## Aquatic Leadership

- Do you love swimming?
- Must swim at swimmer 6 or better
- Earn your: Bronze Cross, Bronze Medallion, Swim and Life Saving Instructor, Standard First Aid and Active Living 11/12

More info and prerequisites can be found on the career website! See your school Career Program Facilitator for more info!

[deltalearns.ca/careers/](http://deltalearns.ca/careers/)



In Partnership with:

Delta

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## Community Events

