



September 2020

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

Acknowledging the traditional territory of the Tsawwassen and Musqueam First Nations and all of the Coast Salish peoples who have been stewards of this land since time immemorial. We offer gratitude to the Musqueam people who honour our school with the name, Seaquam, which in their language means sunshine. We would also like to offer our respect to all the Elders who have gone before us and to the elders and First Nation people who are with us today.

Welcome to a New School Year!

On behalf of the Seaquam staff, we offer a warm welcome to all of our new and returning students and their families. We hope you all had a restful and relaxing Summer.

The following information will outline schedules, processes and procedures associated with the start of school. In our current educational environment, our traditional practices will be different and we need to be flexible to adapt to our current reality. We are all doing our best to make the start of the school year problem free as we transition to a new schedule to keep everyone safe in the COVID-19 pandemic. We hope that the information provided in this document will clarify questions families may have on having students return to school safely. Please contact the school if, after reading this bulletin and checking the school website, you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Rick Mesich, Principal (Grade 12)
Ian Close, Vice-Principal (Grade 8 & 10)
Vlad Nikic, Vice-Principal (Grade 9 & 11)

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Opening Week Schedule

School Photo Day - Wednesday, September 9th

We will be holding our School Photo Day on Wednesday, September 9th. Student photos will take place in our North (large) and South (small) gymnasiums. In order to meet safety requirements listed by the Ministry of Education and Ministry of Health, we have developed an alphabetical schedule by grade for students to have an opportunity to have their photo taken by Artona Studios.

Please respect and comply with the following safety measures:

- 1) Stay at home if you are exhibiting symptoms of cold, flu, or influenza
- 2) See the schedule below and strictly follow it – please come on time and enter the school at the entrance corresponding to your last name and scheduled time slot
- 3) Practice physical distancing by staying 2 meters (over 6 feet) apart
- 4) Wearing a mask or face covering is required.
- 5) Wait for a volunteer to let you into the gym and follow please follow their instructions.
- 6) Exit the gym at the opposite end (west side of the school that leads to our rear court yard where we meet during our emergency drills).
- 7) Once you complete the process of having your picture taken, please leave the school grounds and do **NOT** congregate afterwards.

Gym Entrances: Both entrances to the gym are located at the front of the school. The North entrance doors are adjacent to the Main Entrance and they lead into the Seaquam Hallway in front of the Large Gym (where the athletic trophies are located).

The South entrance is adjacent to the North Entrance (furthest away from the Main Entrance) and it leads into the Small Gym – this is the area where the PE lost and found bins are located and where the Football team's change rooms are located.

In case you are unsure which entrance to use, we will have volunteers in the front parking lot directing students to the correct location. **Please remember or write down the location and scheduled time for your photo session so you can reference it when you are connecting with our volunteers.**

The School Photo Day schedule can be accessed on the Seaquam website. Please see the link below to access the schedule.

<https://se.deltasd.bc.ca/wp-content/uploads/sites/36/2020/07/Photo-Day-Schedule-2020.pdf>

Orientation Days

Students will be invited into the school for an orientation session with their Block A teachers on Thursday, September 10th and Friday, September 11th. These sessions will be approximately 90 minutes in length where teachers will be going over the Quarter schedule, health and safety requirements, individual schedules and other information for students to become familiar with our new teaching and learning environment.

Students are required to attend their orientation session and return home immediately after the session is completed to prepare for the start of their classes on Monday, September 14th. The Orientation session schedule will be:

Thursday, September 10 th :	1:15pm-2:45pm	Grades 10, 11 and 12 students
Friday, September 11 th	10:00am-11:30am	Grade 9 students CORE students Life Skills students
	1:00pm – 2:45pm	Grade 8 students

Quarter Schedule Matrix

The matrix below is the final version of the Quarter schedule we will be adopting for the 2020-21 school year. Students in grades 8 and 9 have been scheduled in learning groups for the morning session and afternoon session. These learning groups will be in place for the entire year.

Grades 10-12 will be in a learning group in their morning session, but will be in a hybrid class for their afternoon session. Hybrid classes bring together students from various learning groups, these classes must have a reduced number, physical distancing in place and masks worn. This means that students in the hybrid classes will have in class instruction every 2-3 days depending on the class size. When students are not in class, they are in self-directed study for that particular class either at home or in a space supervised by a teacher. These learning spaces may not be set up immediately, but will be in place by Friday, September 18th.

Every Wednesday, there will be teacher Collaboration time where students are not at school and the first period class will start at 9:40am. We ask that students stay at home until the start of their first session class.

Most students will have 2 scheduled classes in the morning and afternoon sessions and their day will end at 1:10pm. The late afternoon session will be designated to deliver specialty programs, like the ACE-IT Program, student support sessions and other program offerings. Students will be notified if they have classes scheduled for this session.

If a student does not have a scheduled class during a particular quarter, we are asking those students to stay at home during that session, but return to school for any other scheduled course(s).

BLOCK SCHEDULE	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
MORNING SESSION 8:30 – 10:30	BLOCK A	BLOCK A	TEACHER COLLABORATION TIME 8:30 – 9:30	BLOCK A	BLOCK A
10:30 – 11:00	FLEXIBLE LEARNING TIME / NUTRITION BREAK	FLEXIBLE LEARNING TIME / NUTRITION BREAK	BLOCK A 9:40-11:10 FLEXIBLE LEARNING TIME / NUTRITION BREAK 11:10-11:40	FLEXIBLE LEARNING TIME / NUTRITION BREAK	FLEXIBLE LEARNING TIME / NUTRITION BREAK
AFTERNOON SESSION 11:10 – 1:10	BLOCK B	BLOCK B	BLOCK B 11:45 – 1:15	BLOCK B	BLOCK B

LATE AFTERNOON SESSION	SESSION 3	SESSION 3	SESSION 3	SESSION 3	SESSION 3
1:20-3:20	Quarter F2F/Student Support/Linear Courses/Teacher Prep/Remote Learning	Quarter F2F/Student Support/Linear Courses/Teacher Prep/Remote Learning	Quarter F2F/Student Support/Linear Courses/Teacher Prep/Remote Learning 1:25 – 3:25	Quarter F2F/Student Support/Linear Courses/Teacher Prep/Remote Learning	Quarter F2F/Student Support/Linear Courses/Teacher Prep/Remote Learning
2:50 – 4:10	X Block Courses	X Block Courses	X Block Courses	X Block Courses	X Block Courses

Support Classes (Learning Assistance, Assist, ELL, Grad Quest)

The implementation of the Quarter schedule does not lend itself to offering support to students throughout the year in an enrolling class environment. When schedules are released, you will not see these classes on your child’s schedule.

We are going to be offering a support model that will include scheduled support, pull out sessions, additional teachers or Educational Assistance in classrooms and virtual support using Zoom. We are currently developing this model and will share detailed information once it is completed.

Nutrition Break

Between sessions 1 and 2 there will be a 30-minute Nutrition Break. For safety reasons, students will remain in their first class to limit hallway traffic. The Cafeteria will not be providing food service to start the year, but plans will be developed for food service starting in Quarter 2.

Students should bring their own lunch, snacks and other required items with them when they arrive at school. Food should be in their own containers and students need to take their containers home with them at the end of each day. Students should not be sharing food with others. To maintain physical distancing and minimize contact with others, parents are asked not to drop off student lunches/supplies during the school day. Food drink items, dishes, and cutlery are not to be shared. The only exception is manufacturer-wrapped food products.

Self-Directed Study Spaces

We will be developing some supervised spaces in the building where students can work individually or in small groups on course work. This is not a space where students socialize. Spaces in these areas will be limited to allow for adequate physical distancing measures. Masks will be required as these spaces will be outside of a student’s learning group. More information will be provided once we identify available space in the building.

Student Schedules & Course Change Requests

With the new quarter system and learning groups, we have needed to develop an entirely new timetable. This is complex and time consuming work as there are so many variables to consider and we are not experienced in developing a Quarter schedule. Normally, your schedule would have been posted in Student and Parent Connect by this time. We are hoping to provide you with your first quarter schedule by Wednesday, September 9th. We will notify students and families when schedules are available.

We are going to be very limited in the number of changes that we can make to students’ schedules due to learning group restrictions and timetable limitations. For grades 8 and 9, your schedules are fixed and you may not receive the electives you requested. For grades 10, 11 and 12, there will be very limited opportunities to make adjustments to your schedules. Grade 12 students will be a priority to ensure they have the courses they require to graduate and for post-secondary options.

Also, once a quarter starts and you have attended a learning group, we cannot make a change in that quarter. Students cannot swap a learning group within a quarter. So if you REALLY need a change please contact the counsellor you work with via email. If it is a Quarter 1 change, you should not attend until we can determine if we can make a change.

Health & Safety

To keep our community safe in this return to class phase in education, everyone must take personal responsibility to follow the health and safety requirements outlined by the Ministry of Health. We must share the responsibility to keep everyone safe, so we ask everyone to meet and exceed the implemented safety measures.

Daily Health Checks

All families are required to complete the form on Parent Connect called a “Daily Health Check”. It is required that you acknowledge you have read this form before sending your child back to school. Most importantly, it is imperative that families monitor their child’s health daily and keep students at home if they exhibit symptoms that are cold or flu-like that can include coughing, sneezing, a sore throat, fever or any other cold or flu-like symptoms. If your child is experiencing these symptoms, please have them see a doctor.

The district has developed a “Daily Health Check Tool” that families can use to monitor their child’s health before sending them to school. If your child is exhibiting symptoms, please do not send them to school, but contact your family doctor for an appointment. The Daily Health Check Tool can be found on the Seaquam website. The link below will take you to the document.

<https://se.deltasd.bc.ca/news-events/covid-19/>

Please notify the school if your child is experiencing any of these symptoms.

Safety Measures

To help reduce the possibility of infection, everyone in the school community must take measures for their personal hygiene and self-care. These measures include:

- No handshaking or no physical contact as the new norm.
- Practice good hygiene (frequent hand washing with soap and water for at least 20 seconds and use of hand sanitizers; avoid touching one’s face; respiratory etiquette; disinfect frequently touched surfaces).
- Maintain reasonable physical distancing as much as possible when outside the home (or learning cohort) and using a non-medical mask or face covering in situations where reasonable physical distancing cannot be consistently maintained, or you enter a different learning group.
- Respiratory Etiquette – Students and staff need to:
 - Cough or sneeze into their elbow or a tissue. Throw away used tissues and immediately perform hand hygiene.
 - Refrain from touching their eyes, nose or mouth with unwashed hands.
 - Refrain from sharing any food, drinks, unwashed utensils, cigarettes, or vaping devices.

We will be asking students to stay at home when they do not have any scheduled classes. We would like to prevent any opportunities for students to congregate or to place themselves in situations that may be deemed as higher risk of contracting the virus.

Please see the detailed district Health and Safety document at the link below.

<https://district.public.deltasd.bc.ca/wp-content/uploads/sites/2/2020/08/Stage-2-Health-and-Safety-Measures-V2.pdf>

Face Masks

Students in secondary schools are required to wear non-medical masks in high traffic areas such as hallways, in hybrid classes, in self-directed learning spaces and all other common areas, or anytime outside of their learning group whenever physical distancing cannot be maintained. Students are asked to have a mask on when they enter the building.

No student needs to wear a non-medical mask if they cannot tolerate it.

Students will be given 2 face masks to be used throughout the year. The masks will be distributed during the orientation sessions next week.

Hallways and Staircases

In common areas, like hallways and staircases, we will be having directional markers in place throughout the building to help with the flow of student traffic. Entrances into the building and exits will be identified clearly. Exterior doors will be either an entrance or exit, not both. We need students to follow the directional markers to get to their classes or to leave the building. This measure will be an added precaution to help reduce the possible transmission of infection in common areas.

Water Fountains

Water fountains throughout the school will be disabled. The bottle fill function in the water fountains will be operational and we encourage students to bring their own containers to refill.

Lockers

For safety reasons, students will not be assigned a locker. It is expected that students will bring with them all they need for the day in a bag or backpack and take their belongings home at the end of each day.

Counsellors

Below is the Counselling Department's grade allocation for the 2020-21 school year. Please feel free to contact them at 604-591-6166 or by email.

Grade 8	Mr. R. Rickey (rrickey@deltasd.bc.ca)
Grade 9	Mr. J. Sall (jsall@deltasd.bc.ca)
Grade 10	Ms. M. Costin (msalmon@deltasd.bc.ca)
Grade 11	Mr. J. Day (jday@deltasd.bc.ca)
Grade 12	Mr. H. Mian (hmian@deltasd.bc.ca)

Parents/Guardians Accessing Seaquam

Parents and guardians should remain outside of the school to drop off their children on Lyon Road and **NOT on Seaquam's school grounds.**

If parents or guardians need to contact the administration, their child's Counselor or teachers, they need to do so by phone or email. In person visits should be for specific purposes and arranged in advance by appointment. Visitors must follow safety protocols and be limited in their access to necessary spaces only. All visitors must wear a mask and proceed directly to the Main Office to complete the Visitor Tracking form.

Communication – Home and School

We believe in the importance of open communication between the home and the school to help students find success. Seaquam uses a variety of communication methods to provide families with updated information. These methods include email notifications, the Seaquam website (<https://se.deltasd.bc.ca/>), our Twitter feed (@seaquamsec) and the Seaquam App.

Seaquam Mobile App

Students in grade 9-12 are encouraged to use the Seaquam mobile app to keep their courses and activities organized throughout the year. Grade 8 students are welcome to use the app as well, however printed Agenda Books are provided to grade 8 students to initiate their organizational skills.

The app integrates three basic communication methods - push notifications, news bulletins, and the school's social media feed. Once downloaded onto a device, students and parents alike can receive broadcast messages from the school office on important events or news items pertaining to Seaquam. Students and parents can subscribe to school-defined channels for their interests and courses. Only broadcast messages and those for channels you are subscribed to will show an alert on your phone, but notifications for all channels are available in the Notifications screen in the app by setting the "show all" option in the list. In addition to targeted push notifications, each channel may also have calendar events such as tests, assignment due dates, etc that will appear in the app if you are subscribed to that channel. Seaquam teachers, coaches, club leaders may create their own channel to communicate with students. It should be noted that these are only information providing channels. There are no means for two-way communication via the app user and the channel manager. Students and parents will need to reference the school website for their teacher's email address to initiate a two-way conversation.

Our community can access the Seaquam App by searching "My School Day" at the App Store or through Google Play.

For more specific information about the app including links on where to download it and reference guides to navigate the app, please check out the dedicated page on our school website. The link to the website is below.

<https://se.deltasd.bc.ca/student-resources/school-app/>

Parent Connect

Parent Connect will allow parent/guardians to review:

- Student schedules (what students are studying and when), plus review their current daily schedule to understand what classes are being taught. This feature is helpful when planning appointments!
- Attendance (real-time to current day),
- Report card grade and comment information.
- History of marks/transcript information for all previous year's final marks

- Ability to do a “Graduation Check” to see what the credit/course situation is like for your student according to the regular Provincial graduation requirements
- Demographics (address and guardian information),
- Student assignments and quizzes (if teachers are utilizing this feature in Teacher Connect)
- School calendar
- Register and review upcoming Parent-Teacher Interviews
- Student fees (assessment and payment details)
- Education Plan related information and documents (e.g.: IEP’s)

Parents have the opportunity to communicate to the office or teachers. Parent Connect allows parents one-way communication with teachers and the office.

In addition to the items that can be reviewed above:

- Parents can print a student schedule, next year’s schedule, a Parent Teacher Interview schedule, transcript and grades, and student profile information.
- Parents have the ability between March/May to work with their children to input next year’s course requests.
- Parents have the ability to update information (emergency contacts, work and phone information, email) and add to out-of province or other emergency contacts.

Signing in to Parent Connect

You must be authorized in order to utilize this web product. If you do not know your password, you can request that the system email you the password by clicking on “Forgot My Password”.

To login to Parent Connect you can do so here –

<https://se.deltasd.bc.ca/parent-community/programs/>

Permission Forms

There are a number of forms on Parent Connect for you to review and authorize. Please login to Parent Connect, review the notices and select the appropriate response to each form. It is mandatory that all forms be reviewed and responded to by each student’s parent/guardian by Sept 30. Forms are:

Personal Information Consent Form, Outside Media in Schools, Electronic Communications, Walking Field Trips Permission, BC Fruits and Vegetables Program Permission, Demographic Information, and Student Emergency Release.

Collection of Fees/Deposits

Student fees and deposits will be collected on Wednesday, September 30th and fees and deposits will be available for viewing on Parent Connect in mid-September. We would prefer that families use the online payment option through the Seaquam website. We will be setting up a face-to-face payment option (preferably a cheque) and will communicate this option at a later date.

Information About Fees and Deposits

The Delta School District believes in the provision of a broad general education, containing options for student needs and interests, combined with a common core of learning. In accordance with the Delta District Policy, Seaquam provides an education program free of charge to our students, but may also charge fees and deposits for some goods and services as reasonable and consistent with legislated requirements. For example, student fees or deposits may be charged for:

- Goods intended for students to take home for personal use or as a gift (e.g. a desk made in Woodwork class)
- Goods such as writing tools, calculators, student planners, exercise books or other supplies and equipment for a student's personal use

- Activities such as field trips, special events, and extra-curricular activities, where the fees are limited to defraying actual costs of transportation, accommodation, meals, admission and equipment rentals
- Rental fees for musical instruments
- Deposits for educational resource materials such as textbooks, reusable workbooks and novels, with the deposit being refunded in whole or in part upon return of the materials. (i.e. if a supplemental workbook is not marked or damaged it may be returned for a deposit refund)
- Goods and materials which provide students with the opportunity to experience or create a more enriching, or augmented project or activity

Financial Need

We realize that sometimes families struggle financially. Please contact your child's counselor or administrator if your family requires financial support. Discretion is paramount.

Reporting Student Absences

To report a student absence please:

1. Contact the school office by phone (604-591-6166) or
2. Notify the school by email seaquam.sec@deltasd.bc.ca or
3. Send a message through Parent Connect.

Absences should be reported as early as possible on the day of the absence to allow a Parent Advised code to be entered into the system. Any unreported absences will result in an automated email from the student system.

Ways to help set your student up for success in the school year

- Set high expectations for your student and encourage them to not accept minimum effort or indifference to quality work;
- Contact teachers directly when you have a question or concern regarding your student's progress;
- Ensure good attendance;
- Provide a quiet place in your home for study;
- Insist that your student accept responsibility for their learning and their conduct;
- Model the importance of life-long learning;
- Encourage a strong work ethic and promote good time management skills;
- Encourage your student to maintain healthy eating and sleep habits.

Engaging as a Parent/Guardian

We urge parents/guardians to stay engaged with their child's progress at school. Parents can use Parent Connect to monitor student attendance and view report cards. We encourage parents to contact their child's teachers, counselor and when they have questions.

PAC (Parent Advisory Council)

The Seaquam PAC meets regularly throughout the school year and meetings typically take place in the evening. Ms. Julie Barrett and Ms. Natalie Dusanj are the PAC Co-Chairs this year and will be communicating meeting dates and format at a later date. The PAC provides feedback and input to the administration, and applies for and allocates gaming funds to support extracurricular programs throughout the school. The PAC typically does not organize fundraising events. All parents, especially new Grade 8 parents are invited to join the PAC, meet other interested parents and learn more about the school and recent changes in education in BC. Please stay tuned for information from our PAC chairs in the weeks to come.

We hope the information provided will help you gain a better understand of how Seaquam will be organized to deliver the curriculum and to maintain a safe environment. We are and will continue to work on providing a positive experience for our students, while placing measures in place to keep everyone safe.

Thank you for your patience over the past weeks while we get ready for the start of school. Please contact us if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Rick Mesich
Principal

Ian Close
Vice Principal

Vlad Nikic
Vice Principal