



Monday, September 14th, 2020

Dear Seaquam students and families,

It was tremendous to welcome students back at school last week for Photo Day and for their Orientation Sessions on Thursday and Friday. Students have been calm, respectful and have adhered to the safety guidelines for moving in and around the building. There are new procedures and schedules to follow and it will take some time to adapt to our new routines. Close to 100% of students arrived wearing a mask/face covering. Students wore masks in hallways and the majority continued to wear them in classrooms.

With all of the changes to our schedule and the limitations on our timetable resulting from creating learning groups, there have been many questions and concerns from parents. We urge you to be patient, as we are working as fast as we can to respond to questions and resolve issues. Some issues simply cannot be resolved in the same ways that we have come accustomed to in the past. It is very apparent that the flexibility of our schedule has been impacted greatly by the new health guidelines.

Daily Health Check

All families are required to read the “Daily Health Check” form on Parent Connect. Parents must acknowledge that they have read this form by clicking the appropriate box on Parent Connect. Parents **MUST** complete this process as soon as possible. Most importantly, it is imperative that families monitor their student’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 keep your child home, contact the Health Authorities by dialling 8-1-1 and/or 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 contact the local Health Authorities by dialling 8-1-1 for the steps that need to be taken before your child returns back to school. Also, please notify the school if your child is experiencing any of these symptoms as well as with the updates you receive from the Health Authorities or your family physician.

Please do not contact the main office for advice on your child’s symptoms or whether to send your child to school. We all need to make difficult decisions to keep our children home if they are exhibiting symptoms for everyone’s safety.

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 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.

Students will have the opportunity to sign into their My Ed accounts in the coming weeks to view their entire schedule. We will communicate to students and families when access to My Ed will be available along with instructions to activate student accounts. In the meantime, please do not contact your counsellor to see your full schedule. Students will have access to their full schedule in the near future.

Counsellor Contact Information

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)

Hybrid Classes Grades 10, 11 and 12 (Session 2)

To manage the physical distancing when students are outside of their learning groups, the second session classes in each quarter will be hybrid classes. Hybrid classes will not have all students in that particular class together for in class instruction, but students will be rotated into the class over the week. Students will not attend their hybrid classes every day. This rotation of students into the courses will be based on the particular teacher's room configurations and will vary from class to class.

Teachers have contacted students regarding their plans for the hybrid classes. If your child did not receive an email outlining the hybrid plan for the session 2 class, please contact the teacher.

If a student does not have a class in session 2, then students can proceed home after their first session class ends.

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 in sessions 1 and 2. There may be a session 3 (block C) class on your child's schedule. These classes are simply groupings for teacher's information.

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. Our student support teachers will be sharing detailed information with students and parents shortly.

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. Beverage containers, dishes, and cutlery are not to be shared.

Self-Directed Study Area

Students who would like to attend school to conduct self-directed study for their Hybrid classes can do so in the Library. Students will be required to sign in and out of the Library and sit in the designated study area. There will be limited space in the library for student access. We will assess the demand over the next few days and develop other self-directed study areas if the demand materializes.

Students with Study Blocks

Some grade 12 students have a Study Block in their schedule. We are asking that students with a Study Block remain at home to complete school work and not attend school until they have a scheduled course. We do not want students attending school to socialize in the building or on school grounds during our pandemic environment. Thank you all in advance for your cooperation on meeting and exceeding this request.

The 2020 – 2021 school year is already proving to be unique and filled with new learning for everyone. We will continue to provide opportunities that will allow all learners the ability to succeed and contribute to their full potential. We want to thank you for your continued patience and support as we make the best of our current times. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us at the school.

Sincerely,

Rick Mesich
Principal

Ian Close
Vice Principal

Vlad Nikic
Vice Principal