



Thursday, September 24<sup>th</sup>, 2020

Dear Seaquam students and families,

As we move through our first quarter, students and staff are settling into their new routines. Students are continuing to meet our school safety measures with wearing masks, moving to their destinations quickly, practicing self-hygiene measures and physical distancing. We would like to acknowledge the responsibilities families are taking to ensure they perform daily health checks and guiding their children on how to keep themselves and others safe.

### **Daily Health Check**

It is imperative that families monitor their student's health daily and keep students at home if they are not well. Please refer to the attached Daily Health Checklist – this is a new version provided by the Ministry of Health.

<https://www.deltasd.bc.ca/wp-content/uploads/sites/2/2020/09/BCCDC-Daily-Health-Check-Sept-11-2020.pdf>

### **Upcoming events**

Professional Development Day      Friday, September 25<sup>th</sup> (School is not in session)

PAC Meeting      Monday, September 29<sup>th</sup> (see email from PAC Chairs)

Orange Shirt Day      Wednesday, September 30<sup>th</sup>

This day is to recognition of survivors of residential schools and the Canadian road to reconciliation. Staff and students are encouraged to wear orange shirts or orange clothing that day. Staff may be teaching lessons which focus on residential school and reconciliation.

Internet Safety Presentation      Wednesday, September 30<sup>th</sup>

The school district is hosting a livestream presentation for families on internet safety by social media educator Jesse Miller from 7 – 8:30pm. Please visit this webpage for more information:

<https://deltalearns.ca/internetsafety/>

### **Grade 12 Graduation Credit Review**

In an effort to ensure that all grade 12 students are informed about their graduation progress, we will be conducting physically distanced assemblies in session 3 in the Theatre where students will be reviewing their graduation credits, reviewing their full year schedules and making requests to adjust their courses in quarters 2 to 4 to meet graduation requirements. We are planning to have these sessions during the week of October 5<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Mian and Ms. Gehiere will be providing more information in the coming days.

### **Graduation Events**

We know Grade 12 is an exciting time in students' lives and they are keen to celebrate the wonderful milestone of graduation. We will be engaging with our Grad Committee members early in the school year to begin to discuss and plan how best to celebrate Grad 2021 given that we may still be subject to COVID-19 health and safety restrictions next year. There is no question there is a great deal of uncertainty with respect to what types of events will be permitted in Spring of 2021. As such, we will be keeping in touch with Health Authorities for

updates on restrictions for any type of events and gatherings as we plan for grad events. Despite a great deal of uncertainty with what June 2021 will look like, we still want to ensure that we don't lose out on the opportunity to secure potential venues, and other important details for grad events. Given this, we feel it is prudent to move ahead with the collection of grad fees at this time. We will adapt and adjust Grad events due to COVID restrictions as required and if events cannot go ahead, or need to be re-organized, refunds will be provided.

### **Counsellor Contact Information**

Students may require the help of their grade Counsellor for a variety of different reasons. Please have your child reach out to their Counsellor through email for an appointment. If it is an emergency, students should report to the Main Office to obtain immediate help.

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](mailto:rrickey@deltasd.bc.ca))

Grade 9 Mr. J. Sall ([jsall@deltasd.bc.ca](mailto:jsall@deltasd.bc.ca))

Grade 10 Ms. M. Costin ([msalmon@deltasd.bc.ca](mailto:msalmon@deltasd.bc.ca))

Grade 11 Mr. J. Day ([jday@deltasd.bc.ca](mailto:jday@deltasd.bc.ca))

Grade 12 Mr. H. Mian ([hmian@deltasd.bc.ca](mailto:hmian@deltasd.bc.ca))

### **Flexible Learning Time**

Our school day's instructional minutes are from 8:30am – 3:20pm with a designated Flexible Learning Time in session 3 every day. During this time, students can arrange to attend their Block A or Block B class for additional support, to complete homework, to complete assessments or make-up an assessment or assignment. For students with a support block, their support block teacher is also an option to support a student with their learning. Students will need to set up an appointment with their teachers to obtain this additional support. These appointments can be arranged during class time or through email.

If a teacher requests a student to attend their class for Flexible Learning Time, it is a mandatory requirement for the student to attend. We encourage parents to discuss the value of Flexible Learning Time with their child and encourage them to utilize this scheduled time to support their progress and learning in their 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 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 teachers' 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.

### **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.

## **Student Fees and Course Deposits**

The collection of Student Fees and Course Deposits will take place on Wednesday, September 30th and fees and deposits will be available for viewing on Parent Connect in the coming week. We would prefer that families use the online payment option through Parent Connect in the Fees section. We will be setting up a face-to-face payment option (preferably a cheque) and will communicate this option at a later date.

## **Reporting**

In our quarter system model, each quarter will consist of two formal reporting periods through a mid-quarter and final-quarter report card. In addition to these two formal report cards, teachers will be reaching out to parents informally (phone call, email, etc.) to communicate any concerns or struggles regarding students who are not meeting minimal expectations in their course. More information will be published in the coming days.

## **Collaboration Mornings (Wednesday Schedule)**

Every Wednesday in our Quarter schedule there is Collaboration Time for staff to engage in collaborative professional learning from 8:30am-9:30am. **Please do not drop students off early.** We ask that students arrive to school no earlier than 9:25am as the first session classes start at 9:40am. The link below provides you with the Quarter weekly schedule.

<https://se.deltasd.bc.ca/wp-content/uploads/sites/36/2020/09/SECONDARY-QUARTER-SCHEDULING-Full-Extended-Day-Option.pdf>

## **Student Drop Off and Pick Up**

In an effort to ensure Seaquam school grounds are safe for students to walk into the building, we ask that parents/guardians **DO NOT** drop off or pick up their children on school grounds. We ask that you arrange with your child to meet on Lyon Road. We will have staff members supervising these areas reminding those who forget where they may drop off or pick up. Thank you in advance for your cooperation on this matter.

## **Elementary School Gatherings**

Seaquam students should refrain from visiting our local Elementary Schools' grounds before 4:00 pm. In order to keep everyone in our community safe, we are asking parents to talk to their children about keeping away from Elementary School playgrounds until after 4:00 pm.

## **Parents/Legal Guardians Requesting Appointments**

If parents or caregivers need to contact the school Administration, grade Counsellor or a teacher, please contact the office by phone or email. In-person visits should only be for specific purposes and arranged in advance by appointment. Visitors must wear masks, be aware of and follow safety protocols and be limited in their access to necessary spaces only.

If you require support or are seeking answers, please contact teachers, counsellors, administrators or contact the office. We are here to help families and students.

Have a safe and enjoyable weekend.

Sincerely,

Rick Mesich  
Principal

Ian Close  
Vice Principal

Vlad Nikic  
Vice Principal