



September 2022

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 Indigenous 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 would like to extend a special welcome to our Graduating class of 2023 as they begin their final year at Seaquam. We hope you all had a safe, restful and relaxing Summer.

With August coming to a close, we turn our attention to the opening day of school on September 6th and the many details associated with the beginning of a school year. In addition to this letter, information regarding school start-up, student schedules, and general school information can be found on our school website:

<https://se.deltasd.bc.ca/> or [Seaquam.ca](https://seaquam.ca)

The Ministry of Education and the Public Health Office have yet to share with us protocols that we are to use to start the school year. Our plan is to start the year off with the similar protocols as we ended the year. Once we get more information and the Seaquam Occupational Health and Safety committee has met, we will make adjustments as warranted. We will communicate this with students and families in a timely manner.

Two years ago, the Seaquam Code of Conduct was updated. Our Code of Conduct Committee has developed an acronym (CARES – Communication, Accountability, Respect, Excellence, Safety) that resembles Seaquam's shared values and qualities. Students will be reintroduced to CARES on the first day and it will be incorporated into all aspects of our student's experiences throughout the year.

I am excited to welcome some of our new Staff members to our school community. They will enhance our academic and extra-curricular program for our students this year. Welcome to:

Ms. P. Bahai – Teacher, Science

Ms. E. Dyck – Educational Assistant, Modified Academics

Mr. A. Harvey – Teacher, GradQuest

Mr. A. Isaak – Teacher, English

Ms. A. Janda – Teacher, Seaquam Assist

Mr. B. Krampert – Teacher, Social Studies and Physical Education and Health

Ms. S. Mohsin – Educational Assistant,

Ms. D. Meyer, Educational Assistant,

Ms. P. Ness – Educational Assistant, Modified Academics

Ms. H. Sperry – Teacher, ADST

Mr. G. Ryall – Teacher, ADST

Ms. S. Tracey – Teacher, Cafeteria

Safety Measures

The updated safety guidelines continue to stress the importance of everyone taking responsibility to continue to practice personal prevention measures. As a reminder:

- Conduct Daily Health Checks
- Stay at home if you are not feeling well
- 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).
- Sneeze and cough into the crease of your elbow
- Respect others comfort levels regarding personal space
- Do not share food or drinks

Practicing these personal prevention measures will help reduce the risk of transmitting COVID and other communicable diseases in our community.

Ways to help set your child up for success in the upcoming 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.

Grade 8's

We are looking forward to welcoming you to Seaquam. On Friday, September 2 the building will be open for anyone in Grade 8 who wants to come and visit and explore the school. The time is from 9am – 11am. If you come please bring your schedule and start looking for your classes. We may have some senior students here help answer any questions. This is an optional activity. You will also have time on September 6 to explore.

Opening Day Schedule

On September 6th, students in grades 8-12 will come to school at their designated times to attend an assembly in the Theatre, go to Homeroom and get their school photos taken by Artona Studios in the cafeteria.

The student Homeroom classes are their A1 (Semester 1 Block A) class. Students will have access to their schedules in the Student Portal of MyEd by Friday, August 26. Students without a Semester 1 Block A class will meet in the Library for their Homeroom class. The schedule for September 6th will be:

Student Photos, Assembly and Homeroom:

Grade 9 – Meet in the Theatre at 9:30

Grade 10 – Meet in Home room (A1) at 9:30

Grade 11 – Meet in the Theatre at 11:10

Grade 12 – Meet in Home room (A1) at 11:10

Grade 8s

1:00-1:30

Grade 8 Assembly in Theatre

1:35-2:30

Grade 8 Photos and Home room (A1)

2:45	Grade 8 Group Photo in the Main Gym
3:00-4:00	Grade 8 – BBQ and school exploration

NOTE: Upon finishing their photos, Grade 8 students will have the opportunity to stay at Seaquam to get familiar with the building and then enjoy a BBQ at the south field (outdoor basketball courts).

Opening Week Schedule:

From September 8th to September 13th, we will be having a Homeroom class built into the schedule for attendance purposes. The schedules for these days will be:

Wednesday, September 7 and Friday, September 9 Day 1

8:30 – 9:50	Block A and <i>Homeroom</i>
9:55 – 11:15	Block B
11:15 – 11:50	LUNCH
11:55 – 1:15	Block C
1:20 – 2:40	Block D

Thursday, September 8 and Monday, September 12 Day 2

8:30 – 9:50	Block B
9:55 – 11:15	Block A and <i>Homeroom</i>
11:15 – 11:50	LUNCH
11:55 – 1:15	Block D
1:20 – 2:40	Block C

Student Access to MyEd Account

1. Go to <https://myeducation.gov.bc.ca/aspen/logon.do> or <https://myeducation.gov.bc.ca/aspen/logon.do?mobile=1>
2. Log in
3. If your account is disabled or you don't know the password please click on forget my password. They will send you a link to reset your password to your @deltalearns.ca account.

Parent Access to MyEd

Last June “guardian 1” began to have access to the parent portal. We are hoping that in the fall we will expand this to Guardian 2 and 3. Parents if you can remember how to log in, please follow the above but realize that if you reset your password it will be mailed to whatever email we have on file for you. If you need any help, please contact the office.

Seaquam Mobile App

All students are encouraged to use the Seaquam mobile app to keep their courses and activities organized throughout the year. 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/>

Student Schedules and Course Change Requests:

Starting the week before school begins the counsellors will be reviewing to this document to address student schedule concerns. They will not be accepting phone calls nor e-mails during that time. This form is the only means of making a request. PLEASE DO NOT SUBMIT DUPLICATE REQUESTS.

If Counsellors can make a change they will do so. Please check MyED to see if changes have been made. Counsellors will only contact Students if more information is required. Please be patient. Not all requests can/will be fulfilled because of the constraints existing in the schedule.

Changes to Students' timetables WILL NOT BE MADE for the following reasons:

- * Change of an elective unless it meets one of the priority requirements below
- * Specific teacher requests
- * Retaking a course to attempt to achieve a higher mark.

The following circumstances will be given priority for changes:

- * Date the form was submitted
- * Graduation requirements
- * Incomplete Timetables (does not have 8 classes)
- * Courses required for post-secondary applications

****NO CHANGES REQUESTS WILL BE TAKEN OR PROCESSED AFTER WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15****

Grade 12 Google Form - <https://forms.gle/L9fteekmQGjARLVA>

Grade 11 Google Form - <https://forms.gle/Q7S45S14EYkLHnZh8>

Grade 10 Google Form - <https://forms.gle/2nvmEs83unfKggqN18>

Grade 9 Google Form - <https://forms.gle/ASM3B1U5PDX1qZhs5>

Grade 8 Google Form - <https://forms.gle/45ndPnirSc1e6Job6>

Counsellors and Youth Care Worker

Below is the Counselling Department's grade allocation for the 2022-23 school year. Please feel free to contact them at 604-591-6166 or by email.

Counsellors

Grade 8	Mr. H. Mian (hmian@deltaschools.ca)
Grade 9	Mr. M. Arends (marends@deltaschools.ca)
Grade 10	Mr. Rickey (rickey@deltaschools.ca)
Grade 11	Mr. Sall (jsall@deltaschools.ca)
Grade 12	Ms. Costin (msalmon@deltaschools.ca)

Youth Care Workers

Marisa Amorelli (mamorelli@deltaschools.ca)

School Bell Schedule

Seaquam Secondary will continue with a semester system. Below is the bell schedule for the 2022 – 2023 school year. Students will have 4 courses each semester.

- We will offer a Day 1/Day2 format with a lunch break between periods 2 and 3.
- Approximately every second Wednesday, we will have a late start to facilitate a teacher Collaboration Time from 8:30 – 9:30am. Please check the website and school app.
- Flex time – this was a very successful last year and we have expanded it. There will be a flex block every Tuesday and Thursday between Block 1 and 2. All students are expected to sign up and attend a flex in one of the 4 classes they have each semester.

Semester Schedule Block Rotation

Day 1:

Day 2:

Period 1: Block A

Period 1: Block B

Period 2: Block B

Period 2: Block A

Period 3: Block C

Period 3: Block D

Period 4: Block D

Period 4: Block C

Collab Days

Sep 14 & 28

Feb 8 & 22

Oct 12 & 26

Mar 8

Nov 9 & 23

Apr 5 & 19

Dec 7

May 3 & 17 & 29

Jan 11 & 25

June 7

[illegible]

Athletics:

We are expecting a return to extra-curricular activities for the 2022-2023 school year. Mr. T. Clarke is our school's Athletic Director, point person, but there will be three other teachers helping to organize and facilitate athletics at Seaquam. The AD's will be providing information to students and our community regarding school athletic opportunities at Seaquam Secondary.

Student participation in these activities is an important part of a student's school experience. Participation in these activities are a privilege and students participating are expected to be in good standing as they represent our school community on the playing field and in various extracurricular events. More information will come out over the course of the year about the season of play and how to try out.

Flextime - Own Your Learning (see schedule blow)

Flex Time acknowledges that students lead busy lives and navigate competing demands for their time in and outside of school. Flex Time provides students the opportunity to self-direct and engage in their own learning. Flex times will occur every Tuesday and Thursday between Block 1 and 2

While some school-wide initiatives might occur during Flex Time, teachers will not be teaching new course material. Teachers will be accessible to students for additional help and guidance on current and ongoing learning. As this is school instructional time, students are expected to be in a classroom for the entire Flex Time period. Students will need to log into Student Connect to choose a class to sign up for. We encourage students to do this a week in advance.

Locks and Lockers

All lockers will be assigned to students who want one during their Homeroom (block A1) starting as early as Tuesday, September 6. Grade 8's will get a lock automatically and will be assessed for it. It will be part of their fee for the Grade 8 retreat. Those students in Grade 9-12 please bring your lock from last year. Those who need a new lock can buy one from the office for \$10. We recommend that families do not buy a lock out in the community. Sometimes the quality of those locks is not great. We provide a very high-quality combination lock and guarantee it will work for the whole time the student is with us at Seaquam. Remember, locker are property of the school.

Valuables in Gym Change rooms

Theft sometimes happens in the school gym change rooms. Please do not leave valuables unattended. Either lock them up in their hallway locker or a locker in the change rooms – you will need a second lock for changerooms. The school is not responsible for any thefts. We strive to have a safe and secure environment.

Protocol for Parent/Guardian Concerns at Seaquam Secondary

If parents/guardians have concerns about general school procedures or issues stemming from their child's classroom, there is a procedure for raising those concerns.

If the concerns originate in the classroom, the first and most important person to communicate those issues with is your child's teacher with a phone call, email, or by making an appointment to meet with the teacher. If in this discussion you continue to have unresolved concerns, then it is appropriate to be in contact with your child's counsellor.

If your concern is not addressed to your satisfaction after the counsellor has intervened, then please come directly to the administrator of your child's grade. If there is still an outstanding concern, contact the Principal.

We are always willing to speak with parents to explain how and why particular decisions have been made and to listen openly to suggestions that might make our school community a better place. We will do our best to work along with you to solve problems.

We want Seaquam to be a community that supports children's learning and nurtures the hearts of children and families. To maintain a positive working relationship, please follow the protocol as outlined above when difficulties arise. Sharing difficulties in more round about ways (eg. classroom e-mail lists, social media sites that are public forums or have open pages, or playground discussions, etc.) in isolation of school staff does not support a positive school community and in fact leads to misinformation and hard feelings.

It is imperative that we remain respectful in our interactions and solve problems in a way that benefits everyone. Our students are watching our examples.

Provincial Assessments

Numeracy 10 and Literacy 10 and 12 assessments will continue. These are graduation requirements. The assessments will likely take place in November, February, April and June. Information will be communicated in early October from the school.

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. **Please ensure you have provided us a current email address, updated all your contact information and are able to log into Parent Connect.** Please contact the office if you require assistance after reviewing the support documents on the school website – seaquam.com


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/>

PC-0000 | Version - 08.09.2017

 **Delta School District**
Inspired Learning

Parent Connect

Powered by CIMS

PopUps District Help

IMPORTANT INFORMATION Parent Connect is unavailable each night between 1:00-1:30 a.m. for backups. Also, for security purposes, Parent Connect does not allow saving the password on your computer. If you save the password, the sign on screen will just flash and you cannot sign on. You will need to remove the saved password from your browser setting before you can sign back into Parent Connect.

Email Address

Password

* case sensitive

Get Students

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.

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, Student Emergency Release, and GAFE (google apps for students)

Student Fees

Student fees for Semester 1 class will be assessed by the end of September – we will send a message to families. Fees can be viewed on Student/Parent Connect. Fees include a basic student fee, an Emergency Preparedness fee and in some cases, students may be assessed a course fee to cover the cost of consumable materials. Students may also choose to purchase optional 'enhancements' that support a course, ie workbooks, but are not required for course completion. Optional Yearbook fees will be assessed to all students. Field Trip fees will be added to students' fees. Fees can be paid three ways: on-line in Parent Connect (most preferred), using a debit/credit machine at the office or dropping off a cheque or cash. We will assess fees for Semester 2 classes at the end of February.

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 reusable workbooks 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. Notify the school by email seaquam.sec@deltaschools.ca (please include student name) or
2. Contact the school office by phone (604-591-6166) (please give student name and MyEd number) 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.

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. Natalie Dusanj will be our PAC Chair 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
Grade 12

Ian Close
Vice Principal
Grades 8 & 10

Vlad Nikic
Vice Principal
Grades 9 & 11