



September 16, 2022

Dear Families and Students,

It has been another busy week at Seaquam. Students seem to be settling in to their daily routine of classes. I am certainly noticing far fewer students seeming to be lost in the hallways. It is nice to see the creative flow of students in the hallways on their way to their next class. Our cafeteria space is open to all students to have lunch and it is being well used. School feels a little more like it did pre-pandemic. Flex will begin in full starting on Sept. 27 so that students will begin to be able to make choices about where they want to learn during that time. Sign up must be done on Student Connect (more details below).

Week 2 is done and I can't believe how fast it has gone. Please remember that Monday is a holiday and Friday is a Pro D day. We have a three-day week next week. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to reach out to me via phone or email.

### **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 ( <a href="mailto:hmian@deltaschools.ca">hmian@deltaschools.ca</a> )
Grade 9	Mr. M. Arends ( <a href="mailto:marends@deltaschools.ca">marends@deltaschools.ca</a> )
Grade 10	Mr. Rickey ( <a href="mailto:rrickey@deltaschools.ca">rrickey@deltaschools.ca</a> )
Grade 11	Mr. Sall ( <a href="mailto:jsall@deltaschools.ca">jsall@deltaschools.ca</a> )
Grade 12	Ms. Costin ( <a href="mailto:msalmon@deltaschools.ca">msalmon@deltaschools.ca</a> )

#### Youth Care Workers

Marisa Amorelli ([mamorelli@deltaschools.ca](mailto:mamorelli@deltaschools.ca))  
Roy Chen-Campbell ([rchenccampbell@deltaschools.ca](mailto:rchenccampbell@deltaschools.ca))

### **Grade 8 Retreat**

Seaquam values building community in our school environment as it's an integral part of our Seaquam C.A.R.E.S focus. We have created an opportunity for our new grade 8 students to build connections with each other, as a class and with our greater school community. One aspect of this community building is a Grade 8 retreat to Deas Island Park in Delta on Thursday, September 22. This adventure will be a team building experience led by Pinnacle Pursuits who specialize in bringing individuals together to complete a variety of challenges. These activities are sure to foster an appreciation for each team member's strengths, and increase the group's awareness of the importance of shared work and play within a team or community. Details, registration forms and costs will be delivered to students' and parents' inboxes early next week.

### **Grade 12 meeting**

Mr. Robinson, Ms. Costin and Ms. Gehier are meeting with all the grade 12's on Tuesday in the Theatre during flex. Topics will include: Grad, expectations, awards, Grad Boat Cruise, scholarships, taking care of self, etc. If you can't make the meeting, we will post the slides we spoke about **on the** Seaquam website and also send a PDF to families and Grads.

### **Cafeteria**

The Cafeteria is now open for full service. Right now it only accepts CASH, we hope for a tap machine soon. Come and check out the awesome food and service that is available at lunch. We will start publishing daily menus soon. They will appear on the Seaquam APP.

### **Vending Machine**

Seaquam does not own the vending machines. We have a contract with a company to maintain and fill them. If there is a problem, ie money is lost, students need to contact the vending company directly themselves and report an issue. Each machine has a clearly displayed phone number on it. Please do not come to the office to look for refunds.

### **Flextime - Own Your Learning**

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.

### **Career Centre**

Ms. Gehiere is back for the 2022-2023 school year and sends the following message:

The first scholarship of the year for **grade 12** students is now open - the Loran Award. **It** is valued at \$100,000 and is tenable at 25 universities in Canada. This year, students can apply to Loran directly **and** there is no longer a limit on the number of students who can apply, nor is a nomination required. The application deadline is October 12. Don't delay! Visit the following for full details (open to Canadian citizens and permanent residents):

<https://loranscholar.ca/becoming-a-scholar/>

Mini-Med School is back. There have been some changes to this as well. Grade 12 students are eligible to apply directly and will be chosen at random to participate. The application goes live on Monday, September 19, and will remain open until September 25:

<https://bcchr.ca/events/mini-med-school/mini-med-school-vancouver/mini-med-school-registration>

### **PAC**

Our first PAC meeting of the 2022-2023 school year is scheduled for Monday, September 26th, at 6:30 p.m. in the school library.

If you have any questions or concerns you wish to bring up before the meeting, please email [seaquampac@gmail.com](mailto:seaquampac@gmail.com).

Thank you and we look forward to seeing everyone at the meeting!

### **Drop off and Pick ups**

Families, please do not drop off your student in the school parking lots. This is a huge safety and organizational issue. Student safety is paramount. In the past, we have had near misses and students being hit by vehicles dropping off students in the parking lot. We also request that vehicles do not make a U turn on Lyon Road.

### **Families and students in financial need**

We realize that sometimes families struggle financially. The BC Government has created a Student and Family Affordability Fund and will be providing schools funds for this school year only to help students and families with school fees, school supplies, food security, and assorted other things. Please contact your child's counsellor or administrator if your family requires financial support. Discretion is paramount.

### **Communications with Families:**

Most of our communication will be done electronically through our website, weekly/monthly newsletters, emails, Seaquam App and Parent Connect. 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.

### **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)

### **COVID protocols**

With the risk of COVID-19 infection remaining high in B.C., it is critical that we each do our part to help reduce transmission by continuing to follow the latest health and safety protocols for K-12 schools: [Provincial Communicable Disease Guidelines for K-12 School Settings and BC Centre for Disease Control's Public Health Communicable Disease Guidance for K-12 Schools](#).

The best way to keep COVID out of our schools is to stay home if you are showing signs of illness. We strongly encourage you to complete a daily health check and not come to work if you are sick.

Also, we encourage you to:

- Get vaccinated. Vaccination protects from serious illness due to COVID-19 and is the most effective way to reduce the impact of COVID-19 on our communities.
- Wash and sanitize your hands often.
- Practice good respiratory etiquette.
- Respect the personal space of others.
- Respect the choice of staff and students who wear a non-medical mask or face covering throughout the day or for certain activities.

Follow all health and safety protocols issued by your site's Joint Health and Safety Committee. Regularly check the [District](https://www.deltasd.bc.ca/news-events/news/information-for-parents-guardians-novel-coronavirus/) website for updates - <https://www.deltasd.bc.ca/news-events/news/information-for-parents-guardians-novel-coronavirus/>

All of these measures are important to help protect ourselves and each other.

Staff who test positive for COVID-19 should follow the guidance on the BCCDC website as to how long they should self-isolate: <http://www.bccdc.ca/health-info/diseases-conditions/covid-19/if-you-have-covid-19>

### **Athletics**

Seaquam athletics is up and running. For the Fall Season we offer: Football, Cross-Country, Aquatics, Volleyball and Boys Soccer (Girls Soccer is in Spring). If your student/child is interested in playing in any of these activities, they need to make note of all tryout dates. Any parents looking to be involved with coaching? If so, please contact Mr. Todd Clarke (tclarke@deltaschools.ca).

For more information, please check out: [www.seaquamseahawks.com](http://www.seaquamseahawks.com)

### **Parent and Family opportunities**

"The Modern-Day Predator" was designed to provide education to Parents/Caregivers, School Administrators and Community Partners as a means for the prevention of sexual exploitation. This session provides tools to address issues like consent, creating healthy boundaries and grooming both online and in person

#### **This training will include:**

- An overview of sexual exploitation and human trafficking
- The different types of predators and their grooming methods
- Who is most vulnerable and why?
- Online exploitation: recent trends, what makes social media apps risky, grooming tactics, avoiding sextortion
- Signs of sexually exploited individuals
- Best practices for supporting individuals and gaining disclosures
- Relevant legislation, important resources and help tactics

<https://saferschoolstogether.com/tc-events/the-modern-day-predator-sep-28-2022/>

The event takes place on September 28, 2022, from 7-9pm and is \$29 a person.

## **Fall Parent Workshops.**

Family Smart would like to share their September and October virtual workshop dates for families - please see attached. "**Help for the Hard Times**" workshops are designed to support parents/caregivers whose child has had an inpatient stay or has had ER visits due to a mental health or substance use concern.

As parents ourselves, we know how difficult it can be to support a child after a mental health crisis and we want to help.

The workshops are FREE and registration is required: [www.familysmart.ca/workshops](http://www.familysmart.ca/workshops). Please find attached a poster with dates and info for the September and October sessions for the Fraser region.

If you have any questions or would like to connect one on one, please don't hesitate to contact us at [SurreyDeltaWhiteRock@familysmart.ca](mailto:SurreyDeltaWhiteRock@familysmart.ca).

### **Calendar events**

Sept 20 – Grade 12 assembly

Sept 22 – Grade 8 Retreat

Sept 23 - Pro D Day (no classes)

Sept 30 – National Day of Truth and Reconciliation (no classes)

Oct 4 - Squeak and Squawk music evening

Oct 5 - Grade 12 Parent Evening

Oct 10 – Thanksgiving (no classes)

Oct 14 - Interims posted, Grad Boat Cruise

Sincerely,

Mark Robinson, Principal    Ian Close, Vice Principal    Vlad Nikic, Vice Principal