

4615 - 51 Street, Delta, BC V4K2V8 604.946.4194 [deltasd.bc.ca/de](http://deltasd.bc.ca/de)

February 9, 2024

Dear Pacer Students & Families,

The first full week of semester two has been an eventful week at Delta Secondary. On Monday, we had the pleasure of welcoming a number of new international students who have joined us from various parts of the world for the start of semester two. This past Wednesday our Grad Council organized our Senior Semi-Formal Dance and it was a wonderful night of music, dancing and laughter with our sharply dressed grade 11 and 12 students.

February is also *Black History Month* and this year's theme is "Black Excellence: A heritage to celebrate; a Future to build." To help celebrate this month, our librarian Mrs. Loiselle has created some wonderful displays of books and literature to inform and educate students as we celebrate the accomplishments and contributions of Black Canadians. Please visit the [Black History Month link](#) for more information and ways to engage in this topic.

Lastly, we also want to wish all of our families who are celebrating Lunar New Year this weekend a Happy New Year. May the year bring you continued health and prosperity!

In addition to this letter, information regarding general school information can be found on our **school website**: <https://de.deltasd.bc.ca/>. Please see the important information items below:

### Important Dates:

- February 16<sup>th</sup> Non-Instructional Day (Pro-D District Day)
- February 19<sup>th</sup> Family Day (school closure)
- February 21<sup>st</sup> PAC Meeting, 6:30pm (Conference Room)
- February 22<sup>nd</sup> Grade 9 Immunizations
- February 22<sup>nd</sup> Grade 9 – 12 Course Planning Evening
- February 28<sup>th</sup> **Pink Shirt Day (wear pink in support of anti-bullying)**
- February 29<sup>th</sup> Grade 7 Parent Information Night (Course Planning)

### Keeping Kids Safe Online and In School:

We welcome the [BC Government's announcement last Friday](#) aimed at keeping kids and young adults safe from online threats, restrict the use of cellphones in schools and hold social media companies accountable.

The Delta School District already has an administrative procedure in place to cover the use of Personal Communication Devices ([Admin Procedure 145](#)) that provides guidance for schools and educators. In the coming months, the district expects to receive more detailed guidelines from the government regarding the restriction of students' cellphone use in schools. Once that information is received, the district will look at making any necessary changes for implementation at the start of the new school year in September.

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## **Semester 1 Report Cards:**

Semester 1 final marks were released to students and families on February 8<sup>th</sup>. Report Cards are viewable on the MyED student portal as well as on student and parent connect. If you have any questions or concerns regarding your child's progress, please reach out to the classroom teacher by email.

## **Semester 2 Student Schedules:**

*We will be very limited with the number of changes that we can make to a student's schedule due to timetable constraints.* Please have your child reach out to their counsellor through email for an appointment

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|--------------------------------------|---|
| • Last Name A – Che                  | Ms. Jamieson <a href="mailto:mjamieson@deltaschools.ca">mjamieson@deltaschools.ca</a> |
| • Last Name Cli - Lei                | Ms. Greene <a href="mailto:sgreene@deltaschools.ca">sgreene@deltaschools.ca</a>       |
| • Last Name Leo – Or & International | Ms. Rohwer <a href="mailto:erohwer@deltaschools.ca">erohwer@deltaschools.ca</a>       |
| • Last Name Os – Z                   | Ms. Gillis <a href="mailto:bgillis@deltaschools.ca">bgillis@deltaschools.ca</a>       |

## **Course Selection for the 2023 - 2024 School Year:**

Starting on February 23<sup>rd</sup> Delta Secondary will begin the process of course selection for the next school year. Counsellors will be presenting information during grade assemblies and following up at a later date to address student questions. **Students will complete course selection in MyED between February 23<sup>rd</sup> and March 8<sup>th</sup>.**

## **Course Information Night:**

Delta Secondary will be offering a course information night for parents and students currently in **Grade 8 – 11 on Thursday, February 22<sup>nd</sup>**. This **in-person presentation** will provide an overview of the course options for students to consider for next year as well as address any questions parents may have. A slide deck of the presentation will be available on our school website on February 26<sup>th</sup>.

## **Grade 9 Course Selection Presentation:** (For current Grade 8 students)

- **Date:** Thursday February 22<sup>nd</sup>
- **Time:** 7:00 – 8:30pm
- **Location:** DSS Learning Commons (Library)

## **Grade 10 – 12 Course Selection Presentation:** (For current Grade 9 – 11 students)

- **Date:** Thursday February 22<sup>nd</sup>
- **Time:** 7:00 – 8:30pm
- **Location:** DSS Genesis Theatre

*We are asking families to please be informed and involved through the course selection process—the courses selected determine what courses and how many sections of each course will be offered next year.*

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We want to ensure students take the time to pick the courses they are interested in and for our senior students, those needed for graduation and program requirements. More course selection material will be available on our website in February.

### **2024 - 2025 School Schedule – Hybrid:**

For the 2024-2025 school year, we will continue with our Hybrid Schedule – linear scheduling (September – June) for Grade 8 & 9 and semester scheduling (September – January & February to June) for Grade 10 – 12.

Guiding our decision making are the following values-based objectives with regards to the creation of a school structure (schedule):

- *Increased opportunities for student learning*
- *Student supports and receiving adequate support*
- *Manageable student workload*
- *Manageable staff workload*
- *Flexibility of learning*

As a school community, we see value in both linear and semester models to support students. We also see value in having consistency in our schedule and one that is familiar to students and staff. Over the coming months we will be reviewing our hybrid structures and look at any adjustments or refinements to provide the best learning opportunity for our students.

### **February is Black History Month:**

Delta School District is proud to celebrate Black History Month. The Learning Services team has curated various resources to help our staff and students celebrate, honour, explore and learn about Black History over the next few weeks and beyond. Please visit the district's [website](#) to access these resources, which include articles, videos and webcasts.

### **Pink Shirt Day February 28<sup>th</sup>:**

Please join us on Wednesday February 28<sup>th</sup> and wear the colour pink in support of anti-bullying. For more information regarding Pink Shirt Day and the origin of the story, please visit the [Pink Shirt Day website](#). We are encouraging all students to wear pink and help us raise awareness for anti-bullying initiatives and work towards creating a more kind, inclusive world that celebrates diversity and inclusion.

### **Pacer Athletics:**

On Monday evening our Senior Girls and Boys teams competed against South Delta Secondary in the annual Stebbings - Murray Cup. Despite our best efforts, the Sun Devils from South Delta won both games and this year's trophy. The boys do have a rematch vs South Delta on February 20<sup>th</sup> in one of their final league games before playoffs. Come support your Pacers!

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February signifies the start of playoffs for our basketball teams. **This Saturday February 11<sup>th</sup> at North Delta Secondary, our Grade 9 Boys will take on South Delta at 1:30pm and Junior Boys Basketball team will take on South Delta at 5:00pm for the Delta District Championship!** Please come out and support our student-athletes and cheer them on. Go Pacers Go!

Thank you to all our staff, parents and community coaches who are volunteering their time to coach and mentor our student athletes. For more information regarding athletics, please follow our teams on Instagram [@deltapacerathletics](https://www.instagram.com/deltapacerathletics)

### **Athletic Home Games**

Wednesday February 14<sup>th</sup>    \*\* Sr. Night - Sr. Girls (6:00pm) vs. NS & Sr. Boys (7:30pm) vs. RHS  
Thursday February 15<sup>th</sup>    Sr. Girls (6:30pm) vs. Tamanawis  
Tuesday February 20<sup>th</sup>    Sr. Boys (7:00pm) vs. South Delta

### **2024/2025 School Year Budget**

In preparation for development of the 2024/2025 budget, the Delta Board of Education is encouraging parents/caregivers, staff, partners, and rights-holders to share their priorities for the upcoming school year.

Following the release of the draft budget recommendations on April 18, the board will again invite feedback from parents/caregivers, staff, partners, and rights-holders.

Please [click here](#) to learn more about this year's consultation process and to access the first online [survey](#). The deadline for completing this survey is 12 noon on March 18, 2024.

### **Careers Education Newsletter:**

Please see the district's February Career Education Newsletter and the opportunities available to students and their families: <https://deltalearns.ca/careers/newsletters/>

### ***Highlights in this edition:***

1. **Education Planner BC:** Online session Feb 7, 2024 (register now)
2. **Financial Literacy Sessions:** One for parents and one for teens.

We wish you a relaxing and restful weekend. Please do not hesitate to contact us at the school if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

John Pavão,  
Principal  
Grade 12's

Mike Annandale,  
Vice Principal  
Grade 9 & 11's

Joanna Macintosh,  
Vice Principal  
Grade 8 & 10's