

4615 - 51 Street, Delta, BC V4K2V8 604.946.4194 deltasd.bc.ca/de

Friday August 26, 2022

Dear Pacer Families,

Welcome to the 2022 – 2023 school year! We hope this letter finds you well, rested and re-charged for the challenge and excitement of a new school year. Welcome back to our returning students and families, and a special welcome to our many new students and families as they prepare to take their first steps as part of our Pacer community! I would also like to extend a special welcome to our Graduating class of 2023 as they begin their final year of high school.

With August coming to a close, we turn our attention to the school start up and the many details associated with the beginning of a school year. Please click on the link for information regarding school start-up: [Getting Ready for the First Week](#). Over the course of the year, we ask that you please visit our school website to stay up to date with schedules, school announcements and other important information items: <https://de.deltasd.bc.ca/>

The Ministry of Education and the Public Health Office have yet to share with us protocols that we are to use to the start of the school year. Our plan is to start the year off with protocols we used at the end of the year and will continue to communicate our protocols and procedures with our families when new information is received.

Our **My School Day App** (Pacer Agenda APP) is also available on Apple's iTunes or Google's Play Store. After downloading the app click on Region (British Columbia) > School District (Delta #37) > School (Delta Secondary) to get this year's **Agenda and School Calenda of Events**. *Allow Push Notifications and Allow Reminders in order to receive important school information.*

Below is some detailed information regarding school start up, student schedules, the opening week and this year's bell schedule:

Opening Day Schedule – Tuesday September 6th:

Students will be arriving for homeroom for attendance, to pick up schedules, school information and other items for the upcoming school year.

- **New International Students Orientation & Homeroom** **8:30am – 10:30am**
 - *Students should meet Mrs. Lalonde & Ms. Wiens in the Genesis Theatre*

- **Grade 9 – 12 Orientation & Homeroom Class** **9:30am – 10:30am**
 - *Students should attend their homeroom class*
 - *Homerooms can be found on MyED once published*
 - *Homeroom Lists will be posted in the front entrance on opening day*

- **Grade 8 Orientation & Homeroom** **11:00am – 12:30pm**
 - *Students should meet Mr. Annandale in the East Gym*
 - *Student Welcome & Orientation*

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School Bell Schedule (Semester Schedule):

Delta Secondary will continue with a semester schedule for the 2022 – 2023 school year, where students will be taking four classes each day per semester.

- We will offer a Day 1/Day2 format and classes will be 70 minutes in length with a 35-minute FLEX Block between Period 1 & 2 and a 40-minute lunch break between periods 2 and 3.
 - **FLEX Time is 35 minutes of instructional time** built between period 1 & 2 to support students in the following ways:
 - Receive additional support and assistance from their teacher
 - Complete assignments or tasks pending due to absence
 - Additional practice and review to build fundamental skills
 - Independent Study and review for upcoming assessments
 - Passion Projects and Inquiry in one of their areas of study
 - Students will be required to sign up in advance for FLEX Time with one of their teachers. *More information will be shared with students at their grade assembly.*

- *Every Wednesday, classes will start at 9:30am to support teacher Collaboration.* Wednesday classes will be 65 minutes in length with a 40-minute lunch break between period 2 and 3. There is NO FLEX Block on Wednesdays

Sample Daily Bell Schedule:

Period	Time	Day 1's	Day 2's	Wednesday Schedule	
1	8:30 – 9:40am	Block A	Block B	8:30 – 9:30am	Teacher Collaboration
FLEX	9:45 – 10:20am	FLEX Block	FLEX Block	Period 1	9:30 – 10:35am
2	10:25 – 11:35am	Block B	Block A	Period 2	10:40 – 11:45am
Lunch	11:35 – 12:15pm	Lunch Break	Lunch Break	Lunch Break	11:45- 12:25pm
3	12:20 – 1:30pm	Block C	Block D	Period 3	12:30 – 1:35pm
4	1:35 – 2:45pm	Block D	Block C	Period 4	1:40 – 2:45pm

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Important September Dates:

- September 1st Grade 8 Open House (1:00 – 3:00)
 - Grade 8 schedule pick-up and scavenger hunt
- September 6th Opening Day of School
 - *New International Students (8:30am – 10:30am)*
 - *Grade 9 – 12 Homeroom (9:30am – 10:30am)*
 - *Grade 8 Homeroom & Orientation (11:00am – 12:30pm)*
- September 21st First PAC Meeting (7:00pm, DSS Learning Commons)
- September 22nd School Photo Day (Artona Photography)
- September 23rd Non-Instructional Day (Professional Development)
- September 30th Statutory Holiday – Day of Truth & Reconciliation

Student Schedules:

Students will receive their schedules on the first day of school. These will be handed out during their homeroom class on September 6th. **Student schedules will also be available on MyED starting September 2nd.**

Student MyED accounts will be reactivated by the district on Friday September 2nd and students will then be able to view their schedule. Student access MyED, click on the following link: <https://myeducation.gov.bc.ca/aspen/logon.do> *If your child's account is disabled or they don't know the password please click on forget my password. A link to reset the password will be sent to the students @deltalearns.ca email account.*

We are currently working with counsellors to address students with incomplete schedules before the start of the school year. *****If a student has an incomplete schedule, they are asked to email their counsellor and book an appointment.**

Course Change Requests:

Once timetables are released, if you require a course change, please click on the following **Course Change Request Link:** <https://forms.gle/7sM6SoZVFyCmqPKdA>

We will be very limited with the number of changes that we can make to a student's schedule due to timetable constraints. We have done our best to balance our semester 1 and semester 2 courses to ensure students have both academic and elective classes in each semester.

For all other inquiries (not course requests) please contact your child's counsellor:

- | | | |
|------------------------------------|-------------------|--|
| • Last Name A – Cli | Mr. Lalli (W/R/F) | hlalli@deltaschools.ca |
| • Last Name Clo - Li | Ms. Greene | sgreene@deltaschools.ca |
| • Last Name Lj – O & International | Ms. Rohwer | erohwer@deltaschools.ca |
| • Last Name P – Z | Ms. Gillis | bgillis@deltaschools.ca |

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Communications with Families:

Most of our communication will be done electronically through our website, monthly newsletters, emails 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 permission forms on Parent Connect for you to review and authorize. **Please login to Parent Connect, review the notices and select the appropriate response for each form. It is mandatory that all forms be reviewed and responded by each student's parent/guardian by September 30th.** Forms for review include:

- *Personal Information Consent Form, Outside Media in Schools, Electronic Communications, Walking Field Trip Permission, BC Fruits and Vegetables Program Permission, Demographic Information, and Student Emergency Release*

Student Fees:

Student Fees will be assessed during Semester 1 and Semester 2 once class changes have been made. 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 but are not required for course completion. Yearbook fees will be assessed to all students. We are encouraging parents to pay fees online using Parent Connect.

Extracurricular Activities:

We are expecting a return to extra-curricular activities for the 2022 – 2023 school year. Mr. Andrew Robson is our school's Athletic Director and he will be providing information to students and our community regarding school athletic opportunities. If any parents are looking for opportunities to coach this upcoming season, please contact Mr. Robson by email arobson@deltaschools.ca.

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.

PAC (Parent Advisory Council)

This year's PAC Chair is Mr. Wayne Manary. PAC typically does not organize fundraising events and Delta Secondary's PAC meetings take place in the evening, approximately once per month (3rd Wednesday of the month in our learning commons).

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School PAC's provide feedback and input to the school administration and play an integral role in supporting extracurricular programs and student lead legacy projects and initiatives.

All parents, especially our new Grade 8 parents are invited to join our PAC. For more information, please visit the DSS PAC website: <https://deltasecondaryschool.wordpress.com/>
Our first PAC meeting will take place Wednesday September 21th at 7:00pm in our Learning Commons. More information will come out closer to the meeting date.

Ways to help set your child(ren) up for success in the school year:

- Set high expectations for your child(ren) and encourage them to not accept minimum effort or indifference to quality work;
- Contact teachers directly when you have a question regarding your child(ren)'s progress;
- Ensure good attendance (attendance can be viewed on Parent Connect);
- Provide a quiet place in your home for study with few distractions;
- Insist that your child(ren) accept responsibility for their learning and their conduct;
- Model the importance of life-long learning and inquiry;
- Encourage a strong work ethic and promote good time management skills;
- Encourage regular review and application of learning to develop foundational skills;
- Encourage your child(ren) to maintain healthy eating (breakfast, lunch, and healthy snacks) and sleeping habits (8+ hours of sleep minimum)

We are excited for the upcoming school year as we slowly work towards a return to the expectations we have experienced before the pandemic but know this year will likely also be different in many ways. We are working as hard as we can to ensure a successful start and a smooth start-up for our school community. If you continue to have questions that need further clarification, please do not hesitate to contact us at the school.

Sincerely,

John Pavão,
Principal
Grade 12's

Margaret Callander,
Vice Principal
Grade 8's & 10's

Mike Annandale,
Vice Principal
Grade 9's & 11's