

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

May 28, 2021

Dear Pacer Families and Students,

Entering the final week of May, we are down to the final four weeks of our 2020 – 2021 school year and students and staff are working hard to get to the finish line. Please continue to encourage your child(ren) to keep up their learning, stay engaged, utilize the Flexible Learning Time to support their learning and enjoy the last four weeks of school before we break for summer.

Thank you all for the efforts up until now and your patience through this unprecedented time. Let's continue to meet and exceed the safety standards until we can all be safe. Please see the important information items and reminders below:

Upcoming Events:

- May 31 - June 4 "Grad Recognition Spirit Week"
- June 8 Grad Celebration/Production Date (GradsBC Event)
- June 8 Transition/"I-Day" (no classes in-session)
- June 24 Last Day of Quarter 4 In-person Instruction
- June 25 Transition/"I-Day" (no classes in-session)
- June 25 "Awards Day Celebrations". (more information to come later)
- June 29 Quarter 4 Final Report Cards on MyED/Connect

Reporting and Assessment:

Quarter 4 mid-term report cards were released to families on May 27th. Report Cards are viewable on students MyEd portal and Parent Connect. If you are unable to view your child's report card, please contact the school for assistance on how to access the report card. *If you have any concerns about your student's progress, please contact the teacher directly via email. A reminder that students have the opportunity for support and assistance every day from 1:30pm – 2:10pm during Flexible Learning Time.*

2021 – 2022 School Calendar & Schedule:

On May 31st, you will be receiving a separate letter that will indicate our 2021 -2022 school calendar which will outline days in session, non-instructional days, reporting periods and other important dates for your planning.

This year, schools had to be able to pivot or adjust their schedule based on COVID-19 cases and, we foresee a similar situation for the next school year. In preparation for the return to classes in the fall, the Province's COVID-19 education steering committee will work with public health officials to update safety guidelines. We will share further information as soon as we receive it.

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After many consultations with the district, the Ministry and other secondary schools around schedules and structures that best support student learning and teachers in their role as instructors, *Delta Secondary will be running a semester schedule for the 2021 – 2022 school year.*

The school year will be broken down into two semesters. Each semester will comprise of four blocks, where students will be attending four 80-minute classes per day with a school day running from 8:30am – 2:45pm on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. *On Wednesdays, we will once again have a later start to support the district initiative of Teacher Collaboration Days.* Students will begin class at 9:30am on Wednesdays and end at 2:45pm.

Below is a sample daily schedule of our semester system model for the next school year—we will alternate between a Day 1 and Day 2 schedule with morning blocks (Block A & B) and afternoon blocks (Block C & D) alternating over the course of a semester.

	Day 1	Day 2	Wednesday
8:30am – 9:50am (80 min)	Block A	Block B	8:30-9:25 Collab (alternating weeks) (55 min) Period 1 9:30am - 10:37am (67 min)
9:55am - 11:15am (80 min)	Block B	Block A	Period 2 10:42am - 11:48am (66 min)
11:15am - 12:00pm (45 min)	Lunch / Nutrition Break	Lunch / Nutrition Break	Lunch 11:48am - 12:28pm (40 min)
12:00pm - 1:20pm (80 min)	Block C	Block D	Period 3 12:28pm - 1:34pm (66 min)
1:25pm – 2:45 pm (80 min)	Block D	Block C	Period 4 1:39pm - 2:45pm (66 min)
3:00pm – 4:15pm	Block X / After school / Year Long Courses (same as before COVID)		

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At this time, there is no plan for a Flexible Learning Block as teachers will be looking to utilize their instructional minutes to support students. Now that our daily schedule has been confirmed, staff and administration will be using the rest of the school year to plan, structure and organize support structures for students who in previous years would have received a learning assistance block or a support block with one of our district programs (Grad Quest, Supportive Learning, Modified Academics, Life Skills, Alternate). More information will be coming out before the end of the school year as we continue to finalize the details of our semester system for next year.

School Fees

Before the end of June, I would encourage families to see if they have any outstanding balances for their students' fees. You can check balances and make payments on Parent Connect. Another option for payment is to write a cheque to the school or use a debit card at the school. Clearing up school fees is an important thing to take care of by the end of the year. *If students have bought yearbooks and they have outstanding fees, we will not release the yearbook until those fees are taken care of.* If there are any financial hardship requests, please contact me directly and we can see if we can help come to a solution that works for all of us.

Staff Email:

The Delta School District is moving all staff to Microsoft Outlook and Teams. This process has now been completed at Delta Secondary. The District's move to Microsoft should have minimal impact on families, but you will start to see a different ending to staff's email addresses – **going forward, staff email addresses will end with @deltaschools.ca**. The structure of the front part of the email address is exactly the same, i.e., first initial last name – jpavao@deltaschools.ca

If you send something to @deltasd.bc.ca it will be forwarded to the @deltaschools.ca mailbox. This forwarding will last until the end of our current school year. Students will not be affected at all as Delta is keeping Google and @deltalearns.ca as the primary platform for students.

From now until the end of June, we encourage you to be a VISIONARY HERO. We hope to get as many voices as possible in the conversation about how we will shape our future together. Here are a few ways you can add your voice:

1. Parents - Participate in our parent survey (deadline June 11)
<https://wsurveys.com/DeltaVision2030Parent/>
2. Students - Participate in our student survey (deadline June 8)
<https://wsurveys.com/DeltaVision2030Student/>
4. Everyone - Post on the Kudoboard
<https://www.kudoboard.com/boards/XxehA2pf>
5. Everyone - Send us an email with your thoughts to ctucker@deltaschools.ca

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COVID Update:

On May 25, the Government launched a restart plan to safely bring people back together. Learn more here: <https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2021PREM0037-001008>. This is extremely welcome news, but to help keep COVID-19 cases low, we must all continue to follow the recommendations from the PHO.

A quick reminder that Fraser Health and the Provincial Health Officer set the protocols for us to follow as a school. Please keep yourself up to date. Changes are constantly happening depending on the information that they have. Keep safe and well.

Health and Safety Protocols:

Last week, the Province was able to accelerate its vaccine roll-out with the increases in the number of vaccines received by the Province.

Dr. Henry also announced that the Province will start vaccinating youth 12 and over, with the hope of completing the first dose by the end of June. While this has been welcome news for our entire community, it is imperative that we continue to be diligent and follow all Provincial Orders.

NEW FRASER HEALTH CONTACT NUMBER:

The Fraser Health Authority has now created a dedicated telephone line for the school COVID-related inquiries. **The new number to call for advice regarding COVID-19 symptoms is 604-587-4769.** This number replaces 8-1-1 for COVID-related advice.

Collection Sample Kits in Schools:

Recently, our school received collection sample kits to help make testing for COVID-19 easier and faster for students and their families. The kits come with detailed instructions for parents on how to collect the sample. Samples are to be taken at home and dropped off at a Life Labs location within 24 hours, not at the school.

The collection sample kits will be given to any student that starts to exhibit COVID-19 symptoms while at school if the parent/guardian wants one. We recognize that not all parents will be able to drop off a kit at a Life Labs location in a timely manner, or some parents may prefer to take their child to a testing location.

All parents are encouraged to continue to monitor their children daily for COVID-19-like symptoms using the [Daily Health Check](#), and to keep them home if they show signs of illness.

Informing the School of COVID-Related Health Issues:

In the event that a family experiences testing protocols, or a self-isolation notice related to the COVID-19 virus, we are requesting that families contact the school to inform us. We would like to centralize the collection of this information so that we can effectively follow up as necessary in an effort to keep our community safe. Please call 604-946-4194 or email deltasecondary@deltasd.bc.ca

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DSS Alliance Club – Information Video:

Ms. Munns and our Alliance Club are working on a video project to share with the greater school staff around identifying supports and initiatives that support LGBTQ+ students. The Alliance Club is putting a call out to parents to share their supports and thoughts around supporting students and addressing any issues LGBTQ+ students may want staff to become better informed of. If you would like to contribute a short message, please contact Ms. Munns at amunns@deltalearns.ca.

Summer Learning in the Classroom is Back: (Summer School)

The Delta School District is once again offering a variety of courses for students residing in Delta in grades 8 – 12 this summer. To view what is available please go to our Summer Learning page here:

- <https://www.deltasd.bc.ca/programs/continuing-education/summer-school-registration/>

Restart Plan & School Events (Graduation):

The Province's [restart plans](#) are for public events and households only and do not apply to education settings. The guidelines for schools remain the same as we currently have under stage 2 of the K-12 Education Restart Plan. The Ministry of Education has been clear that graduation ceremonies will continue under the guidelines recently published, COVID-19 Planning Resource – Graduation.

We recognize that this year is not how our grads envisioned their final year, and that this is a significant milestone for our students, their families and our staff. We're committed to making these year-end ceremonies meaningful for students and families, while at the same time being consistent with the PHO Gathering and Events Order and the K-12 Health & Safety Guidelines, and balancing the comfort level and needs of our students and their families.

We promise to do our very best to make your grad shine on their June 8th Virtual Commencement Day. We hope you take the opportunities under the new guidelines to celebrate your child at home as well with our June 25th premiere launch.

Thank you to our entire Pacer school community for your continued support. Please contact the school if you have any questions. Continue to stay healthy and well!

Sincerely,

John Pavão,
Principal, Grade 12

Mike Annandale,
Vice Principal, Grade 8 & 10

Maggie Callander,
Vice Principal, Grade 9 & 11