

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

November 17, 2020

Dear Pacer Families,

Today marks the official end of Quarter 1 and for many students today is a preparatory day or turn around day in preparation for tomorrow's start of Quarter 2. By now, students should have seen their schedule through their MyED accounts, and students taking a Grade 11/12 level course should have received an email through their @deltalearns.ca account from their Block A teacher indicating what days they will be attending their "hybrid class". A reminder that once the second quarter has started and a student has attended a class, they are part of that learning group and no scheduling changes can occur until the end of the quarter.

Below are some additional items for your information:

DSS Cares—20 Years of Helping the Community:

For more than twenty years, Delta Secondary students, school staff and families have been involved in gathering food, gifts and gift cards for families in need of a little extra support during the holidays. This "hands on" experience has really emphasized the importance of community and has provided a powerful example of what we can do when we all work together. It has become a wonderful holiday tradition. Even retired staff and former students contact the school to see how they can continue to contribute.

Each year we have managed to be more and more successful in helping members of our community. Last year, we managed to gather thousands of food items, hundreds of gifts and over \$7,000 in gift cards. This year, we know that many families are in need of our support due in part to the challenges they have faced as a result of the current pandemic. We are ready to take on this challenge! This year we are aiming to help out 25 local families by providing food and gift hampers for them. Things will look a little different this year, but we will not let the pandemic stop us. We have many who are ready and willing to help, including Student Government and the Interact Club.

We are looking to start this campaign tomorrow and are calling it *Twenty Days of Giving*. Donations will be collected from November 18th to December 7th. We are looking for non-perishable food items as well as gift card or cash donations. During this time period, donations will be collected by Block B teachers. We are also planning a drive thru food drive for December 1st and more information will be coming out to parents. Please help us to help others.

Thank you

Ms. Blatz, "DSS Cares" Organizer.

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

COVID-19 Safety Reminders:

As you are aware, the number of people contracting COVID is on the rise and this is particularly the case in the Fraser Health region. With the start of Quarter 2, teachers will be reviewing our Safety Protocols, Procedures and Expectations with our students as we continue to message around the importance of following the basic health measures of regular handwashing, practicing physical distancing, wearing a mask when in public, staying at home when ill and avoiding large gatherings. We will be emphasizing the role we each play in our collective effort to flatten the curve and keep our school community and the wider community safe.

We are asking families to help us reinforce the messaging we have been sharing with our students:

- Completing the [Daily Health Check](#) and staying home if you are not feeling well or exhibiting any symptoms;
- **Wearing a mask is required when:**
 - Entering the building and moving through common areas such as hallways;
 - Keeping a physical distance of 2 metres from people outside their learning cohort is not possible—this includes school grounds and, in the community,
- Washing hands or using sanitizer before entering the building or a classroom;
- Not sharing food or snacks with peers and friends;
- Remembering to “Be kind, be calm, be safe” to others.

Informing the School of COVID Related Health Issues:

In the event that a family experiences testing protocols related to the COVID-19 virus, we are requesting that families contact an administrator to inform us of the testing results as soon as possible. We would like to centralize the collection of this information, so we can effectively follow up to keep our community safe. We will inform teachers that your child will be absent and begin the process of continuity of learning while they are away.

We would request that families do not contact the school for advice on whether to send your child(ren) to school or not. Please conduct the Daily Health Check or call 811 for advice as our office staff or administrators cannot provide advice on this topic.

To contact an administrator, please call the Main Office at 604-946-4194 or email the appropriate grade administrator:

Mr. J. Pavão, (Grade 12)	jpavao@deltasd.bc.ca
Mr. M. Annandale (Grade 8 & 10)	mannandale@deltasd.bc.ca
Ms. M. Callander (Grade 9 & 11)	mcallander@deltasd.bc.ca

Thank you in advance for your cooperation on this matter.

For additional information on COVID-19 School Exposures: <https://www.fraserhealth.ca/health-topics-a-to-z/coronavirus/school-notifications-.X5s1G62-Lwc>

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

Fraser Health Contract Tracing

As shared in the district letter to parents and guardians last week, Fraser Health will reach out directly to families if they think their child has come into close contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19, and will ask them to take specific action, such as go for a COVID test or self-isolate. In case of COVID exposures at our school, we encourage you to answer phone calls, even if they are from an unknown number, as this will greatly assist Fraser Health with its contact tracing process.

Upcoming (November) Events:

- November 18th – Start of Quarter 2 Classes (schedules on MyED)
- November 18th – Start of our “DSS Cares” & *20 Days of Giving* Campaign
- November 25th – Quarter 1 Final Report Cards posted November 25th on MyED
- November 30th – Non-Instructional Day, no school in session
- December 1st – DSS Cares Drive Thru Food Drive, 3:00 – 6:00pm

Pacer Wear Pick Up:

Our Pacer Wear has arrived! Students who ordered clothing items through our online store will be able to pick up their items from Mrs. Callander from Tuesday November 17th – Friday November 20th from 1:30 – 3:30pm outside our conference room located beside the main office. If possible, we are asking students to bring their student ID card and a copy of their sales invoice to make pick up more time efficient.

Focusing on the Positive

As you may have seen on the [district's website](#) and social media channels already, over the coming weeks we will be sharing some brief suggestions, tips and activities to help promote feelings of warmth, joy and gratitude.

Did you know that kindness is about the only thing in the world that doubles when you share it? I encourage you to take two minutes to watch this [interesting video](#) from the Random Acts of Kindness Foundation on the science of kindness.

In closing, we want to thank you for your continued patience and support during these times. If you continue to have questions as to which option is best for your child(ren), please do not hesitate to contact us at 604-946-4194.

Sincerely,

John Pavão,
Principal, Grade 12

Mike Annandale,
Vice Principal, Grade 8 & 10

Maggie Callander,
Vice Principal, Grade 9 & 11