



DELTA SECONDARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

February Newsletter

Course Selection Parent Presentations

We have been happy to welcome in our DSS families for our Course Selection Presentations. DSS hosted families with kids going into Gr. 9-12 on February 20th and last evening welcomed families of our 2030 Grad class. All information presented from our team is available on the [DSS Website-Course Planning](#).

DSS Elementary Band Concert

On Tuesday, February 25th our DSS Band program welcomed students in Gr. 6 & 7 for a performance from our senior band students. This is an opportunity to show off the talent at DSS and promote the program to students coming into the school over the next couple of years.



Thank you to Ms. Campbell and our band students for providing this opportunity.

Dear DSS Families,

We hope our families continue to be well. I can't believe that we are only 2 weeks away from the start of Spring Break. I know that students and staff are looking forward to the upcoming break. We hope that families use this time to reconnect and recharge before returning for our final push to the end of the year.

This letter contains some important school updates and information as we head into our Spring Break closure.

Parent Teacher Interviews-March 11th

On Tuesday, March 11th DSS will be welcoming families into the school for in-person Parent Teacher Interviews. This is one avenue for staff to communicate Informal Reports prior to the release of our next Written Update. The sign-up system for PTI's is currently open and will close on Monday, March 3rd to align with our informal reporting window. When booking please ensure you try and leave yourself 5 minutes between sessions. Any families that are unable to secure an in-person meeting with staff will receive an informal report through one of the other tools. If you still want to connect with staff please contact the teacher directly by email.

March 11th Early Dismissal Schedule:

Block B2	8:30 - 9:30 (60 Mins)
Block A2	9:35 - 10:35 (60 Mins)
Nutrition Break	10:35-10:50
Block D2	10:55 - 11:55 (60 Mins)
Block C2	12:00- 1:00 (60 Mins)

Expression of Interest: DSS PAC

Dear Pacer Families,

The PAC needs your help! We must fill the roles of Chairperson on the PAC executive in order to receive the 2025-2026 gaming grant of about \$25,000, money that gets allocated to school projects, programs, and events that DSS teachers and administration put forward.

Please consider putting your name forward to fill one of the roles on the PAC executive so that we can continue to have a PAC at DSS. **In particular, we are in need of a Chairperson for the 2025-2026 year.** The time commitment is minimal: one meeting (60-90 mins) per month for 8 months, and about an hour per month of additional 'administrative' time.

Click: [Expression of Interest DSS PAC](#) where you can put your name forward on this form no later than April 14, 2025. You can also come to one of the PAC meetings (next meeting is April 16, 2025 at 6:30 pm, in the DSS Conference Room 1584) and if you're feeling inspired while there, you can nominate yourself at the meeting for a role on the PAC Executive.

Thank you for considering this opportunity, and we look forward to your involvement.

DSS PAC Executive



Informal Reports-March 3rd-March 14th

In the fall DSS communicated an updated reporting schedule. These dates are also available on the school website. Next week DSS teaching staff will be completing informal reports for all students. The windows for staff to complete informal reports is between March 3rd-March 14th. Informal reporting will be done through email, phone calls, paper interims or in person at PTI's on March 11th. Informal reports will be completed for all students and focus on engagement and work habits through the start of the 2nd semester for Gr. 10-12's and continued engagement for Gr. 8's & 9's in linear classes. Interims are meant to communicate concerns while providing sufficient time for students to turn things around prior to the release of our Written Learning Update in late April where a students academic standing will be communicated.

Course Selection-2025/2026

DSS is well underway in our process of course selection for the 2025-2026 school year. Counsellors have presented information to students in flex, and students are now able to complete course selection in MyED which was opened on February 20th. DSS also welcomed families of students going into Gr. 9-12 into the school for a Course Planning Parent presentation on February 20th. All student and parent presentations can be found under [Course Planning](#) on the DSS website.

All students selecting courses between Feb. 20th and March 7th have equal opportunity to receive the courses they have selected. The system does not work on a 'first come, first serve basis'. All students must complete their course selection before the system closes on March 7th. Any student that needs their MYED reset can scan the QR code posted outside of the office and accounts will be reset within 24 hours (excluding weekends).

We are asking families to be informed and involved through the course selection process. 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. If you have any questions regarding course selection, please contact your child's counsellor.

DSS Athletics

February was another successful month as our basketball teams competed in playoffs. Grade 8 Girls basketball were the bright spot finishing 2nd in delta and 4th in the South Fraser, earning our first grade 8 girls provincial berth in 17 years. The Grade 8 girls now head to Chilliwack to play in the Goulet Grade 8 Championships at GW Graham Secondary.

Congratulations to the senior boys and senior girls athletes that concluded their careers as Pacers. We thank everyone for their efforts these past 5 years and wish you the best of luck moving forward. We want to thank all our staff and community volunteer coaches that provided these opportunities for our student athletes

Delta Secondary captured their first BC School Sports Wrestling medal, with Gaurav Nijjar bringing home the gold in the 41 kg division. Gaurav had an excellent tournament as he went undefeated on the weekend en route to his gold medal.

Athletics will shift focus as we move into the spring season. Please look out for tryout dates as our soccer (girls), rugby, badminton, golf, track and field, and ultimate Frisbee seasons will get underway. We are still looking for coaches/volunteers for teams, if you are interested in getting involved please let us know!

Check out the Delta Pacer Athletics Website for updates

<https://www.deltapacerathletics.ca/>

DSS PAC Bylaws

DSS Families,

Your PAC Executive has spent the past several weeks reviewing and amending the DSS PAC Constitution and Bylaws. This document had not been changed since 2007. The Bylaw requires a written notice be sent to all PAC members for review 30 days prior to voting. Please take some time to look through the amendments in this document highlighting all the changes proposed: [2025 Constitution and Bylaws- Redlined](#)

If you have any questions or comments, you can send them to dsspac@live.ca or attend our next PAC meeting 16 April 2025 at 6:30pm in the school conference room (Rm 1584).

Spring Break School Closure- March 17th-28th

Our two week Spring Break runs from Monday, March 17th- Friday, March 28th, with classes returning on Monday, March 31st. Over the break custodians will be on site between 8:00-3:00. The DSS office will be open sporadically over Spring Break. Please call the school ahead of time if you require assistance from the DSS office.

School Fees- Outstanding Fees and Semester 2 Enhancement Fees

Every year a general school fee is assessed as well as enhancement fees in a number of courses. As we begin second semester enhancement fees for semester 2 courses have now been assessed. Fees owed by your child according to the courses in which they are enrolled will be viewable on Parent Connect. Any unpaid fees from semester 1/linear courses are also currently available online. Fees are payable online using Parent Connect or by cheque, cash, or card at the DSS office. If paying by cash or cheque at the office, please include your child's name and grade. Delta Secondary is committed to ensuring that no student is denied the opportunity to participate in a course, class or program because of financial hardship. Any family requiring assistance with school fees are asked to contact Mr. Vasconcelos (kvasconcelos@deltaschools.ca).

Grad Info and Dates

Registration for Dry Grad 2025 is open

Please visit the DSS Dry Grad website www.dssdrygrad.com to download the Registration Package. There you will find details and instructions on the registration process and additional information about Dry Grad and Red Carpet.

Complete forms can be dropped off in person in the Dry Grad mailbox which sits on the counter in the DSS Office, or they can be mailed to the school. Registration forms are due back by **April 15th 2025**.

DSS Dinner Dance

Following the red carpet we will be holding our 2025 Dinner Dance at Tsawwassen Springs.

Date: Friday, May 30th
Approx. Cost: \$150
Ticket Sales: TBD

Commencement

Date: June 24th
Location: South Delta Baptist Church
Cost: Grad fee already collected through school fees
More information on Grad events will be sent out to families following the break. If you have any questions regarding grad events or require financial assistance with purchasing tickets please contact your child's counsellor or email me at kvasconcelos@deltaschools.ca

Gr. 9 Immunizations- March 5th

On Wednesday March 5th, the Fraser Health Nurses will be coming to Delta Secondary to provide immunizations to Grade 9 students.

In addition to immunizing grade 9 students, this year we will be offering immunizations to grade 8, 10, 11, and 12 students who had a letter mailed to their home. If you received a letter in the mail and would like your child to be immunized at school, please ensure they bring this letter with them to school on Wednesday, March 5th, 2025. If you did not receive a letter, your child does not need any additional immunizations at this time.

Grade 10 students with completed consent forms from 2024 that still have outstanding immunizations will be offered immunizations on Delta Secondary Immunization Day 2, April 30th, 2025.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the Delta School Public Health Nurses at: 604-507-5459.

Fraser Health Info.- BC's HPV Immunization Catch-Up Campaign

Important changes to Fraser Health's in-school immunizations program for the remainder of the 2024/25 school year.

- Starting in January 2025, Fraser Health is expanding HPV vaccinations to all eligible students in Gr. 6-12, in all public and independent schools, as part of the provincial campaign to increase HPV immunizations
- Human Papillomavirus (HPV) immunizations protect against several cancers later in life and works best when given during adolescence
- Fraser Health is aiming for 90 percent HPV immunization coverage for 17 year olds by 2026.
- Eligible students will receive a letter advising them of the opportunity to get immunized at their school's scheduled immunization clinic.

Mature minor consent will be offered to students in grades 9 and above as per [The Infants Act, mature minor consent and immunization](#)

Administration

Mr. Kevin. Vasconcelos, Principal (Gr. 12)

Mr. Ian Close, Vice-Principal (Gr. 8 & 10)

Ms. Joanna Macintosh, Vice-Principal (Gr. 9 & 11)

Counsellor Assignments

Ms. Rohwer is currently off on a leave until after Spring Break. Ms. W Diomis (wdiomis@deltaschools.ca) will be at DSS part time until Ms. Rowher return. If any students need immediate support please see one of our other school counsellors.

Ms. Kinnis Last Name A-De

Ms. Greene Last Name Dh-Lo

Ms. Diomis . Last Name Lu-Pa & International

Ms. Gillis Last Name Pe-Z

Let's Connect!

Find us on the web:

[Delta Secondary Website](#)

Have You Downloaded the School App?

The Delta School App is available to download on the apple and google play store.



Provincial Assessments-Numeracy 10

All students prior to graduation, as part of the graduation program, are required to complete three assessments (Numeracy 10, Literacy 10 & Literacy 12) in addition to the 80 credits (minimum requirement). Delta will be offering Numeracy 10 Provincial Assessments for Grade 10's on April 8th. **All Grade 10's must complete the Literacy 10 and Numeracy 10 Assessment to be eligible to graduate.** There will be no regularly scheduled classes for Grade 10's on the 8th to accommodate our exams. Students will be assigned either an am or pm seating. There will also be an opportunity for any Grade 11 and 12's to complete missing Literacy 10 & 12 assessments in the afternoon of April 10th. Gr. 12's that wrote their Literacy 12 assessment this year can view their results through the Transcript Verification Service. Information on accessing scores was emailed out from Ms. Jew. Mr. Close is overseeing assessments this year and will be communicating via email with families.

Career Life Connections and Capstone

All Grade 12 students have been enrolled in CLC 12 and must complete a graduating Capstone project as part of their graduation requirements.



Gr. 12 students should be close to completing all CLC assignments and focusing their second semester on the Capstone passion project. The final capstone project is due on April 17th and will be presented to individual community members on Thursday, May 15th. More information on student presentations will be shared closer to the date. Please note that on the February report card all students were provided an 'IE' as this course is a linear course and still in progress. Students not meeting learning outcomes at the time of reporting were addressed in the narrative comments. Ms. Hansen is available everyday but Wednesday, including flex, to provide student support. If you have any questions regarding CLC/Capstone, please email Ms. Hansen at phansen@deltaschools.ca.

Post-Secondary and Career Advisor

All information and deadlines for post-secondary applications and scholarships can be found on the [DSS Career Centre Website](#).

Families that chose to be on the mailing list have received information directly from Ms. Jew. If any families are interested in being added to the mailing list please contact Ms. Jew by email. If you have any questions regarding post-secondary applications or scholarships, please see Ms. Jew in the career centre during her office hours (Monday-Thursday 8:15-3:15) or email her at kjew@deltaschools.ca

Career Programs

Career Programs has been very busy this month. 10 DSS students have taken advantage of career options offered through the Delta District by applying to a variety of programs for next year, including the Junior Firefighter Academy, the new Biomedical and Health Science dual credit program at KPU Surrey, and Train in Trade programs in Construction Electrician, Automotive Service Technician, and Baking and Pastry Arts.

March 10th-14th, 5 DSS students will be attending the Junior Firefighter camp offered by Delta Firefighters and the school district. This is a one-week camp will give students a true understanding of the basic components, both physical and educational, of Delta Fire/Rescue's basic training for new recruits. The educational component will test the applicant's knowledge learned in the classroom of firefighting equipment, fire behaviour, the fire tetrahedron and the products of combustion, to name a few. The practical component of the program will test the applicant's strength, endurance and teamwork skills. Some of these are: dragging charged hose lines, carrying ladders in a group, climbing the four-story hose tower and cutting up cars in teams using the "Jaws of Life".

March 13th, a group of DSS students will join other students from around the district in a tour of KPU Surrey and the new Biomedical and Health Science program facilities. There is a possibility of a second tour in April, interested students should contact Ms. Day.

Wednesday, April 16th the Career Programs department is offering a field trip to the Canada Skills BC Competition at Tradex in Abbotsford to observe over 50 Skilled Trades competitions in action as well as take part in Try-A-Trade booths and explore post-secondary training programs. Space is still available on the bus and interested grade 10-12 students should see Ms. Day for a permission form or more information.



A number of career-related opportunities are available to students within the Delta School District. For more information, please view the October edition of the **Career Programs Newsletter** available on [Delta School District's Career Programs website](#).

Highlights:

- New Dual Credit Programs: KPU- Biomedical and Health Science! Starting Feb 2026. Apply Now

See your school Career Program Facilitator for more info!

Student Attendance

Developing effective attendance habits, as well as being to class on time, requires the cooperation of students, parents, the school, and the community. We must work together to promote, carefully monitor, and encourage regular attendance and good work habits. We believe that the essence of our educational programs occurs in classrooms with skilled teachers. Explanations, clarifications, discussions, opportunities for feedback, and group tasks are invaluable components of an effective educational program. This is why our policy regarding attendance is that **students are expected to attend all classes that they are registered in every day.**

A review of our data from previous years clearly indicates that poor attendance is linked to poor achievement.

To report a student absence please:

1. Contact the school office by phone (604-946-4194) or
2. Notify the school by email delta.sec@deltaschools.ca

Absences should be reported as early as possible on the day of the absence to allow a Parent Advised code to be entered into the system. Any unreported absences will result in an automated email from the student system, which will email a message by default.

Permission Forms

There are several forms on Parent Connect for you to review and authorize. Please login to Parent Connect, (<https://cimsweb.deltasd.bc.ca/schoolconnect/parentsignon.aspx>) 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:

Personal Information Consent Form, Permission for Google Classroom, Outside Media in Schools, Electronic Communications, Walking Field Trips Permission, BC Fruits and Vegetables Program Permission, Demographic Information, and Student Emergency Release as well as course enhancements

Information on logging in or creating a new account for Parent Connect is available on the [DSS Website](#). If you require assistance logging into Parent Connect please contact the office.

Communication with Families

Most of our communication with families is done electronically through our website, email, school app and Parent Connect. Please ensure you have provided us a current email address, updated contact information and you are able to log into Parent Connect and MYED. Please visit the [DSS website-Parent Community](#) for more information or contact the DSS office if you require assistance.

International Program- Looking For Homestay Families

Hello Delta School District families,

Delta School District International Programs is currently recruiting homestay families for international students coming to Delta School District for September 2025. We also have 3-week ELL programs in July 2025 and August 2025. They will arrive from all over the world and have a strong desire to be in Delta. We are internationally recognized as a top destination for students wanting a study abroad experience in Secondary School.

The reimbursement for hosting is increasing to \$1,200 per month. Multiple students from different nationalities can be hosted in one home. The majority of students in the homestay program are from Germany, Japan, Spain, Italy, and Brazil. At the moment, more than 20 different countries are represented in the homestay program.

Many are looking for a family connection and being a part of a family during their stay in Delta.

Their study periods range from 3 months to half a school year, to a full school year, to multiple years. The short-term summer programs are where host parents welcome younger English learners into their home. It is a great way for students to see what school (and life) in Delta is like and for new homestay families to get a small sample of what hosting is like.

do something great

Welcome an international student into your home.



DELTA
SCHOOL DISTRICT
INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS



- Be a Canadian ambassador and global citizen
- Have a lifelong impact on a child from across the world
- Homestay remuneration is \$1,150 per month
- Choose from hosting for 3 weeks to 5 months or longer
- Short Term Summer Programs are also available
- Benefit from our team's support

Contact us to find out more!

 **+1 604 952 5366**

 **homestay@GoDelta.ca**

homestay.deltasd.bc.ca

If you are interested in hosting, please reach out to homestay@godelta.ca. If you are not able to host but know of a family who can, please send them our way. There are referral bonuses available for referring families.

Parent Resources- Family Smart Virtual Offering

Please check out the following offerings from Family Smart. Please click on the Family Smarts-Events link below for more information

Virtual Event: Explosive Behaviour in Teens: Strategies to Empower Families

Description: When our teens are showing up in explosive ways, we sometimes blame ourselves. Discover with us as a therapist explains some causes of explosive behaviour and strategies that support parents and teens. Victoria Keddiss hosts a conversation with Kirk Shields-Priddy, MSW/RSW Group and Family Therapist with Fraser Health START Program.

Registration: FamilySmart - Events

Dates: March 4th 6:30pm-8pm

March 11th 6:30pm-8pm

March 5th 6:30pm-8pm

March 12th 12:00pm-1:30pm

March 6th 6:30pm-8pm

We are available to chat one on one if you know anyone looking for support or need help navigating mental health services in our community. Click here [FamilySmart referrals](#), once you have the parent's or caregiver's consent. Feel free to contact us at SurreyDeltaWhiteRock@familysmart.ca or leave a message at 604-607-9587 if you have any questions.

Substance Use Prevention, Part 2: Mental Health & Decision-Making Information Sessions

In partnership with adolescent clinical psychologist Dr. Hayley Watson from Open Parachute, the ministry will host three, free virtual sessions for parents, guardians and caregivers that will focus on practical skills you can teach your child and youth (ages 0-19) to prevent substance use and mental health challenges.

These sessions will build on a previous presentation, which focused on practical conversation tools for speaking about substance use prevention with your children/youth. The previous session is not a pre-requisite for this one.

Important Dates to Note

PTI System Open for Bookings- February 24th-March 3rd

Informal Reporting- March 3rd- March 14th

Senior Semi-Formal Dance- Tuesday, March 4th

Gr. 9 Immunizations- Wednesday, March 5th

Pacer Pops- Thursday, March 6th

Parent Teacher Interviews- Tuesday, March 11th

Spring Break School Closure- March 17th- 28th

Classes Return After Spring Break- Monday, March 31st

Core Competency Self-Reflection- March 31st- April 4th

Euclid Gr. 12 Math Contest- Wednesday, April 2nd

Reporting- Early Dismissal @ 1pm- Friday, April 11th

For a complete calendar of events, check out the DSS website: <https://de.deltasd.bc.ca/news-events/>



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