

SOUTH DELTA SECONDARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER



Semester Two Interim Reports

Semester Two Interim Reports are viewable on Parent Connect and the Parent Portal on MyEd BC on March 2nd.

If you need help accessing your account, detailed instructions on how parents can access the portal are posted to the school website: <https://sd.deltasd.bc.ca/wp-content/uploads/sites/31/2021/06/Parent-Portal-LOGON-instructions.pdf> School Administration

School Administration

Mr. Terry Ainge, Principal (Gr.12s)
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Counselling Assignments

Mrs. Karen Kilpatrick, Grade 12 (Gr. 8 A-D; R-Z)
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Mrs. Terri Farnden, Grade 9
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Mrs. Kristy Abel, Grade 10 (Gr. 8 E-K)
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Ms. Val Hayes, Grade 11 (Gr.8 L-Q)
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Principal's Message

The past month has been busy with planning for the next school year now in full swing. At this writing, course selections have now closed. Over the next week, we will be checking to ensure that our staff have the necessary information to begin the process of building next year's course schedule. Building the school schedule at a large dual-track secondary school is a complex process that requires both time and attention to detail. Accurate information is vital for building a schedule that works for our school community. We thank you and our students for your support in working with our timeline.

I also want to thank students, parents, and staff for contributing to the decision-making process around next year's schedule. We have gathered extensive feedback from stakeholders on linear and semester schedule options. The discussion focusing on values has been very helpful in this regard. Our school community can expect an announcement on our decision next week.

Semester 2 is now well underway and interim reports are now viewable on MyEdBC.

Parent Teacher conferences are scheduled for Thursday, March 9th. There will be an alternate bell schedule to facilitate these meetings and students will be dismissed at 1:00 pm. Appointments are required and can now be made on Parent Connect. We look forward to seeing many parents next week.

The winter months are also a busy time for athletics. South Delta's basketball teams have done extremely well in both league and playoffs, with four teams qualifying for provincial championships.

The musical Grease is rounding out it's successful run of performances this weekend. Congratulations on an outstanding production!

I wish to thank our teachers and community volunteers for all their

help with these programs. Without their help, our students would have far fewer opportunities.

Enjoy the weekend and the final week before Spring Break. :)

Please reach out if I can be of assistance. tainge@deltaschools.ca

Parent Teacher Conferences - Thursday, March 9th

Parent-Teacher Conferences will be held on Thursday, March 9th. There will be two sessions: 2:00 - 4:00 pm and 5:30 - 7:30 pm. Conferences are by appointment and can be booked through Parent Connect.

We will have an early dismissal for students on March 9th at 1:00 pm.

Here is the alternate bell schedule for March 9th:

Warning Bell	8:25	
Period 1	8:30	9:30
Period 2	9:35	10:35
Break	10:35	10:55
Warning Bell	10:50	
Period 3	10:55	11:55
Period 4	12:00	1:00

March Career Newsletter

[Click here to access all the information.](#)

Highlights in this issue:

Career Program Opportunities - Apply now!

BC Labour Market Outlook Article

Mari Tech Conference - Apr 20

Elevate Aviation Tour - March 22

UBC Geering Up - Registration Open

PosAbilities Employment

Intro to Rebar Opportunity And More!

See your school Career Program Facilitator for more information on the high school programs!



SDSS Students Show Support for Ukraine

As seen in the Delta Optimist...

On Friday, February 24, students at South Delta Secondary School (SDSS) demonstrated their support for Ukraine by marking the somber one-year anniversary of the Russian invasion.

"Many people may not realize that there are families in our community whose lives have been upended by the war in Ukraine," said Sandra Adamson, International Student Coordinator and ELL Teacher. "Here at SDSS, we have 8 students who had to flee Ukraine. In recent weeks, these students, with support from the school's Interact Club, organized a campaign to mark the one-year anniversary of the ongoing invasion to help raise awareness in the school and wider local community." This week, the Ukrainian flag stands beside the Canadian flag in the main hallway of the school and the students have made three different designs of buttons showing messages of support for Ukraine to hand out at the school. Grade 10 student Tymur Kravitz, who just arrived in Tsawwassen a few weeks ago, is working on a fourth design.



"When the war first started, we never thought it would be as massive as it has become," said Yuri Fedieiev. "People need to know what is happening in Ukraine. It feels like they have forgotten. We felt it was important to remind people that the war in Ukraine is still happening."

Ihnat Smyrnov's city was occupied on the second day of the invasion: "There were many soldiers and tanks. People were very nervous." Ihnat and his father moved to Germany for one month initially, before arriving in Tsawwassen in May 2022.

"These students have been through unimaginable horrors and are now faced with the multiple challenges that come from adjusting to life in a new country and learning to speak English. They are extremely busy as most are completing online school courses in Ukraine while also attending SDSS so that they can graduate in both countries," said Sandra Adamson. "In spite of this, they wanted to do something to support their home country at this difficult time. I am so impressed by their hope, courage and resiliency."

"Canada is a lovely country and Tsawwassen is a great town. The community has been great to us," said Yuri Fedieiev. "We would like to thank the Government of Canada for helping Ukraine and also thank our local community and school for accepting and helping us."

The students are also encouraging people to support Ukraine by making donations directly to the Prytula Foundation: <https://prytulafoundation.org/donation>.

Dry Grad 2023

SDSS Dry Grad 2023 Fundraisers

Grade 12 parents are encouraged to join the Dry Grad email list to keep up to date with the Dry Grad parent planning and fundraising efforts. Email sdssdg2023@gmail.com to be added to the list. Visit <https://sdssdrygrad2023.wordpress.com/> for more information.

In the meantime, please consider participating in the following SDSS Dry Grad 2023 Fundraisers. We appreciate your support!!



Taking bottles to the bottle depot?

SDSS Dry Grad 2023 has set up an account at the Recycle Depot.

To participate, simply:

1. Take your bottle and cans to the Depot in a clear bag
2. Enter code 6048161914 in the EXPRESS Machine for your label
3. Tear label and apply to the clear bag(s)
4. The depot staff will take care of the rest!!

If you'd rather we pick up directly from you, please email sdssdg2023@gmail.com and someone will arrange a pick-up time. Thank you!

Online 50/50 Raffle Draw

Enter your chance to win HALF OF THE TOTAL JACKPOT!!

To participate, simply:

Scan here to purchase your tickets to win!

Deadline to purchase tickets is Thursday, March 30 at MIDNIGHT. Draw takes place on Saturday, April 1st at NOON.



COMING SOON....

Need gifts for Mother's Day, Father's Day, Year-end teacher's gifts! We've got you covered! Stay tuned for an opportunity to buy something special for those on your list AND support SDSS Dry Grad 2023 at the same time!

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1im4c0yd88WvLQhLU7hnVtLmK-UNkmAo9/edit>

Families and Students in Financial Need

We realize that sometimes families struggle financially. The BC Government has created a Student and Family Affordability Fund and will be providing schools funds for this school year only to help students and families with school fees, school supplies, food security, and assorted other things. Please contact your child's counsellor or administrator if your family requires financial support. Discretion is paramount.

Virtual Event: A Conversation for Families About Digital Wellbeing & Mental Health

Description: As parents it's not easy to know how much time on technology is too much and how to set boundaries that don't create conflict. Join us for a conversation with a digital wellbeing expert to learn some practical solutions to our everyday concerns and challenges around our kids' use of screens and their mental health.

This event is offered at various dates and times so that you can make it to the one that works best for you.

Registration: [FamilySmart - Events](#)

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

Thursday March 16th 9:30-11am

Wednesday March 22nd 12-1:30pm

Tuesday March 28th 6:30-8pm

Online and Digital Citizenship

Most students maintain a digital profile and certain level of engagement online. The school recognizes that as new digital tools, apps and social media platforms are created, students will be faced with new online concerns, issues and challenges. This creates the potential for misuse of the internet, for example, sending or receiving inappropriate information and images (e.g. racist, slanderous, pornographic, threatening, sexist, confidential, etc.) or using chat rooms for this purpose.

We know helping kids stay safe while online is something many parents/guardians are concerned about. We encourage you to review the following resources for more information on the online interests of young people, the potential risks they face and proactive strategies to help keep them safe:

[Raising Digitally Responsible Youth: A Parent's Guide](#)

[Need Help Now website](#)

[ERASE website](#)

[Additional Parent Information Resources](#)

Talking to Children and Youth about Decriminalization and Substance Use: Resources for Parents/Guardians and Caregivers

As you may be aware, at the end of January Health Canada granted the Province of British Columbia an exemption from the federal Controlled Drugs and Substances Act, allowing the removal of criminal penalties for possession of small amounts of certain illicit substances for personal use. Decriminalizing people who use drugs is a part of the Government's work to tackle the toxic drug crisis, intended to remove the shame and stigma associated with substance use and support people in accessing important health and social services.

To be clear, this exemption does not apply to licensed child care or K-12 school properties. The federal Controlled Drugs and Substances Act continues to apply to these settings, meaning there will continue to be criminal penalties for possession of illegal substances, regardless of amount, while on child care and or K-12 school properties. This exemption also does not apply to youth aged 17 and younger, who will continue to be subject to the federal Youth Criminal Justice Act (YCJA). This means that youth aged 17 and younger will not be permitted to possess illicit substances in any amount.

We recommend that parents/guardians read the information sheet on substance use decriminalization for parents, guardians, and caregivers. [Talking to Children and Youth about Decriminalization and Substance Use: Resources for Parents/Guardians and Caregivers](#) is now available on the erase website. The Ministry of Education and Child Care's [Expect Respect and A Safe Education](#) (erase) substance use website also provides students, parents/guardians, caring adults and educators with information and resources to support conversations with youth about substance use.

Establishing Respectful Relationships and Consent in Our Communities Parent Session - 90-minute session

This session will explore the topic of consent, and the dynamics of gender-based violence. It will discuss the current state of gender relations faced by our children in both the physical and digital landscape, as well as the potential for exploitation within these relationships. Trainers will provide Parents/Caregivers tips and tools on how discuss these topics with their children to create positive family connections.

TOPICS COVERED WILL INCLUDE:

- What defines consent? A discussion
- The dynamics of gender-based violence
- An overview of worrisome content, and how to manage their child's exposure on popular social media and gaming platforms
- The different types of bullying and cyberbullying relationships
- The pathway to sextortion and human trafficking—important signs to look for
- The importance of checking in on our children's mental health and strategies for success

- Family suggestions, as well as tips to facilitate positive conversations and outcomes

March 8th 6:30pm-8pm

<https://event-wizard.com/>

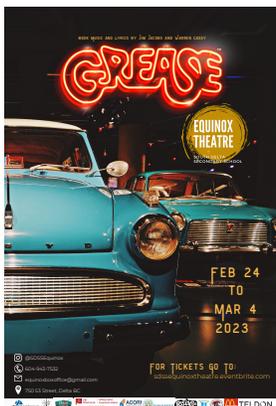
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Communicable Disease, Student Illness, and Procedures

With cold and flu season upon us, we want to remind families that students should not attend school if they are sick or exhibiting symptoms of illness. To ensure we are collectively doing our part to keep our school community safe we are going to ask that students and families continue to do the following this year:

- Complete a Daily Health Check and stay home when your child is sick
- Do NOT come to school if you are ill, have symptoms or not able to participate fully in routine activities
- Respiratory etiquette and respect the personal space of others
- Good hand hygiene - wash and sanitize your hands often

Remember to “Be kind, be calm, be safe” to others.



Grease - the Musical - February 25-March 4th

This is the final weekend for SDSS's musical, "Grease" We'd like to congratulate the entire production team and thank everyone who has supported the show. If you haven't yet seen the show, we hope that you and your family can find some time to see it this weekend. Almost 100 students are involved, either on stage or behind the scenes! Tickets are available now! [Click here](#)

Important Dates to Note

March 2	Interim Reports posted to MyEdBC
March 8	PAC Meeting, 7:30 pm
March 9	Early Dismissal, 1pm
March 9	Parent -Teacher Conferences 2-4 pm, 5:30-7:30 pm
March 10	Last day of classes prior to Spring Break
March 13 - 24	Spring Break
March 27	Return to school

For a complete calendar of events, check out the SDSS website:

<https://sd.deltasd.bc.ca/wp-content/uploads/sites/31/2022/07/CALENDAR-APPENDIX-II-22-23.pdf>