

South Delta Secondary School 750 53rd Street, Delta, BC V4M 3B7 phone 604• 943-7407 fax 604• 943-7405



Principal's Message



April 2025

Dear SDSS Students, Parents and Caregivers,

On behalf of the entire staff at South Delta Secondary, I hope you have enjoyed a restful and relaxing Spring Break! We are looking forward to welcoming you back to school in a few days.

We are now embarking on a very exciting and very busy stretch of the school year. The Spring months bring us plenty of year end activities and lots of planning for the next school year. And for our Grade 12 students, they culminate with the traditional red carpet walk and Grad Banquet, the Dry Grad Evening, and the Commencement Ceremony to honour the incredible high school journey our most senior students will be finishing up. There are 56 days on instruction remaining until the end of regularly scheduled classes, and I encourage all our students to do their very best to finish the year strong, be proud of the hard work they have put into their studies and to enjoy the final few months of the year.

If at any time you have any comments or questions, please contact me at the school (604-943-7407) or by email, bscarr@deltaschools.ca

Sincerely,

Benjamin Scarr
Principal
South Delta Secondary

Flex Sessions in Cafeteria

Beginning after Spring Break, only students in Culinary Arts classes or involved in grade 8 peer tutoring sessions will be permitted to attend Flex sessions in the Cafeteria. For some time, a small but steadily growing number of students have been collecting in the Cafeteria instead of signing up for a Flex session with one of their teachers. We will need all students to sign up for Flex sessions with their teachers moving forward. Students are reminded to sign up for Flex sessions in advance so they know where they will be attending during Flex. Thank you for your cooperation with this change in practice.

Written Learning Update #2

Just prior to Spring Break, the second formal Learning Update (report card) was published. Parents/Caregivers are encouraged to have conversations with their student(s) regarding their progress in classes. As always, parents/caregivers may contact teachers to have further conversations about their student.

Provincial Assessments

On April 8th, SDSS will be holding sessions for our grade 10 students to complete the Numeracy 10 Provincial assessment. This assessment is one of three required Provincial assessments students who are graduating with a Dogwood diploma must complete to meet graduation requirements. For more information about the assessments, please visit the Ministry Provincial Assessment page [here](#).

To facilitate the Numeracy 10 assessment on Apr. 8th, grade 10 classes have been cancelled for the day. Grade 10 students are expected to attend school during the time of their assessment but are not expected in attendance the rest of that day. Gr. 10 students and parents/caregivers will receive an email explaining when and where students will be writing their assessment. If you have any questions

regarding the assessment, please contact Mrs. Farnden (tfarnden@deltaschools.ca) or call the school.

Course Selection 2025/26 School Year

Most students have now selected their courses for the next school year – **thank you** to all students, parents, caregivers and staff for helping complete this process. As mentioned before, this information is critical for school staff to create the best schedule for students and the school. If you have not selected courses or have questions about the courses you have selected, please contact your counselor at the school.

In the coming weeks, the administration team will receive the school's next year staffing allocation from the School District and will determine if any courses offered during course selection must be cancelled due to insufficient enrolment (students who have selected courses that won't be able to run will be notified).

Student Fees

Please remember to pay student fees through Parent Connect if you have not done so already. For any families who may need financial assistance with School Fees, please contact the administration team (see below). As we approach the end of the school year, the school will need outstanding fees to be addressed prior to obtaining a Yearbook or participating in yearend Grad activities.

Performing Arts Department Presents *The Wizard of Oz*

A huge congratulations to the cast, musicians and crew of the ***Wizard of Oz*** musical! Between February 28th and March 8th, the entire ensemble performed 8 times, including two days of double features! These shows were preceded by countless hours of preparation and rehearsal to create the magical experience the audience got to enjoy. I must admit that I found myself humming along to the oh so recognizable songs and thoroughly enjoying the talents of all involved (including actors of the four-legged variety!). **Congratulations** and a **big thank you** to all the

performers, the stage crew, Ms. Shantz (Director), Ms. Prefontaine (Stage Director), Mrs. Hamilton (Music Director), Ms. Lawton (Volunteer Extraordinaire), and all the other parents/caregivers and community members who helped create such an amazing performance. Bravo!

Athletics

The Winter Season of play wrapped up in late February with our basketball teams experiencing some great success this year with consistent improvement and some great tournament results. Our senior girls had a great season, making the AAAA BC Provincials and finishing 12th in the Province. The senior boys, who have moved up to AAAA from AAA this year, improved steadily over the course of the year and are a team on the rise. In junior, the boys team finished first in the Delta league and made it to the Grade 10 Provincials while our junior girls finished tied for second in league play. Our grade 9 boys team also finished second in their league. The grade 8 boys and girls also both finished second in their league with both teams showing very well in the tournaments they competed in highlighted by our boys finishing in 2nd place against perennial power St. Pat's at their tournament in Vancouver.

For the first time in several years, South Delta athletes competed in Curling in both boys and girls. Apparently, our past female Provincial Championships in girls curling scared off the rest of the competition as we were the only girls team in our zone. The boys ended up in third place which is impressive since they were all new to curling this year. Look for big things in the coming years from South Delta curlers at the Provincial bonspiel!

We are now entering our Spring sports season in earnest, with girls soccer, track and field, golf, rugby and ultimate all competing over the next two months. Make sure you check out and follow @southdeltaathletics on Instagram and check the school app for information.

City of Delta Seeking Student Input

In the first week after the Break, the City of Delta will be seeking feedback from students regarding the Winskill Renewal Project. City staff are looking for student input on proposed designs and features of the project and will be asking students to provide information via a QR code on their phones and for in person feedback on April 3rd. Participation in providing feedback is completely voluntary. For more information on the project, please visit <https://letstalk.delta.ca/winskill>

SDSS Track Infield Repairs Update

We are expecting repair work on the field inside the SDSS track to commence very late in June. From July to September 2025, both the track and the field at SDSS will be closed to complete the repairs and upgrades, with the inner field remaining closed until September 2026 to allow the field to properly seed and grow. We are excited to greatly improve the quality of our field for our Physical Education and Athletics programs and would like to thank the City of Delta for making these upgrades a reality.

Student Learning Survey 2024/2025

On March 4th and 5th, the Student Learning Survey was administered to students in grades 10,11,12. The Provincial Student Learning Survey gathers information from parents/guardians/caregivers, teachers, and students on topics related to school environment, safety, and achievement. The information is used for planning in individual schools and provides a district and provincial perspective.

We encourage parents/guardians/caregivers to participate in this survey, as the results are important in identifying and celebrating current strengths, as well as determining where the school needs to focus for improvement. The surveys contain standard questions for the Province – in addition, questions from the school and/or district that focus on local conditions or issues may be included.

The survey can be completed electronically and can be accessed on the Internet at <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/education-training/k-12/support/student-learning-survey>

Any computer or mobile device with an Internet connection can be used, and access to the e-survey is simple and secure. The survey can be accessed through the link and by clicking on Take the Survey. On the login page, click on the Parents icon, and then select the school district and school name where your child attends school. Provincial, District and School Reports for previous years can be viewed at the same site under the *Results* section.

The e-survey site will be open until May 2, 2025 for parents/guardians/caregivers to complete. Please consider completing the survey if you have not yet done so.

SDSS Dry Grad

The Grade 12 Dry Grad Event is on June 19, 2025. This is not a school sponsored event but is run and fundraised for by parents. If you have not been receiving emails and would like more information about meetings, upcoming fundraising efforts and the event details, please contact us at sdssdrygrad25@gmail.com

Important Upcoming Dates

Grade 10 Numeracy Assessment - Tuesday, April 8th

Parent Advisory Council Meeting – Wednesday, April 16th

Good Friday (no school) – Friday, April 18th

Easter Monday (no school) - Monday, April 21st

'At-Risk' Informal Reports (students in danger of not meeting grade expectations in a course) – Thursday, May 1st

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

<https://sd.deltasd.bc.ca/events-calendar>

<https://sd.deltasd.bc.ca/wp-content/uploads/sites/31/2024/08/CALENDAR-APPENDIX-II-24-25-Parent-Version-REVISED-Aug-23-1.pdf>

Contacts

Administration

Mr. Ben Scarr, Principal (Grade 12s) – bscarr@deltaschools.ca

Mr. Kevin Dalgetty, Vice-Principal (Grades 8 & 10) – kdalgetty@deltaschools.ca

Mrs. Terri Farnden, Vice-Principal (Grades 9 & 11) – tfarnden@deltaschools.ca

Counsellor Assignments

Ms. Val Hayes – Grade 9 and Grade 8 (L-Q) – vhayes@deltaschools.ca

Ms. Karen Kilpatrick – Grade 10 and Grade 8 (R-Z) – kkilpatrick@deltaschools.ca

Ms. Andrea Burns – Grade 11 and Grade 8 (A-D) – aburns@deltaschools.ca

Ms. Kristy Abel – Grade 12 and Grade 8 (E-K) – kabel@deltaschools.ca

[Click here](#) for a complete SDSS staff directory.

Mental Wellness Resources

From time to time, we all need additional support. Students are encouraged to contact their counsellor for support and/or access the resources below:

CRISIS HOTLINES

- [BC CRISIS CENTRE](#) – 1-800-784-2433 or 310-6789 no area code needed
- **CRISIS SERVICES CANADA** – 1-833-456-4566 or text 45645
- [First Nations and Inuit Hope for Wellness Help Line](#) – 1-855-242-3310
- [Canada Drug Rehab Addiction Services Directory](#) – 1-877-746-1963
- [National Eating Disorder Information Centre](#) – 1-866-633-4220

RESOURCES

- [Bell Let's Talk](#)
- [Canadian Association for Suicide Prevention](#) – 613-702-4446 (not a crisis line)
- [Canadian Mental Health Association](#) – 416-646-5557
- [Canadian Psychological Association](#) – 613-237-2144 or 1-888-472-0657
- [Mood Disorders Society of Canada](#) – 613-921-5565
- [Schizophrenia Society of Canada](#) – 1-204-320-3188
- [Mental Health Commission](#) – 613-683-3755

Parents are also encouraged to access the [Teen Mental Health Parent Resources](#)