

South Delta Secondary School Newsletter

AUGUST 2009



Principal	Mr. T. Johnson	(Gr. 12)
Vice-Principal	Mme H. Gaudreault	(Gr. 8 & 9)
Vice-Principal	Mr. J. Johnstone	(Gr. 10 & 11)

Mission Statement

South Delta Secondary School is a community of learners contributing to an environment which fosters mutual respect and encourages learners to develop the knowledge, skills, and attitudes necessary to reach their potential as responsible, educated citizens in a changing world.

South Delta Secondary School
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Delta, BC
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www.deltasd.bc.ca

We're on the Web!

www.deltasd.bc.ca/sd/index.html

Upcoming Events

- ◆ Student Photos - Sept. 14th
- ◆ Grade 8 Orientation - Sept. 17th & 18th
- ◆ Grade 8 Parents Night - Sept. 17th
- ◆ Fees Day - tba

Greetings from Mr. Johnson, Principal

I hope that you have had a restful summer and that you are prepared for an exciting year at South Delta Secondary. For our returning students, Grades 9 to 11 and Grads of 2010, I look forward to your strong leadership as we welcome our new Grade 8 students. I know that you will model for our younger students the kind of behaviour and attitudes that make SDSS such a great place to be. To our Grade 12's - this is your last year in public education. I encourage you to come to your final year with determination, focus, and commitment.

To all of our new students, I extend a warm welcome. I am very much looking forward to meeting you and I invite you to talk to me about any concerns and/or praise you may wish to express in relation to your studies and your extracurricular involvement. It is our hope that you will view South Delta

Secondary as your school, where your voice will be heard and your contributions will serve to enhance the already excellent culture here. Also, I encourage all of you to get involved with the many clubs, teams, and social activities that are available at the school. The more you are involved with the school, the more you will feel like you are a part of the school, and ultimately, the more welcome you will feel.

To our parents, please mark on your calendars Wednesday, September 16th, our first PAC meeting of the year. Your attendance at this monthly meeting will be greatly appreciated. You will learn first hand what is happening at the school and what is happening at the District level.

Enjoy the last few weeks of summer and I'll see all of you September 8th!

This is the only newsletter you will be receiving in this format. Starting with the October 2009 issue, our newsletter will only be available on the school web site at www.deltasd.bc.ca/sd/index.html If you would like to receive notification of upcoming events and a reminder that the newsletter has been posted, please ensure that your e-mail address is on the yellow Student Information form included in this package.

Student Timetable - Course Changes

While every effort is made to design the school timetable to avoid course conflicts, some students, because of their chosen combination of courses, will not have all courses scheduled. The following dates/times have been put in place to address new registrants and students with incomplete schedules. If your son/daughter has an incomplete schedule, a special notice will be included in this package. Please note that the times below are for new students and students with incomplete schedules only. No course changes will be considered at these times.

There will be a sign-up list in the counselling area. Please be prepared to wait until your name is called. Students will be seen on a 'first come - first served' basis. Appointments cannot be pre-scheduled.

COUNSELLORS

Mr. Kirincic
Grade 8 & Gr. 12 (E-J)

Mrs. Koot
Grade 9 & Gr. 12 (K-Q)

Ms. Hayes
Grade 10 & Gr. 12 (R-Z)

Mrs. Kilpatrick
Grade 11 & Gr. 12 (A-D)

NEW REGISTRANTS

Monday, August 31st 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
Tuesday, Sept. 1st 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

GRADE 8 - 11 STUDENTS WITH INCOMPLETE SCHEDULES

A - L Monday, August 31st 1:00 - 3:00 p.m.
M - Z Tuesday, Sept. 1st 1:00 - 3:00 p.m.

GRADE 12 STUDENTS WITH INCOMPLETE SCHEDULES

Monday, August 31st 1:00 - 3:00 p.m.
Tuesday, Sept. 1st 1:00 - 3:00 p.m.

Grade 12 students may come on either day.

Procedure for Students Who Would Like to Change a Course

Since most classes are filled to capacity, the ability to change courses will be quite difficult. Students who, for valid reasons, wish to make a change, should fill out a Course Change Form and return it to the appropriate counsellor. Counsellors will not be able to consider changes until they have completed registering new students and adjusting the incomplete schedules.

Change of Address and e-mail

A Student Information and Registration form is enclosed in this mail out. Please check all information to ensure accuracy and return the form to the school with your child in the first week of school. Some changes can be made directly in Parent Connect. Please see enclosed Parent Connect Information sheet for further information.

Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy

There will be occasions when the school and/or the Parent Advisory Committee (PAC) would like to contact parents to communicate information about important events. Unless we are contacted prior to September 8, 2009, your name, address, and phone number will be made available to our PAC, or other school related committees responsible for organizing school related activities. No personal information is made available for business or commercial purposes or to the general public.

Parent Connect

South Delta Secondary is moving toward the use of a new way for parents to review the information, attendance and schedules of their students on-line. Included in this mail out is an information sheet that will give you instructions on how to access and use Parent Connect.

Opening Week Procedures

Homeroom lists will be posted around the school, and can also be found at the bottom of the Student Information form included in this package.

The purpose of the homeroom is to distribute student schedules and agenda books, and to take attendance. It is imperative that all students attend homeroom each day until Monday, September 14th. Students not included in attendance for homeroom may jeopardize class size compositions. As a result, some classes may be cancelled.

Students who do not have a schedule must report to the office to clear outstanding fees for textbooks, library books, student fees, etc.

Tuesday, September 8th

Grade 8	9:30 - 10:30	Homeroom and Assembly
Grades 9 & 10	11:00 - 12:00	Homeroom and Assembly
Grade 11 & 12	12:30 - 1:30	Homeroom and Assembly

International Students

Tuesday, September 8th

- International students (all grade levels), who have already registered, should report to room 118 at 9:30 a.m. for a two hour orientation.
- Students who are not registered, should report to the office at 8:30 a.m. for registration.

Time	Wednesday, September 9 th	Thursday, September 10 th	Friday, September 11 th	Monday, September 14 th
8:30 - 8:35	Homeroom	Homeroom	Homeroom	Homeroom
8:41 - 9:58	Block A (Locker Assignment)	Block E	Block A	Block E
10:04 - 11:21	Block B	Block F	Block B	Block F
11:21 - 12:06	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch
12:06 - 1:23	Block C	Block G	Block C	Block G
1:29 - 2:46	Block D	Block H	Block D	Block H

Lockers

Lockers will be assigned in Block A classes during the first week of school. Students should have a lock to secure their locker at that time. Locks are available at the office for \$6.00. Students should also have a second lock to secure their belongings in a PE locker during their PE class. **The school is not responsible for the loss of any items from PE change rooms.**

In October students may apply to change their lockers, but only for extenuating circumstances. (Locker change forms are available in the office.) Students should not share their locker combinations.

School Fees

Fees are payable in a number of courses in order to cover the costs of various resources. For more information please see the 2009/2010 School and Course Fees letter attached to the back of this newsletter. Notification of the fees owed by your son/daughter according to the courses in which he/she is enrolled will be sent home mid September. Please do not send any money to the school until you have received notification of our Fees Day either by letter or by our automated phone system. On this day, we shall be collecting fees from all students. Please note that all course fees must be paid on the day in order for a student to remain enrolled in the course of his/her choice.

Textbooks

The school lends textbooks to students for use during the school year. Students are held responsible for their textbooks and are required to pay replacement costs for lost texts and repair costs for damaged texts. All outstanding charges and fees for the past school year must be paid prior to students receiving their course schedules and their textbooks for the 2009/2010 school year.

Reporting Student Absence

To report a student absence, please contact the school office 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 call-out from the student system, which will call the home phone number by default. **If you would like an alternate number to be used for any absence calls, such as a cell phone number, please contact Mrs. Huntington in the school office.** Students must also provide teachers with a note from a parent to explain their absence. Notes can be written in the Agenda book.

Cafeteria

There will be no cafeteria services available during the first week of school and limited services during the week of September 14th. Regular service will commence the following week.

Student Agendas

Each student will receive a Student Agenda during the first week of school. The Agenda contains a calendar of events for the 2009/2010 school year as well as a daily planning calendar that students are encouraged to use to record homework, assignments, and test dates. Replacement cost for lost agenda books is \$7.00.

Photographs

All students will have their pictures taken on **Monday, September 14th**. Photos are required for Transit ID, yearbooks, and certificates. A brochure has been provided should students wish to purchase picture packages. The photo package, with the appropriate payment (**payable to Artona Studios**), should be presented to the photographer when photos are taken. Appropriate attire is required for photographs and hats are not to be worn. Students will be accompanied by their classroom teacher. Retakes are scheduled for the morning of October 27th.

Traffic Congestion

From 8:00 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. and also from 2:45 p.m. to 3:15 p.m., traffic outside the school is extremely congested. As traffic increases, students and adults must be even more alert and patient.

- Avoid driving through the Student or Staff Parking lot when dropping off your son/daughter as this is extremely dangerous. Instead drop off on 8A Avenue or 53rd Street.
- Do not expect quick and easy pick-ups or drop-offs at prime times.
- Arrange to pick-up or drop-off away from the school.
- Arrange to pick-up or drop-off two or more students.
- Pull over to the curb to pick-up or drop-off.
- Do not drop-off or pick-up in the **NO STOPPING ZONES** immediately in front of the buildings.

Please avoid blocking the Staff Parking lot access entry.

Grade 8 Orientation Parent Volunteers

Thank you to all the parents who have helped us so far and who have signed up to help with the events in September. To date, we have nearly 100 parents involved in some way! If you did not sign up to help and would like to be involved, call Kathy Steer at 604-943-7399 or Tina Klassen at 604-943-1766. This is a great opportunity for you to be involved in the school, meet the staff and get to know other Grade 8 parents.

Grade 8 Orientation Parent Volunteer Steering Committee Meeting Day and time to be announced

NINTH ANNUAL GRADE 8 ORIENTATION SEPTEMBER 17TH & 18TH, 2009

South Delta Secondary is very proud and excited to provide a Grade 8 transition program to its new students. Our two-day program is a fun-filled team building event, which brings together our new grade eights, teachers, and parent volunteers.

Our annual Grade 8 Orientation aims to accomplish three objectives:

1. To provide a comforting and constructive bridge between grade seven and eight.
2. To assist the grade eights in understanding our shared expectations for all students and staff.
3. To give our new students an orientation to the resources and activities available to them at the school.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 17TH (GRADE 8 STUDENTS)

- Breakfast hosted by the Students' Council
- Assembly
- T-Shirt distribution and Group Photo
- Lunch on their own
- Workshops

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 17TH (GRADE 8 PARENTS' NIGHT)

7:00 P.M. CAFETERIA

Meet parents, PAC representatives, administrators, and the grade eight counsellor. Find out about school policies, day to day procedures, communications and how to get involved. Ask questions and enjoy refreshments.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 18TH (GRADE 8 STUDENTS, TEACHERS, AND PARENT VOLUNTEERS)

Students are bused to Deas Park for a barbeque lunch and to participate in three of the following activities:

- Frisbee Golf
- Treasure Orienteering
- Obstacle Sports
- Theatre Sports
- Kalifornia Kickball
- Rock Wall
- Capture the Flag
- Paint Yourself
- Survivor Skills
- Learn to Row
- Canoeing

The Aboriginal Program at SDSS

The Aboriginal Educational Program assists Aboriginal students (Metis, First Nation, Inuit, "Indian" Status, Non Status, including any portion of ancestry) achieve greater success in school. This is accomplished by providing Aboriginal Support Workers along with Aboriginal community members, who are familiar with and sensitive to the values, beliefs, and needs of the Aboriginal community. It is this cultural sensitivity and awareness that acts as a bridge between the two cultures, necessary in assisting Aboriginal students maintain academic success. By raising cultural issues, a bridge can be built to assist Aboriginal students in being successful participants in school. Registration forms are available at the office. Students who sign up for this program will be 'pulled' from their regular classes to attend these sessions.



To commemorate the 29th anniversary of the Terry Fox Run, all SDSS students will be participating in a run/walk around Tsawwassen on Friday, September 25th. Students will be asked to donate a loonie to support cancer research. Pledge forms will be available in the first week of school for students who are interested in raising additional funds. The class which raises the most money will be treated to a pizza lunch.

"If you've given a dollar, you are part of the Marathon of Hope" - Terry Fox, 1980

Success Workshop

Monday, September 28th and Tuesday, September 29th, 2009
Fee: \$50.00 per registrant

Mr. I. Anderson has run this workshop for the past six years. Primarily for junior students, but open to all SDSS students, it helps students get off to a good start in their school year.

OUTLINE OF TOPICS TO BE COVERED

1. Potential Vs. Effectiveness - You have what it takes.
2. Awareness - Learning how to be a barrier breaker.
3. The Thought Process - How the brain works to make us a winner.
4. Attitude and Self Image - The performance regulators.
5. Constructive Synthetic Visualization - Mental rehearsal - A key to success.
6. Self-Esteem - What is it? Its importance and how we can nurture it.
7. Effective Goal Setting Techniques.
8. Developing a Plan of Action - "The Tool Kit" - A simple systematic approach to success.
9. Thought Patterns of Effective People.
10. Relaxation - Techniques to promote success - With emphasis on how to write exams more effectively and how to get better grades.

REGISTRATION INFORMATION will be available in September.

ATTENTION

The Delta School District does not provide student accident insurance.

Please consider your family's requirements carefully.

Student Accident Insurance

The District would like to draw your attention to Optional Student Accident Insurance that is again available to all students registered with the Delta School District. This insurance is inexpensive and provides three different plan options.

Parents are reminded that the District's insurance coverage does not include coverage for students who have been injured in an accident.

Please take a moment to determine if the insurance offered by IAP Kids Plus Accident Insurance meets the needs of your family.

You can learn more by:

- Visiting the IAP website: www.iapkidsplus.com
- Picking up an application from the school office in September

First Day of School Reminders

Please have your son or daughter bring the following on the first day of school:

- Student Emergency Release Form
- Student Information Form
- Lock for locker
- Money for purchasing locks (optional)
- Pen or pencil for writing in agenda book
- Parental Consent Form - Photographs/Videotapes/Website (Grade 8 and students new to SDSS)
- Annual Application for School Bus Transportation (Students residing in Boundary Bay only)





2009/2010 SCHOOL CALENDAR
INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

South Delta Secondary School
604-943-7407

Days in Session	191
Hours of Instruction in School Week	Grades 8-12: 26.58 hrs.
Number of Days of Instruction Minutes of Instruction in School Day	184 Grades 8-12: 319 min.
Number of Non-Instructional Days	6 (District Wide)
Schools Open	Tuesday, September 8
Non-Instructional Day (District Wide)	Monday, September 28
Thanksgiving Day	Monday, October 12
Parent-Teacher conferences	Wednesday, October 21
Parent-Teacher conferences	Thursday, October 22
Non-Instructional Day (District Wide)	Friday, October 23
Remembrance Day	Wednesday, November 11
Non-Instructional Day (District Wide)	Friday, November 27
Report cards home	Wednesday, December 9
Schools Close for Winter Vacation	Friday, December 18
Winter Vacation Period	December 21 - January 1
Schools Reopen after Winter Vacation	Monday, January 4
Parent-Teacher conferences	Thursday, February 11
Non-Instructional Day (District Wide)	Friday, February 12
Non-Instructional Day (District Wide)	Friday, February 19
Spring Vacation Period	March 8 - March 12
District Wide School Closures	March 15 - March 19
Schools Reopen	Monday, March 22
Report cards home	Wednesday, March 31
Good Friday	Friday, April 2
Easter Monday	Monday, April 5

Non-Instructional Day (District Wide)	Friday, May 21
Victoria Day	Monday, May 24
Provincial examinations	Monday, June 21 - Tuesday, June 29
Report cards home	Tuesday, June 29
Last Day for Students	Tuesday, June 29
Schools Close	Wednesday, June 30

Daily Schedule:

Office Hours: 7:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
 Instruction Hours: Secondary
 Opening Time: 8:30 a.m.
 Lunch: 11:17 - 12:02 p.m.
 Dismissal 2:46 p.m.

Bell schedule:

Period 1 8:30 a.m. to 9:49 a.m.
 Period 2 9:55 a.m. to 11:17 a.m.
 LUNCH 11:17 a.m. to 12:02 p.m.
 Period 3 12:02 p.m. to 1:21 p.m.
 Period 4 1:27 p.m. to 2:46 p.m.

Meeting Schedule:

Staff Meetings 3:10 p.m. First Monday of each Month
 Department Head Meetings 3:10 p.m. Second Monday of each Month
 School Based Team 7:50 a.m. As required
 PAC meetings 7:00 p.m. Second Wednesday of each Month

SDSS 2009 - 2010 Calendar

Sept. tba	Fees Day	Feb. 11	Parent/Teacher Conferences
Sept. 14	Student Photos	Feb. 12	School Closure (ProD)
Sept. 17	Gr. 8 Parents Night - 7:00 p.m.	Feb. 19	School Closure (ProD)
Sept. 17 & 18	Grade 8 Orientation	Mar. tba	Trading-Up Fair
Sept. 25	Terry Fox Run	Mar. 8 - 19	Spring Break
Sept. 28	School Closure (ProD)	Mar. 31	Report Cards
Oct. tba	Grad Boat Cruise	April tba	Jazz Night - 7:00 p.m. SDSS Cafeteria
Oct. 12	Thanksgiving	April 2	Good Friday
Oct. 14	Gr. 9 Immunizations	April 5	Easter Monday
Oct. 14	1 st HPV vaccine (Gr. 9 girls only)	April 8	L.P.I. test
Oct. 21 & 22	Parent/Teacher Conferences	April 15	3 rd HPV vaccine (Gr. 9 girls only)
Oct. 23	School Closure (ProD)	May 21	School Closure (ProD)
Oct. 27	Photo retakes	May 24	Victoria Day
Nov. 11	Remembrance Day	June tba	Final Concert - 7:00 p.m. SDSS Theatre
Nov. 27	School Closure (ProD)	June 2 & 3	Awards - 7:00 p.m. SDSS Theatre
Dec. tba	Grad Christmas Formal	June 10	Last Day of Regular Classes
Dec. tba	Christmas Concert - 7:00 p.m.	June 11 - 18	In-School Exams
Dec. 7	Post Secondary Night - 6:30 p.m.	June 18	Valedictory
Dec. 9	Report Cards	June 21 - 29	Provincial Exams
Dec. 16	2 nd HPV vaccine (Gr. 9 girls only)	June 29	Report Cards
Dec. 21 - Jan. 1	Christmas Break	June 29	Schools close
Feb. tba	District Night of Music - 7:00 p.m. SDSS Theatre	June 30	Grad Banquet
Feb. 5-7	Grad Portraits - Artona Studios		