

August 22, 2018

Dear Students, Parents and Guardians

Welcome to the 2018 – 2019 school year! I hope that this mailing finds you rested and re-charged for the challenge and excitement of our new school year. Welcome back to our returning students and their families, and a special welcome to our many new students and families, as they prepare to take their first steps as a part of the Pacer community. I would also like to extend a special welcome to our Graduating class of 2019 as they begin their final year of high school.

I am pleased to extend a warm Pacer welcome to our new staff members who will be joining our DSS community in September:

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| • Mr. Mike Annandale | Vice Principal |
| • Ms. Lisa Chepieski | Business Education |
| • Mr. David Farrelly | Focus Program |
| • Ms. Kelly French | Educational Assistant – International Program |
| • Ms. Clare Hay | Math |
| • Ms. Nadia MacKenzie | Educational Assistant – Grad Quest |
| • Ms. Anna Munns | French/Spanish |

Congratulations to Ms. Kayla Hamalainen who was recently married and is changing her last name to Jow. My best wishes to Mrs. Jow and her husband Scott for a wonderful and memorable future together.

With August coming to a close, we turn our attention to key start up details. We have posted all school start-up information on the Delta Secondary School website <http://de.deltasd.bc.ca/>. Under the “About” tab, you will find all of the information (including our opening day schedule, calendar, student accident insurance info, PAC information, etc.) that you may need to begin the year successfully. Printed copies are available from the main office, during regular business hours.

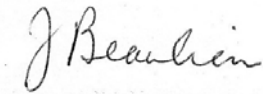
The Pacer Agenda is now an APP! Visit Apple's iTunes or Google's Play Store to download your agenda app: **My School Day App**. After downloading the app click on Region (British Columbia) > School District (Delta #37) > School (Delta Secondary) to get your Pacer Agenda App. Allow Push Notifications and Allow Reminders in order to receive important school information.

The school will be open and all grade 8 students are welcome to come to the gym on Thursday, August 30th at 1:00 p.m. to pick up their locator cards. There will be some of our “big buddies” here to help them find their classrooms. All students who are new to the school are also welcome to come in at that time.

As in the past, we have tried to keep this mailing small. Through the use of Parent Connect and by posting information to our website, we are reducing our paper and postage usage, while striving to improve the quality of our communications. Once again we will be using an automatic email to report any unexcused absences that your child may have. Please contact the teacher directly if there is a discrepancy in the attendance reporting. Please ensure that your email address is correct on Parent Connect. We thank you for your support of this initiative and we welcome your feedback and suggestions.

Please turn to the back of this page to see the full listing of Permission Forms Information.

Once again, welcome back!



Ms. Jeanette Beaulieu
Principal

Important Start-Up Dates

Sept. 4 th	First day of school
Sept. 5 th	Photo packages to be handed out in homeroom
Sept. 18 th	School Photo Day
Sept. 20 th	Welcome BBQ for Gr. 8's and Parents, 4:30 p.m. – 5:45 p.m.
Sept. 20 th	Meet the Teacher Night: Welcome at 6:15 pm.
Oct. 11 th	School Fee Day

Permission Forms Information

The following forms have been posted on **Parent Connect** for you to review and authorize. Please login to your Parent Connect account, review the notices and select the appropriate response to each form. It is mandatory that all forms be reviewed and responded to by your child's parent/guardian by September 30.

Personal Information Consent Form

In accordance with the *BC Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*, the Board of Education of School District No. 37 is seeking your consent to collect, retain, use and disclose photographs, videos, images and/or names of students and groups of students in a variety of publications and on the School District's website(s) for educational purposes.

Outside Media In Schools

Media (including radio, television, newspapers, and other print and online media) are sometimes permitted or invited to come to the school or to school activities and allowed to take photos/video or conduct interviews with students, for the purposes of promoting public understanding of school programs, building public support for public education, and encouraging student achievement.

Electronic Communications

Canada's new anti-spam legislation requires us to obtain your consent in order to provide you with electronic information about many of the happenings and events occurring at your child's school or within our school district.

Walking Field Trips Permission

During the school year, teachers may take students for excursions in and around our neighborhood. The teacher will provide supervision on these neighborhood trips, with the assistance of parent volunteers, as required. When longer trips involving travel outside our local area are planned, you will be informed in writing and will be asked to sign a separate permission slip for each trip.

B.C. Fruit and Vegetable Program Permission

Our school is involved in a province-wide healthy living initiative sponsored by B.C. Agriculture in the Classroom Foundation and ActNowBC. One of the goals is to encourage healthy eating by providing fresh B.C. fruits and vegetables to the students during classroom time. The students will receive picked, washed, and ready to enjoy produce every other week at no charge.

IN ADDITION TO THE ABOVE, PLEASE ALSO REVIEW AND VERIFY THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION ON PARENT CONNECT:

Demographic Information

Please take a moment to review your demographic information on Parent Connect. Update as necessary your cell phone number(s), email address(es) and emergency contacts. If you have a change to your address and/or home phone number, please call your school, or send a note to the office.

Student Emergency Release

In the event of an emergency resulting in school closure during the school day, and you are unable to collect your child(ren) from school, you authorize the release of your child(ren) into the custody of temporary adult guardians. The Out-of-Province contact name and telephone number would be used if local telephone service is disrupted.

***IMPORTANT* - ONCE ALL OF THE ABOVE FORMS AND INFORMATION ARE REVIEWED AND/OR UPDATED, PLEASE SELECT THE APPROPRIATE FORM RESPONSE ON PARENT CONNECT.**

To access Parent Connect, go to <http://web.deltasd.bc.ca/content/resources/forparents/parentconnect>
Detailed instructions on using Parent Connect are available by selecting the "Help" button on the Parent Connect Sign In screen.