

South Delta Secondary School Newsletter

JUNE 2009



South Delta Secondary School

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Principal's Message

This last month has been an incredibly rewarding one. I have found myself telling personal friends, colleagues, and anyone else willing to listen, how proud I am to be principal at South Delta Secondary. There is not enough room here to go into the details of the many great events that unfolded over the past month but the following list should give you an idea. We hosted the Provincial Senior Girls Soccer Championships and placed Fourth. Thanks to Mr. Burns and Mr. Sweeney for their coaching and coordination of this big event. Thanks also to the many parents who helped make this event such a success. Our Senior Boys Rugby team finished 11th in the province this year. Well done boys and thanks to Mr. Blackwell, Mr. Minns, Mr. Garvey, Mrs. Gill, Mr. Young, Mr. Dagg and Mr. Mitchell for their commitment to the Rugby Program. This past Friday was the opening of the 10th annual SDSS Student Art Show. Thanks to Mrs. Lymburner for coordinating this event and congratulations to all the participants - especially the six

Principal	Mr. T. Johnson	(Gr. 12)
Vice-Principal	Ms. B. Barnes	(Gr. 8 & 10)
Vice-Principal	Mr. A. Wong	(Gr. 9 & 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.

students who were recognized for their outstanding work. This month over 100 SDSS students took to the streets (and pool) to participate in the triathlon. This is always an exciting and positive community event. Our Interact Club hosted an evening of Battle of the Bands, where the musical selections were, to understate, eclectic. This event raised over \$1,000 for the Uganda Rural Fund. Last week, Mrs. Hamilton and Mr. Spilchen hosted our Music Night, where our choir (Gold Medal winners in New York), jazz choir, and bands entertained our appreciative audience. Last month our Drama and Music Departments came together to perform Shakespeare's "The Taming of the Shrew". In brief, the kids were nothing short of amazing! We also had many students write the Advanced Placement exams in English, Psychology, Calculus, Physics, and Chemistry - all hoping to score high marks and qualify for post-secondary credits. In addition, a huge congratulations goes to Naomi Francis who competed in the National French Speaking Competition and placed FIRST! Naomi won the local competition and was then flown to Ottawa to compete. Well done, Naomi.

As you can tell, there are plenty of reasons to be proud of our students, our staff and our community members. Thank you to all of you for making SDSS a great place to learn, play, and have fun.

CH-CH-CH-CH-CHANGES...

There are a number of staffing changes unfolding this year. The following people will be sorely missed. First, congratulations to Mr. Isbister who moves from classroom teacher to full-time Vice-president of the Delta Teachers' Association. Mr. Haley has taken a position at Sands Secondary and we wish him well. Mr. David has committed himself to full time retirement next year and we wish him all the best. Ms. Kurkiewicz and Ms. Bareikis have been re-assigned to Delta Secondary and Burnsvew, respectively.

Mr. Rosencrans, Ms. Yang, Ms. Galbraith, and Mr. Logan are currently awaiting assignments either back to SDSS or to another Delta school. We wish them a speedy resolution. Mr. Wong will be moving to Seaquam next year where, in addition to the usual admin duties, he will be exploring the possibility of an International Baccalaureate program there. Good luck, Mr. Wong. And finally, it is with deep sorrow (but we ARE happy for her) that we announce the retirement of Ms. Barnes. "Barnsey's" compassion, her sincere care for kids, and her warped sense of humour will be irreplaceable. On behalf of SDSS we wish Ms. Barnes a golf-filled, peaceful yet exuberant retirement. Replacing Ms. Barnes and Mr. Wong are two Delta vice-principals - Madame Gaudreault from Seaquam and Mr. Johnstone from Delview.

SOUTH DELTA R.O.C.K.S.

This past year, staff at SDSS have had a strong focus on articulating our values - the behaviours and actions that we want ourselves and our students to aspire to. Much time at our professional development days was spent on grappling with the ideas of "what is important to us". This year we worked with professionals from UBC, from the BC College of Teachers, and from private consulting firms. We have also included students in this process. To make a long story short, we, in consultation with students and our PAC members, have decided to articulate our values through an acronym that highlights the virtues of Respect, Ownership, Care, Knowledge and Safety - hence South Delta Secondary R.O.C.K.S.! Our goal is to ensure that all members of SDSS are very familiar with the behavioural expectations that embody R.O.C.K.S. and how these values play themselves out in the classroom, in the hallways, and in the community. Next year you will be hearing much more about how ROCKS is impacting our school.

Upcoming Events

- ◆ SDSS Student Art Show (Coast Tsawwassen Inn) - until June 5th
- ◆ Junior Awards Night - June 3rd
- ◆ Senior Awards Night - June 4th
- ◆ Valedictory - June 12th
- ◆ Report Cards - June 25th
- ◆ Grad Banquet - June 26th

COUNSELLORS

Mrs. Koot
Grade 8 & Gr. 12 (M-R)

Ms. Hayes
Grade 9 & Gr. 12 (S-Z)

Mrs. Kilpatrick
(Monday - Wednesday)
Mrs. Dueck
(Thursday & Friday)
Grade 10 & Gr. 12 (A-F)

Mr. Kirincic
Grade 11 & Gr. 12 (G-L)

Health and Career Education 8 and 9

Once again subject teachers have completed components of the Health and Career Education program. Marks for assignments are compiled and sent to either Ms. Barnes or Mr. Wong depending on which grade the subject teacher is responsible to complete. The two administrators complete the marks for students and enter a letter grade and a work habit mark based on the class subject teacher's input.

DPA or Daily Physical Activity

Once again students in grades 8 and 9 Math classes and in grade 11 English classes were asked to complete the DPA sheets and return them by May 29th to either the Math teacher or English teachers.

Graduation Transitions

Out of the 252 grade 12 students here at SDSS, all but 16 have completed both the Graduation Transitions document AND the interview. For the administrators and counsellors, the interviews were absolutely awesome and showed us what each student was like.

Locker Clean-up and Textbook Return

Schools are very busy places all year and part of year-end activities includes returning all school textbooks to the appropriate subject teachers. During the week of June 1st - 5th, teachers will be collecting textbooks and issuing "lost book" or "damaged book" assessments. Students are also requested to have all their personal belongings and locks removed from their assigned locker(s) by June 16th. Since lockers are thoroughly cleaned and repaired during the summer months and access is necessary, locks will be cut off June 16th starting at 3:00 p.m. If students no longer feel they need to keep their lock, they may wish to donate it to SDSS at the office.

Report Cards

Report cards will be distributed between 10:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m. on Thursday, June 25th in the cafeteria. Please arrange to pick up your report cards as they will not be mailed home.

Grad Information



Valedictory, or the graduation ceremony, will be held on Friday, June 12th, 2009 at the South Delta Baptist Church. There is no reserved seating; doors open at 6:30 p.m.

The annual Grad Banquet is quickly approaching! This year's event will be at the Marriott Pinnacle Hotel in Vancouver (1128 West Hastings Street) on Friday, June 26th.

SDSS 2008 - 2009 Calendar

June 3 & 4	Awards - 7:00 pm SDSS Theatre	June 17 - 25	Provincial Exams
June 8	Last Day of Regular Classes	June 25	Report Cards
June 9 - 16	In-School Exams	June 26	Grad Banquet
June 12	Valedictory		

Career Advisor

Mrs. Foster is available in the Career Centre to answer your questions from 8:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Career Centre

GOING TO UNIVERSITY OR COLLEGE THIS SEPTEMBER? THINGS YOU NEED TO DO!

Access your student home page on the institute's website. Most of you have done this but if you haven't due to confusion follow these instructions or see Mrs. Foster in the Career Centre:

1. Go online to your new institute's website.
2. Click on "my insert college or university name" (myKwantlen, myLangara, myBCIT, etc.).
3. Type in the student number the institute issued to you and your birthdate as your password or PIN.
4. Your student home page should have your name at the top.

Now change your password or PIN (birthdate) to something confidential. Search around for all the info contained on your student home page. To find out your registration time it is usually posted under "student status".

Pay your registration fee or "save my place" fee. This cost varies between institutions. It can be from \$100 to \$350 in cost. Pay this fee at least a week before your registration time. Pay this fee on your student home page using a credit card.

Check your registration day and time. Each institute has different times.

Go to a "Planning Session" or "How to Register Session" at your chosen institute.

INSTITUTES WILL BE SENDING YOU A "REGISTRATION GUIDE"

Plan your courses! What courses do you need to meet faculty requirements? To meet major requirements? Remember, in BC everyone takes 1st year English. If you are having difficulties see Mrs. Foster in the Career Centre.

Check the institute's timetable of courses on the internet or in the guide and put 2 or 3 programs together. Courses fill up fast. Make sure you have alternatives.

Pay your tuition fees before the due date.

BC Transfer Guide

(www.bccat.bc.ca and <http://bctransferguide.ca/>) - this is a guide that helps students find course equivalencies between colleges and universities. College Transfer students must first check the university program they want to transfer in to. This will help with which courses to take in college. Then, students may refer to the BC Transfer Guide to find the college course equivalencies. Information about the guide is www.bccat.bc.ca and the guide is accessed at <http://bctransferguide.ca/>

Student Loans

Students who need a student loan must apply online before the end of June. To access provincial loan application forms, visit www.aved.gov.bc.ca/studentaidbc/apply/welcome.htm/ An early application will ensure that students receive their assessment notice before classes start. Submitting an application for a student loan does not mean the student will receive a loan.

Provincial Exam Results in July

<http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/exams/>

Enter your PEN number and the password you created.

Kwantlen Polytechnic University Enhancement Program

Any grade 11 student who would like to jump ahead and take a 1st year university course this September at night school let Mrs. Foster know by June 12th. In the past, students have taken courses in Computer Science, French, Psychology, Math, Criminology, English, Accounting and Spanish.

"The Other Side": Another Visual Art Show Success!!

Our 10th Annual SDSS Student Art Show is currently in its final week at the Coast Tsawwassen Inn. A highly successful Opening Night was enjoyed by close to 200 parents, students, and staff on May 29th. Artistic achievement certificates were presented to six deserving students:

Trina Ellis (Grade 10)
Naomi Francis (Grade 12)

Leah Pirani (Grade 11)
Katharine Henry-Rogers (Grade 12)

Stefan Van Westendorp (Grade 11)
Anna Rodgers (Grade 12)

Thank you to Margaret Elliot and Bonnie Kramer of the South Delta Artists' Guild for coming to jury this year's show. Also thanks to the Coast Tsawwassen Inn for their hospitality and support these past two weeks. Student work will be transported back to SDSS on June 5th.



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	184
Minutes of Instruction in School Day	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



**CONGRATULATIONS!
GRADS OF 2009!**



French Department - Mme Olsen

Many of our students have been extremely busy this past month as they participated in the trip to New York, in the production of "Taming of the Shrew", in the 30 Hour Famine, at our music concert, at the Girls Soccer Provincials and all levels of Track and Field and certainly not least have displayed their Art work currently showing at the Coast Tsawwassen Inn. French Immersion students are engaged in all areas and levels of school life and contribute enormously to the culture of this school. Congratulations again to all students who participated in the Provincial French Public Speaking event at SFU Surrey Campus, and special mention and congratulations go to Naomi Francis who represented the province in Ottawa and placed FIRST in the Nationals. We are all extremely proud of her achievement and the \$20,000 scholarship to the University of Ottawa could not go to anyone more deserving. Our annual Kindergrad ceremony will be held June 2nd where the incoming French Immersion Kindergarten class award the Grads of 2009 their French Immersion medals and "goody bags" we prepared for them. Bonne continuation, bon travail et bonnes vacances à tout le monde!