



# North Delta Secondary

## Husky Highlights

**AUGUST 2024**

northdelta.sec@deltaschools.ca

604-596-7471

*Welcome to our new North Delta community learners and families.  
Welcome back to those returning!*

A special welcome to our Grade 8 students who will be starting their high school journey-*you will be the graduating class of 2029!* And to our graduating class this year of 2025-*this is going to be an epic year.* If you are interested in being on Grad Council watch out for the email google form coming out the first week of school.

For the first day of school, students should bring a writing utensil and paper/ binder. Please check MyEd for your schedule.

*Ms. Sonia Sahota  
Principal*

*Mr. Vlad Nikic  
Vice Principal*

*Mr. Bill Richards  
Vice Principal*

### **First Day of School Schedule, September 3rd**

#### **Grade 8**

9:30 am Meet in the gym to get your schedule  
Students will attend Block A

12:05 pm Classes end and students enjoy a BBQ.

#### **Grade 9 & 10**

\*students check schedules in student connect/myed in advance of opening day

10:45-11:05am Block A

11:05-11:25am Assembly

11:25 - 11:55am BBQ

#### **Grade 11**

\*students check schedules in student connect/myed in advance of opening day

11:50am-12:10pm Block A

12:10-12:30pm Assembly

12:30 - 12:50pm BBQ

#### **Grade 12**

\*students check schedules in student connect/myed in advance of opening day

1:15-1:35pm Block A

1:35-2:00pm Assembly

2:00pm BBQ

**Note that the cafeteria will not be open in September. Please pack your lunch and snacks from home.**

*We respectfully acknowledge that we live and work on the unceded and ancestral lands of the Coast Salish Peoples, specifically the shared traditional territories of the Tsawwassen, Skwxwú7mesh Úxwumixw (Squamish), Tsleil-Waututh, and xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam) First Nations, who have been stewards of this land since time immemorial.*

Superintendent: Doug Sheppard  
A. Superintendent: Brad Bauman  
Principal: Sonia Sahota  
Vice Principal: Vlad Nikic  
Vice Principal: Bill Richards  
Office Manager: Barb Pashak  
Trustee: Ammen Dhillion

Emergency Contact Information:  
- kidshelpphone.ca (text 686868)  
- Mental Health Crisis and Suicide Prevention Help Line 9-8-8  
- Crisis Line 604-872-3311  
- Suicide Help Line 1-800-784-2433  
- In an emergency, dial 9-1-1 or go to your nearest hospital emergency room



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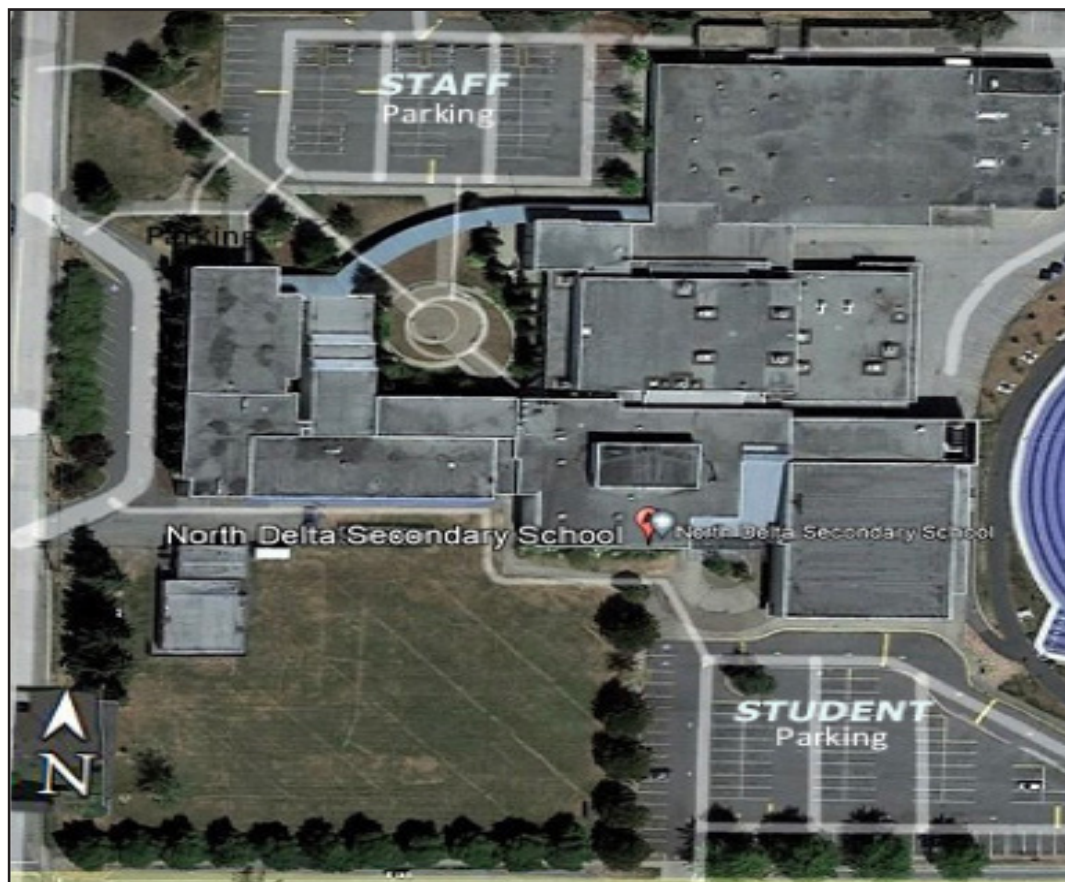
**Parking:** Effective the 2024-2025 school year the student parking lot will be at the front of the school. Staff will park in the back lot. This change in parking arrangements aims to improve convenience and logistics for both students and staff. By relocating the student parking to the front lot, students will have easier access to the school entrance, while the staff parking in the back lot will create a more organized and efficient flow of traffic within the school premises.

All students who park in our parking lot must register their vehicle plate(s) with the Main Office. Staff will have parking tags in their vehicle to help us easily identify vehicles. Vehicles without parking tags will be asked to move out of the rear staff parking lot.

Parents, caregivers, and visitors are welcome to park in the student parking lot at the front of the school.

If you are a visitor, please obtain a visitor parking pass from the Main Office.

The front row of parking spaces are Reserved for office staff only.





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### **Bike Racks**

The district has invested in additional bike racks that will be placed at the front of the school before school starts. We encourage you to ride your bike or walk to school thereby reducing your carbon footprint.

### **Cameras**

The safety and security of our building is important. For that reason the school has invested in additional cameras that will assist administration with our sightlines.

### **School Photos**

Photo Day: September 12th

Retake Day: October 21st

Please visit Artona Group's website for details on how to order your photos:

<http://www.artona.com/schools>

Grad Photos will take place in the Artona Mobile Studio that will be parked in the rear Staff Parking lot in February 2025. Stay tuned for a link to book your Grad Photo.

### **Medical Alerts**

Parents/Guardians are responsible for updating the school with any medical issues.

A Medical Alert condition is defined as a physician diagnosed, potentially life threatening condition such as: Diabetes, Epilepsy, Anaphylaxis, Severe Asthma, Blood Clotting disorders, Serious Heart Conditions, and Other conditions which may require emergency care and/or the administration of medication as determined in consultation with parents/students/family physician, school and Medical Health Officer or designate.

Please provide your update directly to the Main Office.

As per district policy, we are unable to provide students with any over-the-counter medication (for example, Advil or Tylenol).

### **School Fees**

School Fees will be emailed to families in the coming weeks. Please pay promptly via School Connect. You may pay via cash or card by coming to the Main Office. If your family is in need of financial assistance, please contact your child's counsellor to make the request.



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## **Counselling Department**

A message from NDSS Counselling Department:

Welcome back to a new school year. We hope you all had a wonderful summer and are looking forward to seeing you!

Any students who need to request a change in their class schedule please complete a course change form in person at our main office. Only necessary requests will be considered.

Counsellors will review these forms in order, according to the date they were submitted.

**PLEASE DO NOT EMAIL YOUR COUNSELLOR REGARDING THESE REQUESTS.** Please be patient when waiting to hear back from your counsellor. Counsellors will be emailing or phoning students once their forms have been reviewed. The last day for course change requests is Friday September 6th at 3pm.

Please ensure you have the name of your assigned counsellor correct according to the list below.

T. Blouin, Grade 8	Grade 12 last names	A – F
D. Bousserska, Grade 9	Grade 12 last names	O – Z
R. Khaira, Grade 10	Grade 12 last names	G -K
F. Cipriano, Grade 11	Grade 12 last names	L-N

If you have any other personal or mental health issues, please don't hesitate to reach out to your counsellor.

## **PAC Meeting**

Our first PAC meeting will be on October 1st, 2024 at 6pm in the school Library. If you are not able to attend in person a Zoom or Teams link will be sent out shortly before each meeting. We meet monthly with the exception of December and March. All parents are automatically members of the PAC, however, if you are interested in being on the executive, please join us at the first meeting for elections. All parents are welcome! PAC email: [northdeltasecondarypac@gmail.com](mailto:northdeltasecondarypac@gmail.com). Please visit our website [here](#).

## **Upcoming Dates To Remember:**

August 26th	Main Office is open
August 27th	New Student and Family Tour
August 29th	International Students Tour and DHA Students Tour
September 3rd	First Day of School (altered schedule)
September 4th	First Day of Semester 1
September 12th	Picture Day
September 11th	Grad Council Nominations Due
September 23rd	Graduating Students Boat Cruise





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## Expectations of Personal Digital Device Usage by Staff and Students at North Delta Secondary

We want our students to be healthy, happy, and engaged learners. We hope our students pursue growth and aim to be their best selves. These guidelines are aimed at enhancing student learning and well-being.

### Personal Digital Device Definition

- Any personal electronic device that has internet access, be used to communicate or gaming capabilities.

### Personal Digital Device Guidelines

- Personal digital device should be in holding space provided by your teacher (not on your person), in your bag away from you, or in your locker
- Headphones/earbuds are not in use during teacher instruction
- No personal digital devices in washrooms, changerooms, counsellor offices or other spaces that there is an expectation of privacy
- Smart Watches notifications are turned off during instruction
- Teachers will indicate if there are specific learning situations that support personal digital device use
- Students are welcome to access their devices during breaks and/or lunch
- Students with diverse abilities or health-related requirements will continue to be able to use their PDDs in line with their Individual Education Plans (IEPs), Annual Instructional Plans (AIP's) or designated support plans.
- Accessibility and accommodation needs will be addressed for intended students
- Medical and health needs will be addressed for intended students
- Equity to support learning outcomes will be addressed for intended students

Research shows that frequent cellphone interruption in the classroom, social media platforms with addictive algorithms and predators who seek to exploit young people all present significant risks to young people. The revised procedure will create appropriate structures around the use of PDD's at school and aims to positively impact students' mental health and ability to focus on learning. The use of PDD's will be for instructional purposes and digital literacy and will be determined by school staff. All schools in Delta and British Columbia have prepared for PDD expectations during instructional time for the 2024-2025 school year.

### What Can Staff, Students, Parents and Caregivers Expect?

- North Delta Secondary staff will work with students to model responsible PDD usage during instructional time as schools now have greater opportunity to promote online safety and focused learning environments.
- **Instructional time refers to all class time (including Individualized Learning Time - ILT) and does include study blocks.**
- Before school, after school, time between classes and lunch time is not considered instructional time.



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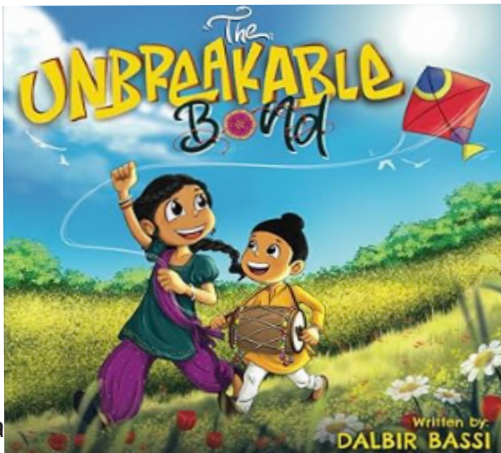
- Students' PDD's are to be separate from themselves during instructional time to ensure all environments within the school are conducive to learning.
- For example, students are not to have their phones on themselves (ie: pockets of pants or jackets, or with them on a desk/table) during instructional time or in the hallways during instructional time.
- Students who have their personal digital device out during instructional time, will be asked to place it in the classroom cell phone holder.
- Staff members will collect PDD's from students who do not respect the guidelines with in Procedure 145 and will be considered in contravention of the Code of Conduct.

Students with diverse abilities or health-related requirements will continue to be able to use their PDDs in line with their Individual Education Plans (IEPs), Annual Instructional Plans (AIP's) or designated support plans.

- Accessibility and accommodation needs will be addressed for intended students
- Medical and health needs will be addressed for intended students
- Equity to support learning outcomes will be addressed for intended students

### Read A Good Book Lately?

As educators we love to read and encourage reading whenever we can. This month I would like to introduce you to a book written by an ND graduate, Dalbir Bassi. In, **The Unbreakable Bond**, Dalbir takes the reader through a journey of family, culture and celebrating the bond with her brother, Brandon. Congratulations Dalbir on your first publication!



School

This past year, Dilpreet Singh, a 2, visioned a social media mural outside of our cafeteria in the atrium. She captured social media icons, logos and the world that our learners live in. Thank you Dilpreet for leaving your mark on the walls of North Delta.





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### Newsletter Profile of the Month

The students, staff, and community are the ones that make North Delta great! Each month we will profile a member of the school community in this section. If you feel that you would like to suggest someone to profile, please email a pic and details to [b.pashak@deltaschools.ca](mailto:b.pashak@deltaschools.ca). All we need is a current pic, full name, who they are, a fun fact, and tell us why how they have made a difference to the North Delta community.

#### September

This month we profile Ms. Cipriano, ND's department head of Counselling. Ms. Cipriano has been with the district for 33 years and at North Delta for 22. She makes a difference every day because she listens. Students and staff feel safe speaking with Ms. Cipriano and appreciate her willingness to support. You may not know this but Ms. Cipriano is an expert baker. Her cannoli's are delicious!



This month we profile Tina Gill. Tina is a member of PAC and parent of 2 North Delta students. She works tirelessly to support the school and its fundraising initiatives. You may not know this but she had a Bollywood career and is a huge fan of anything Bollywood.

#### Athletics

Hi Huskies! North Delta Athletics is excited to begin another fantastic year of athletics! We have several opportunities for our student-athletes to partake in such as: Girls Volleyball (Gr.8, Jr. & Sr.), Boys Volleyball, Jr. Boys Soccer, Sr. Boys Soccer, Jr. Cross Country, Sr. Cross Country, Girls Field Hockey – Open to all grade levels with a desire to run both a jr. & sr. team! Excited to have the program up & running again after a two-year hiatus! Our coaches and teacher sponsors are eager to support athletics at North Delta and we are hopeful we have great success at each sport this year! For any information about North Delta athletics feel free to our athletics website (<https://ndathletics.weebly.com/>) and social media pages (twitter: @NDHuskies; Instagram: @ndhuskies) or email Athletic Director Jaskaran Dhanda ([jdhandad@deltaschools.ca](mailto:jdhandad@deltaschools.ca)).

**Let's go Huskies!**





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## Emergency Preparedness Fee

As previously communicated to families in the spring (view the letter [here](#), the district is introducing a new annual Emergency Preparedness Fee of \$10 per student. This is to cover the maintenance and replenishment of emergency provisions, including food, water and first aid items, to help care for students in case of a large-scale incident such as an earthquake. Please pay this \$10 fee by sending cash or a cheque (made payable to the school) to the school office, paying in person at the school office using our credit and debit card machine, or by paying online through Parent Connect. If your family requires financial support in relation to this fee, please contact the school office. Discretion will be maintained.

The Delta District School Board prides itself on our Vision, Mission and Values.

