



# Hawthorne Elementary School

5160 Central Ave, Delta BC V4K 2K2  
Phone: 604-946-7601 Fax: 604-946-3016

**Office Hours:** 8:30 am -3:30 pm

**School website :** [ha.deltasd.bc.ca](http://ha.deltasd.bc.ca)

**Principal:** Mr. J. Hope **Vice-Principal** Ms. B. Bryan

**Administrative Assistants:** Ms. W. Hunt and Ms. D. Richardson

Twitter @ElemHawthorne

**May 14, 2021**

## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Parents/Guardians:

It is hard to believe we are already almost half way through May. At least we are in for some nicer weather! This will help as we continue to feel the stress of the prolonged COVID pandemic, but there is hope as BC announced 50% of eligible people have received at least one dose of vaccine. I thank you all again for your ongoing cooperation with our health procedures including the daily health checks, keeping sick kids at home, wearing masks and maintaining social distance. I can't wait for a time when things start to look more normal. Please take a look through the school and PAC information below and, as always, if you have any questions please contact the school.

Sincerely,

J. Hope  
Principal

## COVID Update

I would like to take the opportunity to remind folks that should a child present at school with symptoms listed on the daily health check, or a child indicates to staff that they are not feeling well, we are obligated to have the child picked up to ensure the health of staff and students. Please help us out by having someone else available to pick up your child if you are unable. If a child is sent home with symptoms of COVID, the district has provided the school with gargle-style home test kits for COVID-19 which may be offered if a student needs to be picked up. The kits come with detailed instructions for parents on how to collect the sample. Samples are to be taken at home and dropped off at a LifeLabs location within 24 hours, not at the school. The kits are only offered to any student that starts to exhibit COVID-19 symptoms while at school and if the parent/guardian wants one. We recognize that not all parents will be able to drop off a kit at a LifeLabs location in a timely manner, or some parents may still prefer to take their child to a testing location. This is just an extra resource we have at our disposal to offer our community.

## PAC AGM- POSTPONED

The school has been notified that the PAC executive has decided to defer the Parent Advisory Council Annual General Meeting and executive elections until September or October of 2021. It was originally scheduled for next week, on Thursday, May 20. More detailed information will come from them in the next few months. From the school perspective, the deferral gives an opportunity to involve our incoming Kindergarten families to engage in the process and also will allow people to start reconnecting and exploring how they can help the school through PAC initiatives when COVID restrictions are lifted. In the meantime, nominations are still being accepted by the current executive for the positions of Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, and Vice-Chair. If you are looking for an opportunity to be more active in the school community,

## EMERGENCY RELEASE DRILL DEBRIEF

I would like to take the opportunity to thank our community for the amazing turn out to help us test our emergency release procedures. I truly appreciated the patience, kindness and understanding shown to myself and the staff as we went through the process. We had an amazing per-class average of 80% participation rate for the drill. The process was intended to try out our system so that we are as prepared as possible should we have need to do a controlled release of students in a real emergency situation. It was a learning opportunity for us and I have received some great feedback. The biggest challenge we faced was the long line up of people waiting patiently. As we started the drill, we realized we had to move faster and we adjusted to have the main line up funnel into smaller ones for individual divisions. Part of that too is doing a better job on our end informing people towards the back of the line about what was happening and what to expect as they waited. We also realized that having two student information management systems in the district, MyED BC and Parent Connect, posed a challenge as our updated information goes to MyED but parents were still able to make last minute changes in Parent Connect that didn't register in our documents. To resolve this moving forward, please contact Ms. Hunt in the school office to update any demographic information, phone numbers, emails, addresses, or emergency contact information. She will happily enter it for you into MyED as it will then transfer to Parent Connect and stay.

I did have the opportunity to get feedback from parents, caregivers, and staff both during and after the drill which is valuable. Much of that feedback will be worked into a revised plan. We also had Vanessa Heal, our new district emergency management coordinator, on-site to observe the drill and help us refine our processes. If there is anything else you would like me to know, please email me at [jhope@deltaschools.ca](mailto:jhope@deltaschools.ca).

## SUMMER LEARNING OPPORTUNITY

The school district recognizes that some learning gaps can widen during the summer months and kids often lose some of their skills. To offset the 'summer slide' programs have been offered in the district the last couple of years. It was on Zoom last year but they are heading back to classrooms this summer.

If you would like your children to continue learning into the summer, please check out your options the Delta School District is offering at the following link:

<https://www.deltasd.bc.ca/programs/continuing-education/summer-school-registration/>

## DISTRICT VISION 2030

More than 10 year ago, our school district engaged all stakeholders in a process creating a Bold Vision that articulated district goals and values for the following decade. Here we are 10 years later getting ready for the next 10 years. We had a zoom meeting with parents, staff, and students from across the district on Wednesday night to hear other perspectives. A thank you to those parents from Hawthorne that put their names forward to participate. If you didn't get a chance to be on that zoom, and would like to add your voice to the process, the district has put out a survey for people to fill in. Here is the link:

<https://www.deltasd.bc.ca/vision-2030-parent-guardian-survey/>

## SCHOOL SUPPLIES

Part of the fun of going back to school is shopping for school supplies. I often found many of my kids' supplies could be re-used from year-to-year which allowed me to purchase fewer things. However, this is not always the case. If you plan to shop for school supplies for next school year, we will have the supply lists posted on our school website under the 'Student Life' tab. We will also be offering a more convenient pre-order option through a third-party supplier called School Start. Orders through that company would be able to be made on schoolstart.ca, via phone at 1-800-580-1868, or by emailing the order form to [info@schoolstart.ca](mailto:info@schoolstart.ca). A link will be on our website on the 'Supplies' page under 'Student Life'.

## CLASS PLANNING 2021-2022

As we plan for the 2021-2022 school year I would like to make families aware of some of the many factors that are important in organizing classes for next year.

### STAFFING AND CLASS SIZE:



The number of staff members assigned to Hawthorne is decided by the Delta School District and is based on projected student enrolment. Enrolment estimates and class size guidelines affect the configuration of classes. Class composition language also determines how classes can be set up to meet contractual obligations. Combined (split) classes are an organizational necessity based on our student numbers. Teachers' instruction and assessment cycles are guided by the curriculum and the needs of the students in their classes. Multi-age groupings provide very positive learning environments for children. Studies show that children in multi-age classes learn to become more independent, responsible learners and develop a greater degree of social responsibility. The diversity of abilities and interests of students in straight classes can be equally as great as the range in combined classes; not all kids of the same chronological age are at the same stage of development or of their learning.

### CRITERIA FOR STUDENT PLACEMENT:

Assigning students to particular classes is a very complex task that teachers spend many hours working collaboratively on. When staff builds classes for the next year they take into consideration a variety of factors. These include but are not limited to: learning styles and strengths, what a student is able to achieve in relation to the goals of the curriculum, degree of independence in work habits, social and personal needs, age and emotional maturity, previous placements, behaviour, distribution of support resources, and personality fit. The professional staff, including teachers, support staff, and administrator are in contact with the children in the school setting for 30 hours a week and know best where a student will be the most successful. Therefore, the classroom placement of students must be determined through school-based evaluations. Our objective is to create balanced classes where students can reach their full potential. I fully trust that our Hawthorne teachers have an excellent understanding of the academic, behavioural, and social needs of the children in our school and therefore are well-equipped to make placements.

### PARENT INPUT:

As our partners, we recognize that parents have important information that may assist with the placement of students. Parents know their child's personality, strengths, and concerns better than anyone. We welcome their insight into emerging personal, medical, or social needs that could affect a child's learning environment. Our staff will keep this information in mind where possible, along with the above considerations when building classes. This information cannot include a request for placement with, or not with, a particular teacher. Any requests received that request a specific teacher will not be considered. To offer this input, a downloadable form is available on the Hawthorne website under OUR SCHOOL >REGISTRATION. When completed, the form is to be emailed to the principal at [jhope@deltaschools.ca](mailto:jhope@deltaschools.ca) by May 26, 2021. **Input received after this date cannot be accommodated.**

Many factors, such as maternity leaves, retirements, and lay-offs combine to make school staffing a changing and on-going process. Also, staff members may change grade levels due to school needs or to further professional growth. This may mean that your child could be placed with the same teacher for a second year or that your child could be in a combined class for two consecutive years. Whatever the scenario, we strive to place your child in a warm, caring environment that will maximize their learning.

## 2021-2022 CALENDAR

We have our fingers crossed that the next school year will be more of a typical school year. We will plan for it being that way, keeping in mind last minute changes to planning may have to happen. We are required to have our calendars for the next school year created early in May. Here is what we hope to have things look like for next school year:



### HAWTHORNE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

2021/2022 SCHOOL CALENDAR INFORMATION FOR PARENTS	
Days in Session	186
<b>Hours of Instruction in School Week</b>	<b>Kindergarten - Grade 7: 24.55 hours</b>
Number of Days of Instruction	179
<b>Minutes of Instruction in School Day</b>	<b>Kindergarten – Grade 7: 295 minutes</b>
Number of Non-Instructional Days	6 (District Wide) + 1 Admin Day
Schools Open	Tuesday, September 7
Terry Fox Run	Friday, September 17
Open House	Thursday, September 23
Non-Instructional Day (District Wide)	Friday, September 24
Thanksgiving Day – Statutory Holiday	Monday, October 11
Early Dismissal at 2:00 PM for P/T Conferences	Wednesday, October 20
Early Dismissal at 2:00 PM for P/T Conferences	Thursday, October 21
Non-Instructional Day (District Wide)	Friday, October 22
Remembrance Day Assembly	Wednesday, November 10
Remembrance Day – Statutory Holiday	Thursday, November 11
Non-Instructional Day (District Wide)	Monday, November 29
Term 1 Report Card Issued	Wednesday, December 8
Christmas Concert	Wednesday, December 15
Last Day of School before Winter Vacation	Friday, December 17
Winter Vacation Period	December 20 – January 3
Schools Reopen after Winter Vacation	Tuesday, January 4
Non-Instructional Day (District Wide)	Friday, January 28
Non-Instructional Day (District Wide)	Friday, February 18
Family Day – Statutory Holiday	Monday, February 21
Term 2 Report Card Issued	Wednesday, March 9
Spring Vacation Period	March 14 – March 25
Schools Reopen	Monday, March 28
Good Friday – Statutory Holiday	Friday, April 15
Easter Monday – Statutory Holiday	Monday, April 18
Early Dismissal at 2:00 PM Student Led Conf.	Wednesday, April 27
Early Dismissal at 2:00 PM Student Led Conf.	Thursday, April 28
Ladner Track Meet	Tuesday, May 10 (alternate date May 12)
District Track Meet	Thursday, May 19
Non-Instructional Day (District Wide) Day in lieu Sept. 1 Pro-D	Friday, May 20
Victoria Day – Statutory Holiday	Monday, May 23
School Sports Day	Friday, June 24
Final Report Card Issued	Wednesday, June 29
Last Day for Students	Wednesday, June 29
Schools Close/Administrative Day	Thursday, June 30

#### Daily Schedule:

Office Hours:	8:15 AM – 3:45 PM
Opening Time:	8:50 AM (Start 8:55 AM)
Recess:	10:25 – 10:40 AM
Lunch:	12:05 – 12:55 PM (Start 1:00 PM)
Dismissal:	3:00 PM

## FAMILY ACTIVITY PROGRAMMING

Looking for ways to engage your children. To find family-friendly events, drop-in programs, and other various supports for your family, go to [www.deltakids.ca](http://www.deltakids.ca)



Another resource for parents with teenage or pre-teen kids is listed below.



"Staying Connected To Your Teen" Workshop

PRESENTED BY:  
LEARNING SERVICES/  
INCLUSIVE LEARNING



A FREE  
EDUCATION  
SESSION FOR  
PARENTS AND  
CAREGIVERS

PRESENTERS:  
SUKH SHERGILL &  
KIRSTEN  
HERMANSON

MAY 20<sup>TH</sup>, 2021  
SPACE IS LIMITED

Email questions for  
Sukh and Kirsten ahead  
of time to:  
Kirsten Hermanson,  
Manager – Prevention  
and School Wellness

[khermanson@dsd.schools.ca](mailto:khermanson@dsd.schools.ca)

## UPCOMING CALENDAR EVENTS

### CALENDAR REMINDERS

Friday, May 21	PRO-D Day in lieu, Students don't attend school.
Monday, May 24	Victoria Day holiday- no school
Friday, May 28	SPIRIT DAY- Crazy Hat Day
Tuesday, June 8	Kindergarten Drive-Thru Meet the teachers 1:00-2:00
Thursday, June 24	SPIRIT DAY- Hawthorne Colours and logo gear
Thursday, June 24	Grade 7, Division 1, Year end Recognition
Friday, June 25	Grade 7, Division 2, Year end Recognition
Monday, June 28	Grade 7 Year end picnic and games- pm only
Tuesday, June 29	Last Day for Students- DISMISSALS at 10:30 (A) and 10:45 (B)
Tuesday, June 29	Term 3 Report Cards online on Parent Connect



• FOR YOUR INFORMATION •