



GRAY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
10855 – 80 Ave, Delta, BC V4C 1W4
P: (604-594-2474)

April 19, 2024

Dear Parents/Guardians:

This has been another great week at our school! As you know, we hosted student led conferences on both Wednesday and Thursday this week. These conferences were well attended and really allowed our students to shine, and show off their progress to their parents – thank you for attending and making this such a memorable event. Many of our students are also participating in Track & Field and have been practicing hard for the upcoming track meet. If your child is attending track practices in the morning and you are dropping them off, we ask that you do so in the designated drop off areas on the road at the front of the school. Practice days are very busy in the morning, with many students gathering near the roundabout prior to being let into the gym for practice so it is much safer to park a little further away. Thank you for your help with this. We look forward to seeing many of you tonight at the Spring Dance(s)!

2024/2025 DRAFT BUDGET RECOMMENDATIONS

Phase 1 of this year's budget public consultation process resulted in more than 180 online survey responses from parents/caregivers on their priorities for the upcoming school year. Thank you for taking the time to provide your feedback.

Following a review of this feedback and the Ministry's funding announcement, the [draft budget recommendations](#) were released on Thursday, April 18 on the district's website and in the local media.

The Delta Board of Education is now inviting you to provide feedback on the draft budget recommendations via this [online survey](https://forms.gle/69ZdPF9LcrQXhVdX9) (<https://forms.gle/69ZdPF9LcrQXhVdX9>) or by sending an email to budget@deltaschools.ca, or attending the public board meeting at 7:30p.m. on Tuesday, April 23. The deadline for completing the survey or sending an email is noon on Monday, April 22 so that the information can be shared with the board prior to the public board meeting. Also, if you would like to speak at the public board meeting on April 23, please email rsonsalla@deltaschools.ca by noon on April 22.



REGIONAL TRACK MEET

The Regional Track Meet will be on **Thursday, May 9th, 2024** at North Delta Senior Secondary. More information will be coming out to parents closer to the event.

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN BECOMING A FOSTER CAREGIVER?

The Ministry of Children and Families needs families willing to share their time, love and homes with a child or youth in need of temporary care. For many reasons, children and youth sometimes need alternate people to care for them besides their families. When that happens, trained and approved foster caregivers provide that much needed support.

If you have ever considered being a foster caregiver, please join Alisa Westendorp from the Ministry for a brief online information session on Thursday, April 25 at 3p.m. She will go over the basics of fostering and answer any questions you might have. Please register in advance by emailing Alisa at Alisa.Westendorp@gov.bc.ca

For more information, please visit: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/family-social-supports/fostering/caringforchildrenandyouth>

SALEEMA NOON PARENT INFORMATION SESSION

We are excited and grateful that our PAC has generously offered to support Sexual Health workshops through Saleema Noon for both our parents and students once again this year. Thank you PAC!

A Parent workshop will be held virtually on the evening of April 22nd at 6:30pm. For more information, click on the following link: <https://www.saleemanoon.com/>

Student workshops will be taking place on April 24th and April 26th. Please note that parents should contact their child's classroom teacher no later than the morning of April 23rd if they do not wish their child to participate.

Dr. Brandy Wiebe (she|they) is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Gray Parents

Time: Apr 22, 2024 06:30 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84755178286?pwd=Z0p0cC9ETmp2blgxTU9LRXhORzh3dz09>

Meeting ID: 847 [5517 8286](#)

Passcode: 936126

This zoom session will not be recorded for privacy reasons

BC TRAINING AND EDUCATION SAVINGS PROGRAM GRANT

Please see the attached [letter](#) for families and guardians of students in Kindergarten to Grade 4 to learn about how to apply for a \$1,200 B.C. Training and Education Savings Grant for post-secondary education.

PAC NEWS

On Tuesday, May 7th, the Gray Elementary PAC will be hosting a potluck lunch to thank and celebrate the people that do so much for our kids - the incredible staff of Gray Elementary! We need your help to make this event a success. If you are able to volunteer your time or provide an appetizer, salad, entree or dessert, please email us at gravelementarypac@gmail.com. Items can be dropped off at the office the morning of May 7th. Your contribution is greatly appreciated. Thank you!



FRASER HEALTH ENCOURAGES YOU TO GET OUTSIDE AND PLAY

Physical activity is a necessary requirement for optimal health – and the benefits are even greater if you can do it outdoors. Regular physical activity in childhood helps to develop cardiovascular fitness, muscle strength and bone density, and being outdoors is known to improve mental health.

There are many benefits to unstructured, outside play. When children spend time outside, they:

- Sit less, move more and play longer – key to cardiovascular health and fitness.
- Have healthier eyes – 10+ hours a week outside reduces nearsightedness risks.
- Sleep better – sunlight helps regulate melatonin and sleep patterns.
- Enjoy improved mood – exercise reduces symptoms of anxiety and depression.
- Feel more connected to nature – experience calm and develop mindfulness.

Planning active outings doesn't have to be challenging or costly. Here are some ideas that you can try:

- Go for a walk or hike – try these [10 hikes to take your kids on this summer](#).
- Play in a forest or park – try a new [regional park](#) every day for a week.
- Climb a tree – this [Vancouver climbing tree](#) is inspiring, but start smaller!
- Explore a local stream – check these [beautiful watershed walks](#) in the region.
- Play hopscotch or jump rope – try teaching these [six fun jump rope games](#).
- Swim at the pool, waterpark or beach – check [beach safety conditions](#) first.
- Ride a bike or scooter – find [easy, family-friendly cycling routes](#).
- Visit farms, fish hatcheries and bird sanctuaries – this [local family fun guide](#) has unique ideas.

Find more ideas to keep your kids active through the year on Fraser Health's

website: <https://ow.ly/lrmm50PezbK>

UPCOMING EVENTS

Monday, April 22th

Earth Day

Saleema Noon Parent Session on Zoom at 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, April 23rd

Fun Hair and/or Wacky Hat Day

Wednesday, April 24th

PAC Meeting at 7:00 p.m. in the Library. All are welcome!

Respectfully,

Mr. J. Mann
Principal

Ms. T. Sohal
Vice-Principal





April 2024

Dear Parent or Guardian:

The Government of British Columbia is pleased to inform you that your child may be able to receive a \$1,200 Training and Education Savings Grant.

Children are eligible if:

- The parent or guardian, and the child, are BC residents; and,
- The child's birth year is listed below, and the deadline has not passed:

BIRTH YEAR	APPLY BEFORE
2015	Apply before 9th birthday in 2024
2016	Apply before 9th birthday in 2025
2017	Apply before 9th birthday in 2026
2018	Start applying on 6th birthday in 2024

Once you open an account, known as a Registered Education Savings Plan (RESP), the Government of British Columbia will deposit a \$1,200 BC Training and Education Savings Grant into the RESP for your child. Students can use the money to pay for their education expenses (e.g., tuition, books, tools, rent, or transportation) in an apprenticeship program, a trade school, CEGEP, college, or university.

Plan today: you don't have to put any money into the RESP for your child to receive the \$1,200.

Step 1: Get Social Insurance Numbers (SINs) for you and your child. Go to the [Service Canada SIN Overview webpage](#) or call **1-800-622-6232** to find out how.

Step 2: Make an appointment with a financial organization that offers RESPs. Bring the SINs for you and your child and let them know that you want to open an RESP and get the B.C. Training Education Savings grant for your child.

Learn more: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/BCTESG> Contact: BCTESG@gov.bc.ca
Your child may also be eligible for other federal incentives, see: canada.ca/education-savings.