

August 2017

## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Galt Families,

We hope that each of you had a safe, fun, restful summer and had the opportunity to spend time with family and friends. We are working to ensure that this school year will be exciting, innovative, successful, and safe for all students and staff. On behalf of the Alexander Galt Regional High School staff, I would like to welcome our returning Galt families, as well as our new families, who will be taking part in the 'Piper' experience for the first time. We are very excited and thrilled to get the school year going. Each summer, we continue to make upgrades to our facilities to ensure that our Alexander Galt Regional High School students have the best learning environment possible that fosters both success and 'Piper' pride. There should be a number of good surprises awaiting you when you return to our building☺

Our school newsletters are created as a source of communication and information for our Galt families & the first edition is directed toward helping to make an easier transition from the relaxed days of summer back into the routine and excitement of the school year. Newsletters are issued through email and continue to be available on the school web-site. Hard copies are not mass distributed. We are asking that each family take the time to review our newsletter. You will find important dates and upcoming events. Our General Assembly of Parents & Meet our Staff Evening is scheduled to take place on **Thursday, September 28<sup>th</sup>**. We will begin the evening at 6:30 p.m. in the auditorium. We look forward to welcoming you at that time. A meet and greet for parents and staff will follow the assembly in the cafeteria.

The continued implementation of our very popular Visual Arts, Sports, & and Science Concentrations provide students an opportunity to follow their passion. I am pleased to share that new for the 2017-2018 school year our first group of Performing Arts Concentration will also get underway. Galt also offers a wide range of varsity athletics. Last year we had over 250 student-athletes that took advantage of these programs. We are equally very proud of our top-quality Artistic programs & clubs; Visual Arts, Theatre, Music, and Dance. Our long tradition of strong and challenging academic programs offers: Advanced/Enriched Science, Math, French, English, & History; Bilingual course selections; Adapted or Modified learning opportunities and support; the Work Oriented Training Path and our mainstream programs. As you can see, we strive to truly create a school where every student can find their place.

Thank you to all families who made it in during the Fee Collection days to pay school fees and to collect materials, schedules, and id cards. For those who were not able to make it in, students may download their schedule from the portal the evening of August 29<sup>th</sup> or may collect it from the cafeteria before classes on the first day of school. Students will also need to see Ms. Rousseau in the Central Office Conference Room to pay their fees or to confirm a payment plan and to collect their workbooks from the school store by the end of the first week of school.

Please make sure to provide the school with any modifications of your email or home address. Please be reminded that the parent and student portals provide you access to your child's report card, timetable, absences, and other important information. This tool in addition to our web-site and email list ensures on-going communication between our families and our school. For any information about this service, please visit our school website at: <http://www.etsb.qc.ca/alexandergalt> or contact us directly.

I am very pleased to be returning as your Principal at Alexander Galt and I look forward to further knowing our families. Should you have questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact your child's teachers or our administrative team.

Best wishes for a rewarding school year.

Sincerely,

Peggy McCourt  
Principal

**Level 1 Orientation will be on August 28<sup>th</sup>. School fee payment for the 2017 – 2018 school year will take place as follows:**

- **August 21<sup>st</sup>:** 9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. (Sec. 5)
- **August 22<sup>nd</sup>:** 9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. (Sec. 4)
- **August 23<sup>rd</sup>:** 9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. (Sec. 3)
- **August 25<sup>th</sup>:** 9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. (Sec. 2)
- **August 28<sup>th</sup>:** 12:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. (Sec. 1)
- **August 29<sup>th</sup>:** 9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. (All Levels)



**FIRST DAY OF CLASSES  
WILL BE ON  
AUGUST 30<sup>th</sup>, 2017**

Students are to report to their Block 1, Day 3, class for 9:00 a.m.

- Classes will end at 3:35 p.m.
- Buses will leave at 3:45 p.m.

**TIMETABLES**

Families will have the opportunity to pick up their child's timetable during the payment of their school fees on August 21<sup>st</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup>, & 29<sup>th</sup>. Students who were unable to attend the school-fee collection days will need to pick up their schedules in the cafeteria upon morning arrival on August 30<sup>th</sup>, or they may also download their schedule from the portal the evening of August 29<sup>th</sup>.

**COURSE SELECTION CHANGES**

Course Selection Change Request forms are available at the House Office or from our Counselor in Academic Training, Marie Thibault. Requests will be considered based on available space. Course change requests will not be processed after September 11<sup>th</sup> at 3:40 p.m.

**SCHOOL STORE**

The School Store can be located at the Door #2 Student Entrance. It is open on regular school days from 12:30 – 12:45 p.m.

**SCHOOL ORGANIZATION**

Each of our students receives services from their House office secretary and their Vice-Principal according to the plan below:

**CYCLE 1 – Levels 1 & 2  
Yellow & Orange Houses**

**Vice-Principal:** Mr. S. Element  
**Secretary:** Ms. P. Wilson

**CYCLE 2 – Levels 3, 4, & 5  
Blue & Green Houses**

**Vice-Principal:** Ms. T. McCully  
**Secretary:** Ms. L. Humphrey

**MAPS (Modified & Adapted Programs) –  
WOTP (Work-Oriented Training Path)**

**Interim Vice-Principal:** Mr. M. Warnholtz  
**Secretary :** Ms. A. St-Hilaire

**LOCKS & LOCKERS**

Student lockers will be assigned to our students on the first day of school. Locker numbers can be found on the student's timetable. Students are to use the lockers assigned to them. Under no circumstances are students to share lockers.

**It is highly recommended that each student have two locks:**

- ❖ One for the locker where coats, boots and books will be kept
- ❖ One to use during Physical Education class

School locks will be available for purchase, but a student is free to bring one from home. If a student wishes to bring his/her own lock, we ask that they inform the House Secretary of their combination.

Students are reminded that they should not share their lock combination with anyone other than the House Secretary.

### **SCHOOL BUSES**

Parents who have Transportation questions can contact our Transportation Services at 819-566-6027. Families who wish to report a change of address should contact their child's House Office directly: Yellow House (Cycle 1) - Ext. 22004, Blue House (Cycle 2) - Ext. 22005, MAPs/WOTP – Ext. 22006.

Please note that many of our buses are running at close to maximum capacity. Bus passes for students wanting to travel on buses other than their own are only issued in exceptional circumstances.

Our Late bus program runs on selected days during the fall, winter, and spring seasons. This service is intended for students participating in extra-curricular activities, tutoring, or after-school detentions. The schedule of late bus nights will be available to all families via: our website, through our House office, or from the activity organizer directly.

**\*Please note - no special bus passes will be issued during the month of September.**

### **SCHOOL FEES**

Various consumable materials are required for specific classes. All consumable fees are for materials, which our students use and keep.

Our student supervision fee is \$75 per Galt student and is used to cover student supervision offered throughout the school day.

We will not accept personal cheques as payment. Families can pay using; cash, Interac, Visa, and MasterCard. **Please note that effective July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017 there is a fee of 2% for all credit card transactions to cover the bank charges on the transaction.**

In order to avoid the rush of the first day of school, we have allocated the following days for families to come in and get their timetable and pay school fees. Our dates are as follows:

- August 21<sup>st</sup>: 9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. (Sec. 5)
- August 22<sup>nd</sup>: 9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. (Sec. 4)
- August 23<sup>rd</sup>: 9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. (Sec. 3)
- August 25<sup>th</sup>: 9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. (Sec. 2)
- August 28<sup>th</sup>: 12:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. (Sec. 1)
- August 29<sup>th</sup>: 9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. (All levels)

**PLEASE TAKE NOTE THAT ALL FEES NOT PAID BY THE END OF THE SCHOOL YEAR WILL BE SENT TO A COLLECTION AGENCY.**

### **LEVEL 1 ORIENTATION**

Our Level 1 Student / family orientation will take place on **August 28<sup>th</sup>**. It is at this time that your child will be given their timetable, locker assignment, visit their classrooms, meet teachers, and pay student fees.



**SMOKE FREE  
CAMPUS**

In conformity with provincial laws, our school buildings and grounds are designated as non-smoking areas.

## **INTERSCHOLASTIC SPORTS 2017 - 2018**

Our Varsity Athletics are extra-curricular programs each of which has a fee attached. Our Athletic fees will be available during the first week of school.

### **FALL SEASON: (SEPTEMBER- OCTOBER)**

- SOCCER ALL LEVELS
- GIRLS FLAG FOOTBALL
- CROSS COUNTRY RUNNING ALL LEVELS

### **WINTER SEASON: (NOVEMBER- MARCH)**

- BASKETBALL ALL LEVELS
- BANTAM HOCKEY
- SENIOR BOYS HOCKEY
- SWIMMING ALL LEVELS
- CURLING

### **SPRING SEASON: (MARCH – JUNE)**

- BADMINTON ALL LEVELS
- JUNIOR AND SENIOR GIRLS RUGBY
- BANTAM AND SENIOR BOYS RUGBY
- FIELD LACROSSE
- GIRLS FLAG FOOTBALL
- GOLF

Please contact Mr. Robert Fisk our Athletic Director for any questions or feedback at 819-563-0770 ext. 22083.

## **STUDENT ACCIDENT INSURANCE**

Student Accident Insurance will be available. Leaflets with detailed information as well as application forms will be available both in homeroom and at the house offices. The purchasing of the student accident insurance is strongly recommended. Students receive

coverage for items such as: broken teeth, ambulance costs and many other serious injuries 24 hours per day, 365 days per year.

## **STUDENT DRESS GUIDELINES & PERSONAL APPEARANCE**

In the interest of promoting self-respect and respect for others, Alexander Galt Regional High School encourages a manner of dress that is acceptable to promote and foster a positive learning environment for all students and staff.

For information about our dress code, families are asked to review our code of conduct. This information is also found on our school website at [www.etsb.qc.ca/alexandergalt](http://www.etsb.qc.ca/alexandergalt)

## **PHYSICAL EDUCATION UNIFORMS**

Our Galt Physical Education Uniforms are to be worn by all students during their Physical Education classes. The student PE uniforms are available at our school store and are best picked up during the orientation period prior to the beginning of the school year. Our PE uniform consists of a Galt t-shirt and Galt nylon shorts. Students who prefer to wear Galt sweat pants instead of shorts will be able to purchase these from the school store as well.

## **CAFETERIA**

Hot meals and snacks are available in our cafeteria from 11:55 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Snacks and drinks are available all day from the vending machines located in the cafeteria.



## **FOOD DELIVERY**

Due to problems in the past with students receiving food deliveries during class time, we have had to impose restrictions. Food deliveries to students are only permitted between the hours of 11:55 – 12:30 or after 4 p.m. Unauthorized deliveries outside of this time will be turned away & the school will not assume any costs. Local restaurants have been advised.

## BREAKFAST CLUB

Given that the vast majority of our students must leave home very early in the morning many are arriving to school on empty stomachs. In order to ensure that our students are going to class in the morning having had something to eat, our teaching staff provides a breakfast & snack club during the year. We regularly provide breakfast and/or snacks to 100-120 of our students per day.

We have only been able to maintain this valuable program through generous community donations and through the work of our staff volunteers. We would very much appreciate financial support or donations of food so that we can continue to meet this very real need. Ms. Catherine Nadon & Ms. Meaghan Allan are the coordinators of this project.



## GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

In order to graduate, students must obtain a total of 54 Secondary IV and V credits, at least 20 of which must be from Secondary V. The following credits are compulsory for graduation in 2016:

<u>Courses</u>	<u>Level</u>	<u>Credits</u>
English	IV & V	12
French	IV & V	8
History	IV	4
Math	IV	4 or 6
Science	IV	6
Arts Education	IV	2
Physical Education or Ethics & Religious Cultures	V	2

**NOTE:** The above are minimal requirements, which students must meet in order to obtain a high school diploma. Students who intend to go to college or CEGEP may need to pass additional courses.

Information about these requirements is also found in our Course Selection Booklet found on our website: [www.etsb.qc.ca/alexandergalt](http://www.etsb.qc.ca/alexandergalt) or from Mrs. Marie Thibault, our Counselor in Academic and Vocational Training. Mrs. Thibault can be reached by calling the school at extension 22073.



## REPORT CARDS

School Reports will be available five times during the year.

October 2017	1 <sup>st</sup> Interim Report
November 2017	1 <sup>st</sup> Report
February 2018	2 <sup>nd</sup> Report
April 2018	2 <sup>nd</sup> Interim Report
July 2018	FINAL School Report

As indicated previously, report cards are now issued electronically and are accessible through the parent portal. Reminder instructions in how to use the parent portal are available on the school website:

<http://alexandergalt.etsb.qc.ca/files/2015/11/Parental-Portal-Information.pdf>

## SCHOOL NURSE

The nurse is present at school on a full time basis between **8:00 and 16:00**.

She meets with the students individually so she can listen, support, inform and give advice on the following subjects:

- Nutritional, dietary and lifestyle issues (like sleep disorders, hygiene, anxiety, body image)
- Contraception (prescription of all the different hormonal contraception, emergency oral contraception "morning after pill", pregnancy tests, etc.)
- Screening for Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIBI) and blood transmitted diseases, condom distribution
- Students can make an appointment with the Student Services secretary or see the nurse. (**During class, appointment needed at all times**)

Nancy Pye  
School Nurse  
819-563-0770, ext. 22066

**School Rules:** We must remind you that a sick student (fever, gastro, flu, etc.) should not come to school. The student should stay home until feeling able to attend regular classes. In case of an accident

or sudden illness occurring during school hours, parents will be notified and should take charge of their child as soon as possible. Parents are always the main responsible persons for their child. In the best interest of our students, it is essential that emergency contact information be provided and be updated whenever there are modifications. If a taxi or ambulance is needed, the charge will have to be paid by the parents.

## Did you know...

Alexander Galt offers a number of school-wide fundraisers open to all students, with profits credited to the individual student account?



Funds in Individual Student Accounts may be used for the following expenses:

- School Trips
- Athletics Fees
- School Fees (Consumable & Supervision)
- ELS (iPad & laptop) Deductibles
- Prom
- Yearbook
- School Store Items
- Meal Tickets
- School Humanitarian Projects

For accounting reasons, with the exception of EF Tours, individual accounts may not be used for any supplier where payment is made directly to the company.

When a student leaves Alexander Galt, there is the option to request a transfer of a balance in the student account to another Galt student, to the Scholarship Fund, or to the Piper Classic Fund. All un-transferred balances will be applied to a general fund supporting global projects to benefit all students.

Please be aware that full payment is required when submitting all fundraising for processing (no cash on delivery can be accepted). Fundraising orders submitted without full payment will be returned to the student. Also please note that funds must already be in the individual student account in order to be applied

against an expense (ie. A carry-over balance would be needed from the spring to meet payment deadlines for fall activities.)

## THE GOVERNING BOARD & THE PARENT PARTICIPATION ORGANIZATION

The General Assembly of parents for Alexander Galt High School will be held Thursday, September 28th, 2017 at 7 p.m. in the school auditorium. Your participation at the assembly is crucial. At this time, we will elect the parent members of the Alexander Galt Governing Board (four positions are open) as well as choose one representative and one alternate for the Central Parents Committee. In addition, you will receive information about the Parent Participation Organization (PPO) and other ways you can participate in the success of your child(ren)'s education. There will be an opportunity to meet all of your child(ren)'s teachers at a Meet'n'Greet in the cafeteria following the General Assembly. I hope to see you there!

Colleen Page, 2016-2017 Chairperson

### **THE GOVERNING BOARD AT GALT IS COMPRISED OF THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS:**

8 parents  
6 teachers  
1 support staff representative  
1 non-teaching professional representative  
2 senior level students  
2 community members (appointed by elected members)  
School Principal

Should families wish further information please contact us at any time at 819-563-0770.

## **E.T.S.B. POLICIES & PROCEDURES**



Parents wishing to consult school board policies and procedures may do so by accessing the school board web site at [www.etsb.qc.ca](http://www.etsb.qc.ca). The following are but a few of these procedures and policies that may be of interest to you and which may be consulted:

- *No-Smoking Policy – A Positive Response to a Negative Issue*
- *Communications Policy*
- *Procedure for the Reconsideration of a Decision*
- *Policy & Procedures Governing the Organization of Educational Services for Students With Special Needs*

## **THE SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE WANTS YOU!!**

The Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) advises the school board on its organization of services for students with special needs, educates parents as well as encourages them to become involved in their child's school experience.

Parents of students with special needs constitute the majority of members on this committee. The SEAC Chairperson and Parent Commissioner are selected from parent members of this committee. Other members represent the various professional and support groups in the ETSB.

The committee allows you to meet and talk with others who have the interest of children with special needs at heart. Meetings are held monthly in Magog at the Eastern Townships School Board Office between 7:00 and 9:00 p.m. Mileage compensation is available.

If this committee interests you, please ask your school principal for an application brochure or call the Assistant Director of Complementary Educational Services, Gail Kelso, at (819) 868-3100 x55035 to give your name or to ask for clarification. Forms should be returned to your school principal by October 4, 2017.



## DATES TO REMEMBER

### AUGUST

August 21	School Fees Collection 9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. Sec. 5
August 22	School Fees Collection 9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. Sec. 4
August 23	School Fees Collection 9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. Sec. 3
August 25	School Fees Collection 9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. Sec. 2
August 28	Level 1 Orientation
August 28	School Fees Collection 12:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. Sec. 1
August 29	School Fees Collection 9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. All Levels
<b>August 30</b>	<b>First Day of School</b>

### SEPTEMBER

September 4	Holiday
September 22	Planning Day
<b>September 28</b>	General Assembly of Parents & Meet the Teacher
September 30	Student Attendance Attestation Day

### OCTOBER

October 9	Holiday
October 10 - 12	Grad Portraits & Ring Orders
October 13	Vaccinations – All Level 3 Girls & Boys
October 16 - 20	School Photo Week
October 21	Open House – 9 – 12 a.m.
October 23	Planning Day

### NOVEMBER

November 10	Photo retakes (absent students)
November 16	Parent-Teacher Interviews
November 17 & 24	Planning Days

### More Photo Info

All photo proofs (Grad & School Photos) will be posted online by October 30<sup>th</sup>. Parents will have until November 7<sup>th</sup> to place their request for school photo retakes.

Grad photo retakes will take place at the Studio on Nov. 13<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup>, 27<sup>th</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup>, January 15<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup>, and February 12<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup>. A parent or guardian **MUST** be present at the studio at the time of the retake.

Grant Siméon Photographe Studio is located at: 13 Connolly Street, Sherbrooke

Tel: (819) 565-4882