



November 2019

Dear parents, guardians and students,

The first term has flown past us and we are already seeing preparations for the holiday season. We have had a very productive Fall athletics season, various clubs and activities are off and running, we celebrated the 50th anniversary of when the first students entered the doors of Alexander Galt, and our Open House was a grand success – to name only a few aspects of campus life in addition to academics. ☺

This first term's report card reports on progress and attendance for the period of time from August 29th – November 1st. **The interviews are being held on Thursday, November 21st, from 4:30 – 6:30 pm, and 7:00 – 9:00 pm.** We hope to see you on interview night, as this is an ideal opportunity for you to meet your child's teachers, ask questions and increase the line of communication between home and school. Student success is our main objective. As a parent, you play an important role in your child's schooling. There is a lot as a parent that you can do to show that you value education. It is important to stay involved in your child's education by asking questions about his/her day at school, encouraging positive engagement in school activities, and reinforcing good work habits.

Please read through our newsletter to learn about upcoming events and general information. Please remember that in addition to communication conveyed via email to parents and through the parent portal, daily communication of school related information and events are published daily through the student bulletin that is accessible to parents via our website: <http://alexandergalt.etsb.qc.ca/fr/student-bulletin/>. The school web-site is also the central hub where important information for students and parents is posted – please bookmark for easy reference. ☺

In closing, on behalf of the school, I wish to express our gratitude to you, the parents, for the variety of contributions you make annually to Alexander Galt Regional High School either by attending or volunteering at an event, coaching or cheering at a sports' game, as well as supporting our fundraising initiatives. Last but not least, I wish to thank all of our staff as they are devoted and dynamic professionals who give high-quality service, support and instruction, but they also go the extra mile in order to offer a high range of extra-curricular opportunities.

Sincerely,

Ms. Peggy McCourt
Principal, AGRHS

You are cordially invited to

**PARENTS' NIGHT –
November 21st, 2019**

**4:30 – 6:30 p.m.
7:00 – 9:00 p.m.**

**Teachers will be meeting with
parents in the following areas:**

**Cycle 1 (Sec. 1 & 2 & MAPS): In the
Library**

**Cycle 2 (Sec. 3, 4 & 5 & WOTP):
In the Cafeteria**



SCHOOL REPORT INFORMATION

Please note that there will be 5 reporting sessions during the course of the year:

October 2019	1st Communication
November 2019	1st Report
February 2020	2nd Report
April 2020	Interim Report
July 2020	FINAL School Report

Absences for Term 1 are recorded for each class and represent all classes missed from August 29th to November 1, 2019.

Parents who have provided the school with an e-mail address are able to view student portfolios (which include the reports cards) on the MOZAIK Parent Portal. If for any reason you have changed the email address and you wish to receive information from your child's school and/or the school board, please contact the school to update your information.

Should you require further assistance or explanations concerning reports, you should contact the appropriate office as follows:

CYCLE 1: Yellow/Orange

Mr. Mark Warnholtz, Vice-Principal

CYCLE 2: Blue/Green

Mr. Steve Element, Vice-Principal

Modified & Adapted Programs & the Work Oriented Training Path: MAPs/WOTP

Ms. Adriana Lyons, Interim Vice-Principal

Please note that report cards for students that have not provided an e-mail will be handed out to the students the following week.

JUSTIFYING A STUDENT'S ABSENCE

Please note that parents must call the school to notify the appropriate House Office in order to justify their child's absence. To do so, please call **819-563-0770** and dial one of the following extensions in order to leave a message:

- **Yellow House – Cycle 1: ext. 22092**
- **Blue House – Cycle 2: ext. 22093**
- **MAPs/WOTP – Cycle 3; ext. 22007**

Students must bring written notes from their parent/guardian to their House Office following an absence from school to explain the absence. We appreciate your help in this matter.

STUDENT SERVICES PERSONNEL

Annie Asmar	<i>Psycho-educator</i>
Emmalie Filion	<i>Psychologist</i>
Tracy Lynch	<i>Spiritual Life Animator</i>
Tiffany Blinn	<i>Re-adaptation Officer</i>
Elisabeth de Sève	<i>Secretary</i>
Sarah-Maude Brouillard	<i>School Nurse</i>
Marie Thibault	<i>Counselor-in-Academic Training</i>

We invite you to visit our **Student Services Centre**. The centre regroups all services which are available to our students and which are provided by the personnel listed. Students have access to these services directly. In order to request an appointment, they must see the secretary between the hours of 8:45 a.m. and 2:15 p.m.

Marie Thibault & Annie Asmar will be available in Student Services during Parent's Night.

Did you know...

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



So far this year the Governing Board has approved the following school-wide fundraisers:

Citrus Sept. 30th – Oct. 25th
(Pickup – Nov. 26th)

The Governing Board has also approved that funds in Individual Student Accounts may be used for the following expenses:

- 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.)

If you require more information regarding fundraising, please contact Mr. Kyle Martel at martelk@edu.etsb.qc.ca or by calling the school 819-563-0770, extension 22067.



GALT GOVERNING BOARD **2019 – 2020**

Meetings are held in the Library at 7:00 p.m. on the following dates:

October 15, 2019
November 18, 2019
January 20, 2020
February 17, 2020

March 23, 2020
April 20, 2020
May 11, 2020
June 15, 2020

PARENT REPS

Ms. Melanie Bennett-Stonebanks
Ms. Amber Stremmelaar
Ms. Stephanie Forgues
Ms. Lisa Comeau
Ms. Vicki Comeau
Ms. Monika Mitchell
Ms. Sophia Roy
Mr. Mario R. J. Corbin

SPECIAL INTEREST ITEMS



CHRISTMAS BASKET CAMPAIGN 2019

December is almost here and so is our annual Christmas Basket Campaign. We rely on the generosity of our students, our parents, the churches and the community for donations in order to help us meet the needs of many Galt sector families. If you wish to receive a basket, please have your child pick up an application from their House Office Secretary. The application form will also be available on the Galt website via a link in the student bulletin. To contribute financially or for more information, please contact Ms. Tracy Lynch at extension 22064. **Applications will be available as of November 1st, 2019.**

- **SCHOOL YEARBOOK “The Catalyst”**

Students receive a discounted price of \$45 when they reserve their yearbook and make a down payment of \$25 by December 20th. The cost of the yearbook will increase after this date. There is a limited and reduced number of yearbooks available this year so reserve yours ASAP. Fundraised monies can be used for payment. Students should see Mr. Martel for more information and/or to make their reservation.

- **BUS DISCIPLINE PROCEDURE**

School bus drivers will fill out incident reports that will be given to students to take home for their parent's/guardian's signature. These forms must be returned the next morning to the bus driver. After two incident reports, the parent or guardian will receive a letter from Transportation. A third offence committed by a student may result in suspension of bus privileges.

- **TRANSPORTATION OF SPORTS EQUIPMENT AND MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS**

Students are permitted to transport objects that can be held safely on their lap. These objects should not compromise the safety of other passengers and must not infringe on their space. Items such as skates should at all times be carried in a canvas bag or cardboard box.

In accordance with the Quebec Highway Safety Code, school buses may no longer transport skis, ski poles, hockey sticks, hockey equipment bags, sleds or other articles, judged dangerous by the bus driver, on morning or afternoon buses.

- **BUS DELAYS**

Please take note, that 20 to 40-minute bus delays will be posted on the ETSB website at: <http://www.etsb.qc.ca/bus-delays/>.

- **THE BREAKFAST CLUB**

The Breakfast Club runs Monday to Friday in the Student Lounge (Piper Pit) during morning recess. Students are encouraged to come for a muffin, toast, fruit and juice.

Our breakfast program is fortunate to be supported in part by the President's Choice Children's Charities and community organizations. We are also very lucky to have fresh baked goods from our WOTP students. Thank you very much to those kind individuals for thinking of us.

SCHOOL CLOSURE & EMERGENCY CLOSING

In the event that the school must be closed due to inclement weather or for any other reason, information will be broadcast on the following radio and television stations:

CBC (FM 91.7);
TVA – Salut Bonjour;
Rythme 93.7; Rouge 102.7;
CJMQ (FM 88.9); NRJ 106.1

You will also be able to obtain information on our ETSB Website at: www.etsb.qc.ca and the ETSB Facebook page. In the event that the school must be closed **during school hours** due to deteriorating weather conditions or when an emergency situation arises (i.e. water main breaks, extended power failure, etc.), the buses will be called back and the students will be sent home.

FOR THE SAFETY OF YOUR CHILD WE ASK THAT YOU . . .

- *Closely monitor media reports during a school day in which extremely inclement weather develops and a decision to close the school occurs.*
- *Review with your child what he/she is to do in the event that the school has to close early.*
- *Please inform your child of arrangements you have made should this situation arise. This could include going to a place close to your home.*

INTERSCHOLASTIC SPORTS THANKS TO OUR COACHES!!

Interscholastic sports would not be possible without the dedication of our coaches.



WINTER SEASON

Swim Team: Alyssa Bray & Laura Leblanc

Curling: Jeff Cheal

Junior Hockey: Robert Fisk & Todd Winqvist, Felix Dostie

Senior Hockey: Robbie Fisk, Dave Beaulieu & Bob Halsall

Bantam Girls Basketball: Mark Learned

Bantam Boys Basketball "A": Alex Corriveau-Gagnon

Bantam Boys "B" Basketball: Lindsey Chapdelaine & Audrey Bernatchez

Junior Girls Basketball: Mark Ghillarducci & Matt Johnson

Junior Boys Basketball: Andrew Hynd & Tracey Comeau

Senior Girls Basketball: Rod Gilpin & Leanne Phillips

Senior Boys Basketball: Steve Dunn

WEEKLY GAME & PRACTICE SCHEDULE

Available on the Galt webpage -
www.etsb.qc.ca/alexandergalt/default.htm

INFORMATION ON THE LEGALIZATION OF CANNABIS

On October 17th 2018, the new legislation came into effect. Even if the majority of our students are under the age to use or possess cannabis legally, this change might have an impact on the life of our youth.

One of our school's missions, is to provide the best education possible for our students. To do so, students and staff need to be working in an environment conducive to learning. What we expect is

that our students come to school prepared to learn and in a state of mind in which they can be safe and learn appropriately. There is much research that explains how impairment with cannabis affects parts of a teenager's brain, crucial for learning.

Even if the use of cannabis is legal for adults, it remains illegal for minors to use or be in possession of cannabis. "It is prohibited to possess cannabis in certain places, in particular certain places accessible to minors, such as:

- on the grounds, premises or in buildings providing preschool education services, elementary and secondary school instructional services, educational services in vocational training or educational services to adults in general education"¹.

Adding to the legal aspect, our school code of conduct remains the same, even after October 17th. It will still be forbidden to be under the influence or in possession of drugs or alcohol on school property. If a student is found under the influence, in possession of or trafficking drugs or alcohol, disciplinary actions will be applied. If a student is caught in possession of or trafficking of drugs or alcohol, legal action will also be taken (involvement of police officer).

The education and conversations we provide to our youth around substance use will stay the same, because the impact and possible consequences remain the same. We encourage you to talk about the risks and dangers of substance use and addiction with your child. If you have questions or comments do not

hesitate to contact the school resources available to you.

¹ Visit this website for information on the law
<https://encadrementcannabis.gouv.qc.ca/en/>

² Visit this website for information on the impact of marijuana use on the teen's brain
<https://teens.drugabuse.gov/drug-facts/marijuana>

³ Visit this website - Do You Speak Cannabis? - (information flyer designed for parents)
<http://publications.msss.gouv.qc.ca/msss/en/document-002127/>

VAPING AWARENESS

We have concerns with the numbers of students now engaging in vaping and encourage parents to build their awareness of the dangers of vaping and to engage in open discussions with their children. While this area of research remains quite new, it is evident that this activity compromises the health and well-being of our youth. The following web-sites may be of interest:

<https://www.yalemedicine.org/stories/teen-vaping/>

<https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/smoking-tobacco/vaping/risks.html>

<https://www.canada.ca/en/services/health/campaigns/vaping.html>

<https://www.health.com/smoking/is-vaping-addictive>



LEARN TUTORING

LEARN Tutoring, online tutoring and homework help with qualified Quebec teachers, is back for the 2019-2020 school year!

Our program provides **online homework help and tutoring sessions, by appointment, and at no charge.**

Parents or students can make a request for a tutoring appointment here:
learnquebec.ca/tutoring. We look forward to working with you to support student success. Please contact us for more information.

Dianne Conrod & Kristine Thibeault



IMPORTANT DATES & EVENTS

NOVEMBER

November 8	Awards Night 7:00 p.m. in Auditorium
November 15 & 22	Planning days
November 26	Citrus Order Pickup in p.m.
November 21	Parents' Night 4:30 – 6:30 p.m. & 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

DECEMBER

Dec. 6	Planning Day
Dec. 19	Christmas Basket Distribution
December 26	Alumni Sports Day
December 23 – Jan. 3	Christmas Vacation

2020

JANUARY

January 6	Planning Day
January 13 – 16	Supplemental Exams (MELS)
January 27	Planning Day
January 27 – Feb. 8	Registrations for the 2020- 2021 School Year for New Students
January 31	End of Term 2

FEBRUARY

TBD	Registrations for the 2020- 2021 School Year for Returning Students
February 13	Winter Carnival
February 13	Parents' Night (5:00 – 8:00 p.m.)
February 14	Planning Day