

February 2020

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE



Dear Alexander Galt families,

Our second term has sped past us, with each month seeming as busy as the month before it. It has definitely been one of our more challenging years and I commend the dedication and resilience of our staff as we persevere past each hurdle.

A very special ceremony took place on January 20th. Our athletics department held a tribute prior to our Senior Boys' basketball game against Stanstead College, recognizing the contributions and legacy of Jarrod Sharman to the Galt athletics program. #33, Jarrod's number as a Piper athlete, has been retired and the banner that will be displayed in the gymnasium was unveiled. Mr. Sharman is deeply missed and his legacy will forever be a vital part of who we are as a Galt community. In perhaps the tribute that Mr. Sharman would most appreciate, our boys gave a solid performance, putting in a strong win in a game that Mr. Sharman would definitely have been most proud of.

Before we know it, February will be a blurred distant memory. In a short and action-packed month, we will see, to name a few, the end of term, report cards, Parent-Teacher interviews, the Annual Talent Show, the Visual Arts Concentration Art Auction, Teacher Appreciation Week, and everyone's favourite – the annual Alexander Galt Carnival!

February 3 – 7 marked Teacher Appreciation Week in Quebec. In a time where the teaching profession faces increasingly more complex and heavy challenges, our Alexander Galt teachers continue to rise to high standards and to demonstrate excellence in both their practice and their dedication, giving generously both inside and outside of the classroom. It is an honour to work with such a strong team and we are privileged in our community.

We continue to run a strong athletics program thanks to the leadership of Athletics Director, Mr. Robbie Fisk and his team of dedicated volunteer community and staff coaches. This team dedicates a tremendous amount of time in order to provide our students with these extra-curricular athletics experiences and deserve our respect and gratitude. Without their willingness to give freely of their time and to share their talent, we would not be able to run these programs. I encourage those watching our teams play to take a moment to speak positive words of encouragement to our players and also to take a moment to voice appreciation to our coaches. Mr. Fisk can be reached at extension 22083 to answer specific questions about our extra-curricular sports program.

If you have visited the campus since the holidays, you will have noticed a construction zone. We are happy to share that the third phase of our gymnasium renovations are underway. This phase will see the renovation of the former "boys" locker rooms, creating new team rooms, washrooms & showers, as well as a classroom, to name a few of the highlights. This is definitely a much anticipated refurbishment to our facilities that will be highly used for years to come.

With the 2020 – 2021 school year already in sight, our Guidance Counsellor, Mireille Bergeron (currently replacing Marie Thibault who is on leave for the balance of the year), will be making the annual tour of classes to guide students in the online course selection process. Please read the Registration and Course Selection information carefully. As the school programming will be organized around the students' choices, it will be highly exceptional that we would be in a position to accommodate a request for changes after the course selection period – please encourage your child to carefully consider their options and to complete the course selection seriously.

We hope that you will be able to join us on Parent – Teacher Interview Night this coming Thursday, February 13th. Your active engagement in your child's education is critical to his/her success.

Sincerely,
Peggy McCourt
Principal

REMINDER:

All consumable, supervision & concentration fees are now past due. If you have not yet made full payment, please contact Ms. Christina Rousseau at extension 22056.

You are cordially invited to

**PARENTS' NIGHT –
February 13th, 2020**

5:00 – 8:00 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**

Absences are recorded for each class and represent all classes missed from November 4th, 2019 to January 31, 2020.

As you know, the Eastern Townships School Board has been working towards improving access to your child's school profile by making this information available online.

We remind you that report cards for all students are now accessible online through the Mozaik Parent Portal. You can access the portal at this address: <http://www.etsb.qc.ca/mozaik-parent-portal/>.

Please be reminded that now that the report card will be available online, a paper copy will not automatically be sent home with your child.

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

**REGISTRATION AND COURSE
SELECTION
2020 – 2021**

The deadline for registration is February 14th. If you have not already done so, we ask that you please take a moment to complete your child's online registration form using the secure MOZAIK website. You can access the site from the ETSB website under the

PARENTS TAB or by pointing your browser to the following address: <https://inscription.portailparents.ca>. Students must be registered before they can complete their course selection form.

You must use the same email and password you used for report cards. There is a video tutorial provided on the login page of the site.

Once you are logged in you will then be redirected to your child's (or children's) registration information. From here you will be able to choose the desired action: either REGISTER AT SCHOOL or DO NOT REGISTER cancel registration.

Should you experience any difficulty completing the on-line registration, please contact Anna St-Hilaire at ext. 22057. Be sure that you have approximately 10 minutes available and be able to access your email while on the phone. **You can also stop by and see**

Anna St-Hilaire in the Central Office during Parent/Teacher interviews.

MS. BERGERON WILL BE VISITING THE MATH CLASSES FROM MARCH 10TH – 19TH, IN ORDER TO HELP STUDENTS, COMPLETE THEIR COURSE SELECTION. PARENTS WILL GET A CONFIRMATION EMAIL. IF YOU HAVE A CONCERN AS A PARENT AND WISH TO MAKE A CHANGE TO THE COURSE SELECTION YOU MUST EMAIL STHILAIREA@ETSB.QC.CA.

Thank you for re-registering your child (children) with the Eastern Townships School Board and entrusting his/her education to us.

Discussing future plans with your child is most important. Should you wish assistance, our Counselor in Academic Training, Ms. Mireille Bergeron will be available to answer any questions that you may have concerning course selection. Please contact her at ext. 22073 or by e-mail at bergeronm@edu.etsb.qc.ca

STUDENT ABSENCES

Student presence at school is one of the most important factors in academic success. Students who miss more than 10% of the school year are likely to experience difficulties in their studies and this in turn often leads to failure in one or more courses. Students who have experienced repeated failures are the ones most at risk of dropping out.

Please have a close look at your son's/daughter's school report, paying particular attention to the absence column. If there appears to be a discrepancy between the recorded absences and what you feel should have been the number of absences, please discuss this with the teacher(s) on Parents' Night or call his or her house office.

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: ext. 22007**

COLLEGE / CEGEP & VOCATIONAL EDUCATION CENTRES



A very exciting time is approaching for our Level V students as they prepare to graduate and to apply to a CEGEP or a vocational education program.

CEGEP INFORMATION

Applications must be completed at the latest by **March 1, 2020**. All required documents, including payment, must arrive by that deadline. Application fees are \$30 (non-refundable), payable by credit card directly on a secure website, or by mail (certified cheque or postal money order). All completed applications that have been received on time will be evaluated at the same time by the various CEGEPS.

Application to: Champlain – Lennoxville, Heritage, John Abbott, Vanier & CEGEP de Sherbrooke etc. is online at admission.sram.qc.ca. For other English CEGEPS, please see Ms. Mireille Bergeron.

CEGEP Basic Entrance Requirements Fall 2020

To be admitted to a CEGEP program students need a **Quebec Secondary School Diploma** and must meet the particular requirements of the program or CEGEP. Please contact Ms. Bergeron for more information.



Tips to Survive the Transition from High School to CEGEP

Parents play a vital role in supporting students' success in CEGEP.

1. The biggest change from high school to CEGEP is probably the increased workload and faster pace. Establishing good study habits, time management skills and maintaining a steady pace allow new students to feel more in control.
2. Class attendance is essential and so is doing homework. CEGEPs recommend that students develop a study routine early in the semester, with an hour of homework for every hour of class as a guideline. Students can expect 3 to 4 hours of homework per day.
3. Although CEGEP students are more autonomous, they must also become more responsible. CEGEP is a seven-day per week commitment and homework will need to be completed during the weekend.
4. Most students entering CEGEP are uncertain about their career path and need time to explore their options. Students should meet regularly with their academic advisor (at least once a semester).
5. Asking for help can make the difference between passing and failing. Students should see their teachers for help and make use of the many free services and resources available in CEGEP (such as peer tutoring and Learning Centres).
6. Learning happens outside of the classroom too. Students need to get involved in CEGEP activities such as sports, clubs, or volunteering.

VOCATIONAL EDUCATION INFORMATION

Vocational training is an option that deserves serious consideration by our youth and those who advise them.

Now more than ever, Quebec needs trained and qualified employees. At the moment, businesses are short of qualified workers, a trend that will gain momentum in the next few years as baby boomers retire.

There will be interesting jobs out there, but for **trained candidates** with diplomas. Trades and technical programs will be at the top of the list.

ADMISSION REQUEST & PRE-REQUISITES

To be admitted to a vocational education program, students need a Quebec Secondary School Diploma or be 16 years of age on September 30 and have secondary 3, 4 or 5 credits in English, French and Mathematics (depending on the program requirements). Certain programs have a 2-year waiting list; therefore, applicants should apply as soon as they meet the requirements. For more information, please contact Mireille Bergeron in Student Services. Admission requests can also be completed online at www.srafp.com.

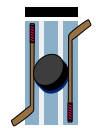
SCHOLARSHIPS, BURSARIES & LOANS

The 2020 AGRHS Information Guide to Scholarships, Bursaries & Loans will be posted on the school website.

INTERSCHOLASTIC SPORTS



Here is a list of our various winter sports' teams and coaches



- JUNIOR HOCKEY:** ROBBIE FISK & TODD WINQUIST
- SENIOR BOYS HOCKEY:** ROBBIE FISK, DAVE BEAULIEU AND BOB HALSALL
- SWIMMING:** ALLYSA BRAY & LAURA LEBLANC
- CURLING:** JEFF CHEAL
- BANTAM GIRLS BASKETBALL:** MARK LEARNED
- BANTAM BOYS A BASKETBALL:** ALEX CORRIVEAU GAGNON & DOMINIC RICHARD
- BANTAM BOYS B BASKETBALL:** LINDSEY CHAPDELAINE & AUDREY BERNATCHEZ
- JUNIOR GIRLS BASKETBALL:** MARC GHILLARDUCCI & MATT JOHNSON
- JUNIOR BOYS BASKETBALL:** ANDRE HYND & TRACEY COMEAU
- SENIOR GIRLS BASKETBALL:** ROD GILPIN & LEANNE PHILLIPS
- SENIOR BOYS BASKETBALL:** STEVE DUNN

Come out for some great action!

FALL SPORTS RESULTS

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FOLLOWING TEAMS FOR WINNING THEIR RESPECTIVE LEAGUES:

JUNIOR GIRLS SOCCER: ETIAC LEAGUE & PLAY OFF CHAMPIONS

SENIOR GIRLS SOCCER: ETIAC LEAGUE & PLAY OFF CHAMPIONS

CROSS COUNTRY RUNNING TEAM: ETIAC CHAMPIONS

WEEKLY GAME & PRACTICE SCHEDULE

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



SPECIAL INTEREST ITEMS

THANK YOU FOR MAKING A DIFFERENCE

On behalf of Alexander Galt Regional High School and all Christmas basket recipients, I would like to personally thank all our donors and collaborators for your kind donations this holiday season. Your continued support has allowed us to assist families in need in the Galt community – none of which would have been possible without your generous donations. The kindness in your heart to give back not only brings me joy but has had a positive impact on local families and has made a tremendous difference.

Our collaborators have also played an important role in making this campaign a success over the years. Our local newspaper, The Record, has been our faithful partner since 1999. As well, the Lennoxville Provigo and its staff, have graciously acted as Santa's elves for the past few years by ordering and packing the baskets for us – so thank you.

Spreading Christmas cheer is something I have always enjoyed but this year I would like to extend the cheer to you – our donors. The campaign was exceedingly successful, allowing us to help a record number of

families this year. That is all thanks to you – it could not have been done without you.

Thank you again for your compassion and continued support. Your generous assistance makes it possible for our GALT families to have a brighter Christmas holiday! Many Thanks!

Tracy Lynch
Spiritual Care, Guidance and Community Life Animator

EASTER BASKET CAMPAIGN

Spring is just a few months away and so is the Easter Basket Campaign. If you wish to receive a basket, please have your child pick up an application from their House Office Secretary, Student Services Secretary or online via the link in the student bulletin. For more information, **Please contact Ms. Tracy Lynch at extension 22064. Applications will be available as of March 10th, 2020.**

Tracy Lynch
Spiritual Care & Guidance and Community Life Animator
Eastern Townships School Board
lyncht@etsb.qc.ca

What's Happening in the Library?

INDIGENOUS PEOPLES AWARENESS: We started the new school year by displaying many of the new books bought to enrich our core collection and in accordance with our « Indigenous Peoples Awareness » project. We also decided that we would talk about it throughout the year to put emphasis on everything that is going on. In September, we served different food and meals based on Indigenous traditional recipes, because we believe that you always open up yourself a little more to accept diversity by sharing a meal. In November, the Musée Abénaki Nomade came for two days to meet with classes to share the history of the Abenakis on which territory our school was built. In December, along with our raising awareness on "Violence against women", we had books and information on the "Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women of Canada". We have many more

activities coming up, and we were very lucky to secure a grant to invite a special guest who is both Indigenous and from the LGBT+ community. We will keep you posted on this.

BISTRO: We would like to thank the **Unity Lodge #8, IOOF, Inc.** that continues to support our bistro. Because of their generous donations, we can keep offering herbal teas and fruit flavored water to our students for free. Their support is instrumental in providing comfort to our students and teachers.

INFO BOOTHS: With the collaboration from our Student Services team and our school nurse, we take the opportunity as often as we can on informing our students on subjects that might be difficult to address like: STIs (Sexually Transmitted Infections), Mental illnesses, Bullying, etc. The library is a safe and respectful place where we can discuss and exchange on any subject. We also have books written for teenagers on those topics that are available.

WHAT'S COMING?: February is our "Show That You Care" month, and this is very important as we will put displays for "Non-Smoking Week", "Anti-Bullying Week", "Hooked on School Week", "Mental Health Week" and we will continue to have our To Write Love On Her/His Arm activity during Carnival as part of our reaching out and paying attention to others. March is our "Nutrition Month". Food tastings in concordance with the Canadian Nutrition Guide will take place at least twice a week. Expanding and broadening our palate's experiences will help in changing some prejudices against some ingredients like ... tofu ☺. April will bring our focus on Global Warming. April 22nd is Earth Day, and we are expecting guests to talk about traditional agriculture, organic produce, etc. In May, the mindfulness corner will be set to provide a relaxing and breathing space to prep for end-of-year exams.

The library is a living space providing many services outside the regular duties usually on offer in high schools. Thanks to Mrs. Wallis that sponsored a beautiful rocking chair for our students so they can relax and enjoy a peaceful moment. Thanks to Mrs. Dougherty, Mrs. Angrave and Ms. Durocher for providing beautiful afghan blankets that go so well with our rocking chairs. Thanks to our school principal Mrs.

McCourt and the Townshippers Association that provided four more rocking chairs.

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 would occur.***
- ***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.***

**With the size of the school board territory, and weather that is not always predictable and never under our control, nor consistent across the entire school board territory, it is possible that the school system would be kept open even if weather may present challenging conditions in some areas.
PLEASE UNDERSTAND THAT AS A PARENT YOU**

CAN DECIDE TO KEEP YOUR CHILD HOME IF YOU FEEL THE WEATHER PRESENTS A DANGER TO YOUR CHILD'S ROUTE.

Cycle 1 Math Help Center

The Math Help Centre (O-311) is open daily from 11:55-12:45 for students to complete assignments and get extra help with Math Concepts. Please encourage your

child to attend the Math Help Centre if they are struggling in any particular Math concept or if they just want a quiet space to complete Math homework.

SAFETY CONCERNS FOR OUR STUDENTS!

Due to safety reasons, please note the following procedure when picking up your child or dropping your child off at school:

- Due to busses arriving at school, there will be no dropping off of students in front of school from 8:25 – 9:00 a.m.
- During noon hour, there will be no dropping off or picking up of students in front of the school from 11:45 a.m. – 12:45 p.m.

Also, this is a friendly reminder to **please make sure to stop at the flashing stop sign as our security guard will need to know the reason for your visit and request you to sign in & to sign out.** In addition, please remember that **all visitors must report to Central Office.** No one other than students or staff is permitted to circulate in the building without having received authorization and a visitor's pass. This is for the security of all students.



IMPORTANT DATES & EVENTS

FEBRUARY

Jan. 27 – Feb. 7

Registration for the 2020 – 2021 School Year for New Students

Feb. 3 – Feb. 14

Re-registration Period for the 2020-2021 School Year – Returning Students

February 12

Report Cards Home/Posted on Parent Portal – During the evening

February 13

Winter Carnival Day

February 13

Parent/Teacher Interview Night 5:00 – 8:00 p.m.

February 14

Planning Day

February 21

Visual Arts Conc. Auction 5:00 – 8:00 p.m.
Talent Show 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

MARCH

March 2 – 6

Spring Break

March 9

Planning Day

March 27

REGULAR DAY 7 SCHOOL DAY - Retake of November 12th Snow Day

APRIL

April 10 – 13

Easter Break

April 14

Planning Day

April 17

Interim Reports sent home/Posted on Parent Portal – During the evening

April 20

Vaccinations – All Level 3 Girls & Boys