



Alexander Galt Regional High School

Concentration Programs 2021-22

Parent Handbook

Sports Concentration Program

The multi-sport approach is one that embraces a student's desire to participate in sports. This program is ideal for a student who wishes to participate in sports but also for a student who wishes to excel in athletics! In their Course Selection, students may choose from a variety of sports offered each trimester - and may opt to vary their selection or to keep the same sport across trimesters. The idea is for students to be engaged, work hard, improve fundamental skills, and game play within team concepts.

The concentration program creates an atmosphere and setting where students are expected to do well in both their academic and athletic endeavors while also experiencing public High School. The balance between academic growth and success and athletic improvement is incorporated with the advantageous aspects of other programs found throughout Quebec to create this unique offering for our students at Alexander Galt.

Arts Concentration Program

**“Art is not a thing, it is a Way”
Elbert Hubbard**

The Visual Arts Concentration offers an enriched and multi-leveled curriculum that allows each student to progress and thrive according to his or her individual needs and level. The program develops students’ artistic skills and knowledge, while enabling them to establish their unique identity as young artists. Students are encouraged to engage in reflective practices, as they develop a self-directed and independent approach to the art making process.

The program offers a strong foundation in drawing and painting, coupled with varied studio courses such as: sculpture, illustration, architecture, photography, fibre arts and more. Learning is enhanced via museum and gallery visits, specialists’ studio workshops, exploration of potential art based careers, and visits to higher education art institutes. Each school year brings many new experiences and much growth, which is celebrated in a fabulous year end art exhibit, created and hosted by our students.

Science Concentration Program

(This program is only offered to cycle 1 students)

This project-based curriculum explores the same topics as a traditional science class, but through an intensive hands-on approach. Students go into greater depth in each topic as they apply what they are learning to a project that they can see, touch, and make decisions about.

This program is looking for students who are passionate about science and technology, which are hard working, detailed-oriented people and who have a heightened sense of curiosity about the world around them. Depending upon numbers, students may be grouped by Sec. 1 and Sec. 2 separately or may be grouped together in a multi-level grouping. The students will receive double the amount of science instruction, allowing for a more in depth exploration of the material and application of their understanding through exciting hands-on projects. This means more labs, more “doing”, more learning, and more fun!!

Performing Arts Program

Our mission is to offer an enriched and multilevel Performing Arts Curriculum by combining theatre, music and dance in an effort to provide a safe and open-minded environment to students who show an interest and/or talent in these three disciplines. Through new opportunities our students will be inspired to achieve a common goal of excellence through the development of a cooperative creative process which will instill a sense of belonging. In return, such an environment will foster a sense of self-worth and confidence through performance achievements.

Hunting & Fishing

(This program is only offered to cycle 2 students.)

This new concentration is one of the only programs of this kind in all High Schools across Quebec. It will take you on a fantastic journey through a plethora of hunting and fishing related activities and learning opportunities. It will deepen your knowledge of hunting and fishing while protecting and conserving wildlife, giving back to your community, and sharing with others. A multitude of on and off campus activities awaits you!

Sports Études (partnership CSRS)

Students may opt to follow Sports Études under the umbrella of the Concentration Program. In general, the same rules and procedures explained below for the concentration program also apply to Sports Études. It is important to note that it is not possible for us to

provide specific schedules aligned with Sports Études. Depending upon the practice schedule of the student, different scenarios may be applied:

- the student follows a regular program schedule and is not part of any concentration group
- the student follows a concentration program schedule and is part of a class group

Under both scenarios, the following will apply:

- All Sports fees are paid directly to the body providing services outside of Alexander Galt
- Where feasible, ETSB provides transportation between Galt and the practice facility and where this transportation results in additional costs (not part of a pre-existing route) these costs will be charged to parents.
- It is the responsibility of the parent to provide proof of acceptance into Sports Études as well as a practice schedule prior to August.
- The student may choose to purchase the uniforms worn by Concentration students.
- It is the student's responsibility to collect and to complete class work missed while absent from class.
- It is expected that the student will take advantage of the support provided at lunch time through the department help centres.
- It is recommended that the parents seek tutoring (outside of school) to support their child's academic growth given the student will miss classes.

In addition, where the student opts to follow a regular schedule:

- Where possible, the student may opt to participate in field trips/special activities with the concentration program at an additional expense. The costs of the specific activity will be considered by the student and full payment is expected prior to the activity.

In addition, where the student opts to follow a concentration schedule:

- the relevant concentration fees and financial obligations will be applied (where there is a consistent practice schedule for Sports Études, impacting the number of concentration classes where the student will be present, this will be factored into the fees due - ie. if attending 2 of 6 classes, $\frac{1}{3}$ of relevant fees will be charged).
- The student is expected to remain and to participate with their concentration class during all concentration blocks where they are not at their practice facility for Sports Études.

STUDENT GUIDELINES

Commitment

Our expectation from the concentration student when he/she has accepted a spot in the program is:

To commit to:

- Remaining in the selected concentration for the year
- Strong academic effort and growth
- Positive attitude and behaviour

- **Financial deadlines**
- **Attend class on a regular basis**
- **Always give a 100% effort both in Academics and Program Requirements**
- **Attending academic help and/or remediation when necessary**

Our expectation from the parent(s)/guardian(s) of the concentration student when he/she has accepted a spot in the program is:

To commit to:

- **Respecting that the commitment to the selected concentration program is for the full school year**
- **Supporting their child in their academic effort and growth**
- **Supporting and reinforcing the positive attitude and behaviour of their child**
- **Respecting the financial deadlines**
- **Encouraging and supporting regular class attendance**
- **Positive collaboration with the school team**
- **Updating the school of any change in the contact information of the parent(s)/guardian(s) or medical information of their child**

Our expectation from the staff providing concentration services is:

To commit to:

- **Providing engaging and quality learning experiences that respect and enhance the MEES curriculum**
- **Provide relevant and timely constructive feedback to the student to support growth**
- **Communicate concerns to the parent(s)/guardian(s) in a timely manner**
- **Refer to and provide access to timely academic help/remediation where necessary**
- **To maintain high expectations and the conditions under which students may achieve them**

Course Selection

It is expected that students and parents take the course selection very seriously as this is what guides the organization of the resources allocated to the school. Where asked to indicate priorities of choices, there must be alternates selected. In the event that a group cannot run due to low numbers, the next priority is considered. The same rules applied to course changes across the school apply to concentration students. Where the student has received their choices, changes are not considered. Where a student has not provided a choice or alternate choices in priority, the school determines placement based on availability. Changes during the year are highly exceptional and only considered under teacher recommendation for reasons of particular concern, primarily the potential failure of the student.

Academic Criteria

Academic structure and standards



The academic criteria for the program is the following:

- A student entering from Elementary School, should successfully complete their Grade 6 Competencies
- A student must maintain a strong academic standing throughout the school year
- A student should complete their present Grade Level without any failures
- A student with an average below 70% and/or a failure in any class may be conditionally accepted on probationary status

If at any time students are not meeting the academic standards, they may need to use their concentration blocks to catch up on their academic responsibilities.

Academic Support

Academic support for the student(s) is a measure that is put into place to help those who are on probationary status, are experiencing difficulty, or need temporary remedial help. Academic help is recommended and required when one or more of the following situations occur:

1. A student feels that he/she needs additional explanation in a certain subject and has requested academic support.
2. A student is asked by his/her teacher to attend in order to gain further explanation.
3. A student has a justified absence and requires time to catch up on material that he/she missed, or needs to write a test that was missed due to an absence.
4. A student is placed on academic probation due to academic failure or behavioral problems.

Academic/Behavior Referral Letter and Probation

Referral Letter:

A Referral letter will be sent home with your child, by the VP and/or Coordinator in the following cases:

1. He/she is not meeting the academic criteria
2. Consistent behavioral problems or Major behavioural infraction
3. Not on time and consistently late
4. High absenteeism

Probation: (Removal of Concentration Blocks)

Probation could be applied when:

- A student is not meeting the academic and/or behavior criteria
- Sent to PASS or receives 1 or multiple School Suspension(s)

Attendance

Attendance at school is critical since the teaching is condensed.

When students miss school unexpectedly (sick, etc.), the parents are expected to:

- Phone the school to notify the absence of the student

When students miss school unexpectedly (sick, etc.) the student is expected to:

- Catch up on anything that was covered or work that was assigned in class during their absence
- To communicate with their teacher via email or check the google classroom for any assignments that they may have missed.

Students are required to be prepared for each class with:

- Materials
- Equipment
- Uniform (sports Concentration)

Medical Notes

As the school resources are organized around the courses selected during the course selection period, the commitment to the Concentration Program is for the full school year.

Students who encounter injury or illness resulting in medical notes restricting participation will in general be expected to remain with their group and thus benefit from the “theoretical” instruction even though they may not be able to participate at the practical level.

Reimbursements of fees based on medical notes is highly exceptional and for the most part will not be possible as the expenses of the program are locked in.

Financial Contract

Pricing for each Concentration

The following prices are approximate for each program. With budgets still under construction for the 2020-21 school year, we can commit that these will be a maximum and will not exceed the prices below. Please take note that uniforms are not included.

Sports: (Approximately 300-1050\$, depending on sport(s) selection)

Performing Arts: (Approximately 350\$)

Visual Arts : (Approximately 500\$)

Science: (Approximately 375\$)

Hunting and Fishing: (Approximately 500\$)

The parent is responsible to:

- Meet the required deadlines for payments, including dates committed to in a payment plan

If the full balance is not paid prior to the first day of school:

- The student will be given a regular schedule that is not part of the concentration program

If the payment plan is not respected:

- The student will be removed and provided a regular schedule until the payment is made in full

Failure to respect the financial contract will result in an obligation to pay the full amount of all outstanding school debt as well as payment in full (without a payment plan) if the student is accepted into a Concentration Program in subsequent years.

UNIFORMS

We have adopted a new ordering system for the uniforms in all of our concentration programs. With this new system, all ordering will be done through the internet and directly with Lecoureur. There will be no more ordering through Galt for concentration uniforms. Payment will be done through Lecoureur (website), and the uniforms will be delivered directly to Galt where your child can pick it up. Throughout the year, there will be 4 different times where you will be able to order new clothing. THE ORDER FOR 2020-21 WILL TAKE PLACE IN MAY.

The following are mandatory for each program:

Sports Concentration: 2 T-shirts; 2 Shorts; 1 Tracksuit

Performing Arts: 1 T-shirt; 1 Tracksuit

Visual Arts: 1 Hoodie

Science: 1 T-shirt; Lab Coat

Hunting & Fishing: 1 Hoodie; 1 Cap

The website for ordering is the following: <https://www.commandelecoureur.com/>

COMMUNICATION

- Communication is a key factor to success
- The main way of communicating with you will be via email, phone, and/or the GPI/Mozaic parent portal
- *Please make sure that all important contact information for both parents is accurate*



Questions, Suggestions, Concerns, Clarifications – Who should you contact?

Questions regarding the program, guidelines, procedures, academics:
agconcentrations@gmail.com (Mr. Walker – Concentrations Coordinator – 819-563-0770 ext. 22081)

Questions related to finances and payment plans:
apostolakosc@etsb.qc.ca (Christina Rousseau – Finances - 819-563-0770 ext. 22056)

**Questions specific to:
Sports Concentration Program:
Steve Walker – agconcentrations@gmail.com**

**Science Concentration Program:
Marcus Robertson – robertsonleoncavallom@edu.etsb.qc.ca**

**Visual Art & Performing Arts Concentration Program:
Lynsey Sylvester - sylvesterl@edu.etsb.qc.ca**

The Administration

**Vice Principal Cycle 1 – Mr. Mark Warnholtz
819-563-0770; 22012
warnholtzm@etsb.qc.ca**

**Vice Principal Cycle 2 – Mr. Steve Element
819-563-0770; 22011
elements@etsb.qc.ca**

**Principal - Mrs. Peggy McCourt
819-563-0770; 22010
mccourtp@etsb.qc.ca**