



August 2021

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Galt Families,

We hope that each of you had a safe, fun, restful summer and had the opportunity to reconnect with family and friends despite the restrictions of the ongoing pandemic. 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 – despite precarious circumstances but yet optimistically more promising than last August. ☺

As has become our practice over the past few years, in an effort to better accommodate our families and in consideration of the large territory we serve, **we are no longer requiring families to physically come to the school to pay school fees and to collect materials.** We encourage families to use the online payment feature. CIBC and RBC bank users should call Mrs. C. Rousseau at 819-563-0770 ext. 22056, and all other banks may be paid online. It is feasible to pay in cash, VISA/Mastercard (+2% charge for bank fees incurred), Debit or Money Order. Due to ongoing pandemic restrictions, **please call the school to schedule an appointment if you prefer to pay in person.** For those who prefer to pay in person, you may do so between the hours of 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. Student schedules (including locker assignment) and statements of account will be available online through the portal (by the evening of August 30th) and students will receive their workbooks and other materials in class. Any student who has not been able to retrieve their schedule from the portal will be able to collect a copy in the cafeteria upon arrival on the first day of school.

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.

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. Completing the AGRHS Administrative team are returning Vice-Principal (Green Office – MAPs/WOTP), Tara McCully; incoming Vice-Principal (Blue Office – Cycle 2), Jennifer Hall (replacing Steve Element who has been appointed Principal of RRHS); and incoming Interim Vice-Principal (Yellow Office – Cycle 1), Kohl Kelso (replacing Mark Warnholtz who has been appointed Replacement Principal of St. Francis for the year). 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

Covid 19

*At the time of publication of this newsletter, the government has confirmed the following for school operations:

- Bubble classes are no longer required.
- Masks must be worn at all times inside and on school bus transportation. Each student will receive 1 box of procedure masks during their Block 4 class on August 31st to take home. These are to provide for a fresh mask to be worn to school each morning (please ensure these are reserved for school use as the government is only providing 2 masks per day per student – thus a new box will only be issued for each 50 school days). Students will receive another fresh mask in their block 3 class. Students will also be provided a fresh mask during Academic Block on the first day of school.
- Physical distancing is still required between students and adults.
- Extracurricular activities may take place. However, **vaccination passports (proof of double vaccination) will be required for extra-curricular activities and some outings depending upon venue.** Students are not permitted to participate in tryouts or other ECA activities until adequate proof of vaccination has been provided.
- **Vaccinations will be offered on-site at AGRHS on September 3rd** – information has been emailed to parents.

Please note that in an effort to simplify the verification of vaccination passports, this will be done through the PE classes and the information kept on file for reference for all activities throughout the year requiring verification of the passport. Students may show digital proof via their phone or a hard copy paper document. These verifications will commence the first week of school. Students who receive their second dose after this verification takes place are encouraged to see Mr. Fisk in the Athletics Office so that their proof may be evidenced, facilitating their participation in future school activities requiring the passport. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

Given the ongoing pandemic and 4th wave concerns, until further notice we will exercise caution in the following areas:

- Students will be issued lockers but will only be permitted to access upon morning arrival, lunch time, and at the end of the day. They need to anticipate a backpack to carry all necessary items across their morning (including their lunch) and afternoon classes.
- Students will eat their lunch in their Block 2 classroom or outside.
- The cafeteria will be reserved as a social space for students and masks are required at all times.
- Microwaves will not be provided until further notice.
- Water fountains remain closed but chilled bottle fillers are available throughout the school. Students should have a refillable water bottle with them.

More information will be shared as it becomes available.



FIRST DAY OF CLASSES WILL BE ON AUGUST 31st

Students are to report to their Academic Block for 9:05 a.m. (this will be the same room as their first block class)

- Classes will end at **3:45 p.m.**
- Buses will leave at **3:55 p.m.**

TIMETABLES

Students who were unable to download their schedule from the portal will need to pick up their schedules in the cafeteria upon morning arrival on August 31st.

COURSE SELECTION CHANGES

As indicated in the spring, course selection was to be taken very seriously as we no longer engage in a course change period. The school is organized around the courses students select in the spring and the courses students must have in order to graduate. Course changes are highly exceptional and only as deemed necessary by the school in order for students to access required courses.

LOCKS & LOCKERS

Student lockers have been assigned to our students as indicated on their 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. We ask that students inform the House Secretary of their combination so that we may assist them in the event they cannot open their locker.

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

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. K. Kelso
Secretary: Ms. P. Wilson

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

Vice-Principal: Ms. J. Hall
Secretary: Ms. L. Humphrey

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

Vice-Principal: Ms. T. McCully
Secretary: Ms. P. Cloutier

SCHOOL BUSES

Bus pass information will be available through the Mozaik Parent Portal as of August 24th. **Procedure masks must be worn at all times on the bus.** More information is available on the transportation section of the ETSB website.

Please note that you must inform your child's school of any change of address at least two weeks prior to the effective date of the change. Please use the online form: <http://www.etsb.qc.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/Proof-of-designated-address-form-2020.pdf> and send it to your child's House off directly. Yellow House (Cycle 1) – Ext. 22004, Blue House (Cycle 2) – Ext. 22005, MAPs/WOTP – Ext. 22006.

***No temporary bus passes will be issued for 2021-2022.**

INTERSCHOLASTIC SPORTS 2020 - 2021

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. Our Late bus program runs (subject to Gov. Covid 19 directives) 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.

FALL SEASON: (SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER)

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

WINTER SEASON: (NOVEMBER-MARCH)

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

SPRING SEASON: (MARCH – JUNE)

- BADMINTON ALL LEVELS
- SENIOR GIRLS RUGBY
- BANTAM, JUNIOR AND SENIOR BOY RUGBY
- JUNIOR GIRLS FLAG FOOTBALL
- GOLF

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

*** All ECA'S are subject to Government Covid 19 directives and vaccination passport regulations. More information to follow.

STUDENT ACCIDENT INSURANCE

Student Accident Insurance material will be available online at www.accifamily.com. 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. Please be reminded that should the school deem it necessary to send a student by ambulance, these costs are billed directly to the parent and are not assumed by the school.

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 [AGRHS Code of Conduct](#)

PHYSICAL EDUCATION UNIFORMS

All students are required to wear a Galt PE T-shirt and athletic bottoms (shorts/sweatpants). All students are provided 1 t-shirt in their first year of attendance at Galt and may purchase replacements as needed through the school store. Students may purchase athletic bottoms through the school store or use those they already have from home. Sneakers with non-marking soles are required for all PE classes and all activities in the gymnasium.

CAFETERIA

We are pleased that we can continue to offer cafeteria services to our students. The menu is available online and is also shared with students through the daily announcements.



FOOD DELIVERY

Food deliveries are not permitted at school during the regular school day.

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 staff provide a breakfast & snack club during the year. This year this service will operate from the library. More information will be available to students through the announcements.



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 2022:

<u>Courses</u>	<u>Level</u>	<u>Credits</u>
English	V	6
French	V	4 or 6
History	IV	4
Math	IV	4 or 6
Science	IV	4 or 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.gc.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 are normally available five times during the year. This may be adjusted according to government directives related to Covid 19.

October 2021	1 st Interim Report
November 2021	1 st Report
February 2022	2 nd Report
April 2022	2 nd Interim Report
July 2022	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.gc.ca/files/2015/11/Parental-Portal-Information.pdf>

SCHOOL NURSE

Under the current global pandemic, the provision of school nurse services under a full-time presence in school has been suspended. **If reinstated**, the nurse is expected to be present at school 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 (STI) 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

In the absence of the school nurse during the pandemic, emergency support for the above situations may be facilitated through student services to the best of our ability.

Healthy Practices (*apart from Covid 19):

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.

Under the current pandemic, students exhibiting symptoms of Covid 19 are required to be isolated immediately. Students must not come to school if they have symptoms of Covid 19 and if they begin to have symptoms during the school day they must be isolated and sent home.

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.)

Tentative Fundraising Calendar:

Citrus: Sept. 27 – Oct. 22, delivery in Dec.

Coaticook Cheese: Nov., delivery in Dec.

Chocolate: Feb. – Mar., delivery in Apr.

**PLEASE TAKE NOTE THAT ALL
OUTSTANDING FEES FROM
PRIOR SCHOOL YEARS MAY BE
SENT TO A COLLECTION
AGENCY. PLEASE MAKE
ARRANGEMENTS TO CLEAR
THESE ACCOUNTS QUICKLY BY
CONTACTING MRS. C. ROUSSEAU
AT EXT. 22056**

SMOKE FREE CAMPUS

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

THE GOVERNING BOARD & THE PARENT PARTICIPATION ORGANIZATION

The date & format (online or in person) of the General Assembly of parents for Alexander Galt High School will be confirmed shortly. Your participation at the assembly is crucial. At this time, we will elect the parent members and alternates of the Alexander Galt Governing Board 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.

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. 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 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, or by Zoom 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 Director of Complementary Educational Services, Emmanuelle Gaudet, at (819) 868-3100 x55035 to give your name or to ask for clarification. Forms should be returned to your school principal by October 1, 2021.



DATES TO REMEMBER

AUGUST

August 30
August 31
August

Level 1 VIRTUAL Orientation
First Day of School
Payment of School Fees

SEPTEMBER

September	Payment of School Fees (Due by September 30 th)
September 3	Covid 19 Vaccinations
September 6	Holiday
September 13-17	Grad Photos & Ring Order
September 24	Planning Day
September 27	School Photos
September TBD	General Assembly of Parents & Virtual Meet the Teacher
September 30	Student Attendance Attestation Day

OCTOBER

October	**Payment of School Fees (Past Due)
October 8 & 9	Vaccinations All Level 3 Girls & Boys
October 11	Holiday
October 15	Planning Day
October 18	Photo Retakes

NOVEMBER

November 19	Planning Day
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