

AGRHS Parent Bulletin - September 2025

Annual General Assembly of Parents: All parents of current AGRHS students are invited to attend the annual general assembly of parents that will take place in person on Thursday, September 18th at 6:30 p.m. in the AGRHS Library. There are five seats open for Parent Representatives on the Governing Board this year, four to serve a 2-year term and 1 to serve a 1-year term. This is a wonderful opportunity for parents to play a role in the education of our students. As a Parent Representative on the Governing board, you represent Alexander Galt Regional High School parents in decisions and recommendations as outlined in the Education Act. Governing Board meetings are held monthly online or in-person (TBD at first meeting).

The General Assembly of parents also elects, from the Parent Representatives on Governing Board, a Central Parents' Committee Representative. This is a very important position as it provides the parents from each school a voice at the Central Board level. The Central Parents' Committee is composed of 1 parent representative from each school and meets monthly in Magog. This representative reports back to the Governing Board.



<u>Updating the School</u>: Please be reminded of the importance of providing the school with updated address, emergency, and custody information. If there is a removal of parental authority or access, it is essential that we have a copy of this judgement on file. Regardless of guardianship, each parent maintains their parental rights and authority unless we have a court judgement that rules otherwise, and we are required to give the parent access. I highly encourage parents to reach out to the school each year to ensure we have the most recent documentation on file and our database updated, particularly when transferring from another school.

Open House: Our Open House will take place on Thursday, October 9th from 5-8 p.m. This evening is an opportunity to meet our staff, become familiar with the curriculum and extra-curricular activities, as well as discover - or rediscover - our building and various services. It is an evening where we open our doors to both current and prospective families. Please mark your calendars and spread the word!

<u>Vape Sensors</u>: Our school has now been equipped with Vape (& other) Sensors across the school that are directly linked with our surveillance security system. While these sensors effectively detect the presence and use of vapes and other smoking activities, they also detect cell phones and large crowds, while also identifying the type of trigger. During asssemblies students were encouraged to leave the area whenever they detect the presence of vaping and other banned behaviours. Where groups are present in setting off the detector - consequences will be applied to the group. The best way to avoid guilt by association will be in distancing oneself from the prohibited behaviours. Our students need to feel safe when they are with us

and, in particular, should be able to use the washroom free of intimidating crowds or illicit behaviour.

<u>Code of Conduct</u>: Please familiarize yourself with the <u>Piper Pledge</u> and the <u>AGRHS Code of Conduct</u> and take time to review this with your child(ren). Assemblies have taken place where we reviewed this as well as the <u>AGRHS Anti-Bullying/Anti-Violence Plan</u> (ABAV) and other important school procedures and expectations. It is important that you as a parent are aware of the ability to <u>report bullying via the online form</u> found on the school website.

<u>Chromebook Deployment</u>: Parents of students new to AGRHS should have received an email with the required documents to be provided with their ETSB issued Chromebook for this school year. Students new to AGRHS were able to collect their Chromebook during the August 27th New Student Orientation provided the signed authorizations had been received. Students who did not attend the orientation should by now have collected their Chromebook from the Help Desk. Parents are also reminded that student accounts are billed for damage to the Chromebooks found to be a result of negligence or willful misconduct.

<u>Billing of Unreturned School & ETSB Property</u>: Student accounts are billed the replacement costs of all unreturned school and school board property. This includes textbooks, Chromebooks & chargers, library books, etc...Items can continue to be returned to Central Office as they are found and accounts will be credited.

<u>Consumable Materials & Fees</u>: Students receive all consumable materials in class. School fees are visible in the student account on the portal and can be paid online or in person by making an appointment in advance with Ms. George at ext. 22056.

<u>Student Drivers:</u> Students who choose to drive to school are required to park their cars in the visitor parking lot adjacent to the flag poles. To ensure the safety of all, campus signage and posted speed limits must be respected at all times. School administration reserves the right to revoke student driving privileges on campus should driving and parking rules not be respected. Students who leave at lunch with their cars are expected to be on time for their block 3 class.

<u>Arrival and Dismissal</u>: Please be aware that supervision is in place as of 8:30 a.m. and students should not be arriving prior to that time. Doors are locked and students may only enter the building as of 8:30 a.m. It is preferable that students arrive after 8:45 a.m. as classes begin with Academic Block at 9:05 a.m.

Classes are dismissed at 3:45 p.m. and there is no supervision after 4:00 p.m. All students are required to leave campus by 4 p.m. unless they are participating in a structured, supervised school activity. If a student is being picked up rather than taking the bus, it is essential that their ride be in the visitors' parking at the 3:45 dismissal. Students whose ride has not arrived prior to the bus departure will be required to get on their usual bus. Also, for safety reasons, if a student is being picked up, this needs to be organized in advance and the student must be waiting at the flagpole for their ride. We cannot pull students from their bus once they have boarded. Please

use the visitor's parking as the 'drive-around' when picking up your child, and be vigilant to the crosswalk.

<u>Terry Fox Activities:</u> Terry Fox Day is coming up on September 25 and once again, our Pipers have taken up the challenge to raise money for the Terry Fox Foundation in the fight against cancer! Here is a list of the different school fundraising activities we are participating in, all proceeds go to the Terry Fox Foundation under our schools fundraising efforts!

- Tips for Terry Jars will be placed at the Cafeteria cash and house offices for small change the week of September 22 - 25 leading up to our Terry Fox Run!
- 2. Muffin Bake Sale! Every morning from September 22 25 inside door 2 from 8:30am 9:05am. Everything is 1\$ or 2\$.Cash only!
- 3. Terry Fox Run! Our school run will take place during block 3, September 25th. Consider donating online in support of our Pipers as they take on the challenge of running or walking to carry on Terry's Marathon of hope and fight against cancer! Our goal is to raise \$3000 as a school community!
 - Alexander Galt Regional High School Online Fundraising Page: https://schools.terryfox.ca/AlexanderGaltRegionalHS
- 4. Staff challenges! Some of the staff have taken things a step further and have challenged themselves to different tasks or activities for different amounts of money raised! Stay tuned to our Galt Facebook Page or student bulletin to learn more!



Families may purchase clothing in support of the Terry Fox Foundation directly from their website if desired: <u>Terry Fox Foundation</u>

AGRHS Standards & Procedures - Summary: This summary of standards & procedures provides you with the overview of the timeline and the details of assessment and reporting across the school year.

Personal Device Ban: Thank you to all families for your support in the transition to no personal devices during the school day. We are very proud of how the strong majority of our students have adapted to this change. One hurdle we have observed is that students may no longer rely on their cell phone to be aware of the time. While we are working to add additional clocks in common spaces, we encourage students to wear a basic (old fashioned;)...) watch. We have warning bells 5 minutes before class commences, but we are hearing that many students are struggling with not being fully aware of the time. We also wish to clarify that ear buds and wireless headphones of any kind are not permitted (unless authorized in an IEP for specific learning needs). Students are encouraged to have a cheap set of wired headphones that they may use for educational purposes. The last point of clarification, school issued devices may only be used in supervised classroom settings during recess and lunch for educational purposes as authorized by the supervising adult. For your quick reference: AGRHS Cell Phone Policy Handbook

Dates to Remember:

September 18 General Assembly of Parents, 6:30 p.m.

September 19 PD Day - No classes for students

September 25 Terry Fox Run October 1 Spirit Day

October 9 Open House/Meet the Teacher
October 10 PD Day - No classes for students
October 13 Thanksgiving - School Closed

October 15 1st Communication Available on Porta November 7 PD Day - No classes for students

November 10-14 Grad Photos

November 20 Term 1 Report Card Available on Portal

November 24 & 25 PD Day - No classes for students

November 26 Parent-Teacher Interviews

