



# Galt Collegiate Institute

*We Believe In Ghosts!*

April Newsletter, 2018

## Assessment, Evaluation and Reporting

In September 2013, the Waterloo Region District School Board began implementing a new administrative procedure in Grades 7 to 12 regarding Assessment, Evaluation and Reporting. The procedure and accompanying Board Policy 2010 align with the Ontario Ministry of Education's policy document, *Growing Success: Assessment, Evaluation and Reporting in Ontario Schools* (2010). A copy of Administrative Procedure 1660 is available on the WRDSB website at [www.wrdsb.on.ca](http://www.wrdsb.on.ca).

The procedure supports staff in meeting the WRDSB's overall goal of optimizing learning and achievement for **all** students. The procedure, in particular, will help align classroom practices with the following key belief statements articulated by the Ministry of Education:

- All students can succeed;
- Each student has his or her own unique patterns of learning;
- Fairness is not sameness.

*Learning For All, K-12, p. 6*

Research tells us that all students learn best when instruction, resources, and the learning environment are well-suited to their particular strengths, interests, needs, and stage of readiness. The new procedure helps support student learning by ensuring that evaluation and reporting practices:

- Result in marks that reflect achievement of learning goals – not behaviour;
- Separate academic achievement from learning skills and work habits;
- Encourage high expectations for student learning;
- Promote responsibility on the part of students to provide evidence of their understanding of the essential learnings for a course.

As part of this newsletter, you will find an explanation of key parts of the Provincial Report Card. The first and most important place to look on the Report Card is the Learning Skills and Work Habits section. Well-developed Learning Skills and Work Habits can have a positive impact on your child's academic achievement. For a definition of each of the six Learning Skills and Work Habits, please see page 3 of the Report Card.

Additional information for parents/guardians about assessment, evaluation and reporting in several languages can be found at the following website: <http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/parents/reportCard.html>

## MSIP

GCI is one of three high schools in the WRDSB that uses an MSIP timetable. MSIP stands for "Multi-Subject Instructional Period". All GCI students have a one-hour MSIP period each day, during which students can:

- complete homework
- access computer and library resources
- read recreationally
- participate in group work
- access extra help from available teachers
- work on assignments and projects

Students who are behind in academic work or who have struggled with course material are encouraged to judiciously use MSIP *each day* to improve their learning and achievement. Students who use MSIP effectively tend to see their efforts reflected in their results.

## Upcoming Dates At GCI

May 3	ESL Drama Performance	June 1	Prom
May 10	Spring Music Night	June 5	Arts Evening
May 11	Relay For Life	June 6	Athletic Banquet
May 15	Grad Assembly	June 8	Awards Assembly
May 23 & 24	Perimeter's 'Power of Ideas' Tour	June 21 – 27	Exams

## English Language Learners Drama Production

GCI's ESL/ELD department has partnered with M-T space Multicultural Theater and the YMCA for the eighth year. Our ELL students will deliver a 45-minute dramatic production, telling their stories about coming to Canada, and sharing what it is like to be a newcomer in our country. All GCI students will have the opportunity to witness these powerful stories in the assemblies taking place on May 3.

## Relay For Life

Relay For Life, a fundraiser in support of the Canadian Cancer Society, will take place on GCI's front field on Friday, May 11. Hundreds of students and staff are currently raising funds for this charity, with an overall fundraising goal of \$25,000. Thanks to the many volunteers and sponsors who are helping to make this year's Relay a success!

## Perimeter Institute – “Power of Ideas’ Tour Open To Our Community

Perimeter Institute is bringing its “Power of Ideas” tour to Galt Collegiate. Students and adults alike will discover the process of science through engaging, hands-on, mind-expanding exhibits, by visiting a ‘Science Centre quality’ exhibit right in our school. A walk through this exhibit will spark kids’ curiosity, promote creativity, and encourage critical thinking. On **Wednesday, May 23<sup>rd</sup>** from **6:00 pm to 8:00 pm**, members of our community are welcome to come to GCI and experience the power of this exhibit.

## Safe, Caring & Inclusive Schools – Parent Survey

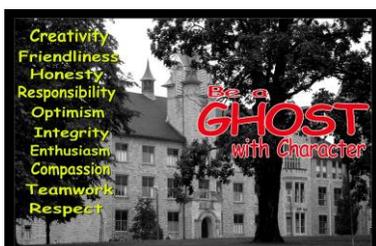
To strengthen a safe, caring and inclusive school culture, a school needs insight into its existing culture. Safe, Caring and Inclusive School surveys, completed by both students and parents, assist us in understanding and describing the current school culture while identifying areas for improvement. It is important to ensure that representatives from all sectors of the school and its community participate in any type of survey or assessment. We strongly encourage parents to complete the survey which will be available on the GCI website in the coming days.

## Student Drop-Off At GCI

The safety of our students is our priority, and safety in and around our campus depends upon the cooperation of all members of the GCI community. In the morning, traffic congestion can be a problem on Water Street, Dando Avenue and in our student parking lot. Arriving early and/or allowing extra time can help. The school driveway in front of GCI is not a student drop-off area; it is a fire route. Our supervision monitor, Drew, regulates traffic at the entrance to the school driveway in the morning. Access to the front of GCI is restricted to staff and visitors who park in the small number of visitor spots available at the front of the school. If Drew is not present to regulate access to the front of the school, please do not use it as a drop-off area and stop in the fire route. By-law regulations will be enforced to ensure the fire route in front of our school is clear. These procedures continue the efforts made by GCI to keep students, staff and visitors safe. We appreciate your co-operation.

## End of Semester Celebrations

During the spring months, groups of senior students, as a means to celebrate graduation, sometimes organize events of their own accord (e.g., camping, beach trips, golf excursions, etc.). Please note that these activities are independent of the school, and are not recognized or organized by, at or through GCI. School staff does not attend or supervise students at these events.



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