



Galt Collegiate Institute

Home of the Ghosts

June 2015 Report Card Information For Students & Parents

Assessment, Evaluation & 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.

The new 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 achievement of the essential learnings for a course.

Attached to this sheet 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.

Summer School Report Cards

Summer school report cards will be available in the main office at GCI from August 31st to September 4th.

Information To Note Prior To the First Day of School

Transportation

Transportation details will be available beginning on August 24th, 2015 for those students who qualify for transportation. To view transportation details, go to www.stswr.ca, click on "Student Login", enter your child's Ontario Education Number, which can be found on your child's report card (numbers only; no space or dash). Enter your child's birth date (dd/mm/yyyy), and street number, and select GCI from the drop down menu.

September Home Packages

This year, September Home Packages will be available online only. The September Home Package contains board-wide information such as: a welcome letter from the Director; 2015-16 school year information; student accident insurance letter; character development information; code of digital conduct; safe, caring and inclusive schools information; parent engagement; school councils; among other documents. In early August a "School Year Information" link will appear on the GCI website. By following that link, parents and students will be able to view all of the September Home Package documents. Only those documents requiring a parent signature – the Data Verification Form & Standard Release Form - will be sent home in paper format.

Data Verification & Standard Release Forms

Parents* and/or students are asked to come to the school to pick up the Data Verification Form and Standard Release Form from August 31st to September 4th, between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. Both forms need to be reviewed and signed by a parent (or student, if over 18), and should be returned prior to or on the first day of school. DVFs that are not picked up prior to the beginning of school will be sent home on the first day of school for parent review and a signature. *Students 18 and over who are unable to pick up their DVF must provide a note permitting a parent/guardian/sibling to pick it up.

Student Timetables

Timetables will be distributed on the first day of school. However, signed DVFs and Standard Release Forms may be handed in to the main office from August 31st to September 4th in exchange for a timetable.

Summary of Key Dates Prior to September 8

August 31 to September 4	DVF and Standard Release form picked up and, once signed, dropped off in exchange for student timetable
August 31 to September 1	Counselors available for course changes (for students who have turned in signed DVFs and received a timetable in the main office)
September 1	Parking availability minimal due to a system meeting, 7:30 a.m. to noon.
September 8	First Day of School (see below)
September 14 to 18	Students may make appointments to see counselors for course changes

First Day of School: September 8, 2015

Each year, we run a modified timetable on the first day of school. This year, to support Grade 9 students on their first day of high school, we will run a timetable that will have Grade 9 students arrive before our Grade 10, 11 and 12 students, who will begin classes at 10:00 a.m. The schedule for opening day is:

9:00 – 10:00	Grade 9 Assembly in Tassie Hall, followed by homeroom
10:00 – 10:31	A Block (all grades)
10:38 – 11:08	B Block – Grade 10 & 11 Assembly; Grade 9 and 12 in class
11:15 – 11:45	B Block – Grade 12 Assembly, Grade 9, 10, and 11 in class
11:52 – 12:22	C Block (all grades)
12:22 – 1:22	Lunch
1:22 – 1:50	D Block (all grades)
1:57 – 2:25	E Block (all grades)

On the first day of school, students locate their homerooms by checking the alphabetical lists posted outside Tassie Hall, the library, and the cafeteria. Busses will run at their regular times starting on September 8th. There will be limited cafeteria service on the first day; full cafeteria service will begin on September 9th.

Photo Day

Wednesday, September 9th is photo day for all students.

Blitz Days

Blitz days will take place from Tuesday, September 15th to Thursday, September 17th. During Blitz days, students will have an opportunity to buy a student card, yearbook, and athletic banquet ticket. Students must have a student card to participate in any co-curricular activity, including school dances, athletic teams, clubs, among others. More information about blitz days will be available in September.

Newcomer Orientation Week – English Language Learners

Students in the ESL/ELD programme who are new to GCI are invited to attend Newcomer Orientation Week from August 31st to September 2nd. Please see the GCI website for more information.

Wishing you a safe & happy summer!

