



Galt Collegiate Institute

We Believe In Ghosts!

April Newsletter, 2016

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.

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 4	Nutrition for Learning BBQ	June 2	Prom
May 12	Music Night	June 7	Awards Assembly
May 13 to 15	Online Fundraiser	June 8	Athletic Banquet
May 16	Grad Assembly	June 9	Arts Evening
May 26	Inside Ride	June 22 – 28	Exams

Inside Ride

On Thursday, May 26, GCI will be participating in the Inside Ride, a fundraiser for children with cancer. Our fundraising goal is \$9000. Students sign up in teams of six riders. Each rider is responsible for fundraising at least \$50. On the day of the Inside Ride, students dress up in team uniforms or costumes and each rider takes to a stationary bike for 10 minutes. Teams compete for the most mileage, fastest time, most dollars raised, most spirit, among other categories. The Inside Ride is a wonderful way to contribute to an important cause while simultaneously boosting school spirit.

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. A link is posted on the Galt Collegiate website at: gci.wrdsb.ca. The survey is open now and will close on May 13, 2016. Responses to the survey are anonymous.

Student Drop-Off At GCI

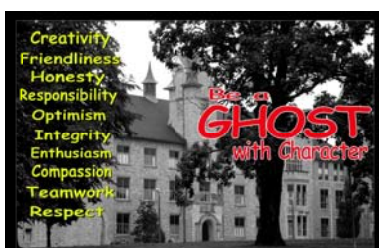
The safety of our students is our priority, and safety in and around our campus depends upon the cooperation of all members of the GCI community. In the morning, traffic congestion can be a problem on Water Street, Dando Avenue and in our student parking lot. Arriving early and/or allowing extra time 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.

Nutrition For Learning Online Auction

Nutrition for Learning (NFL) is a registered charitable organization operating in Waterloo Region since 1997, whose mission is to enhance the ability to learn by ensuring that each student attends school well nourished. At GCI, NFL offers a breakfast, lunch and snack program. To raise funds for NFL, GCI and St. Andrews Public School will be running an on-line auction from May 13 to 15. We are accepting donations for the online auction. Please contact Mr. Bolton if you would like to donate. Online bidding starts on May 13. Please visit the website to see what is available, and then mark your calendars to get in on the bidding or donating: BiddingOwl.com/NutritionForLearning. There will also be a hot dog barbecue for students and staff on the front field on Wednesday May 4 during the lunch hour. Proceeds go to NFL.

Newcomers

As millions of Syrians continue to be displaced by the conflict in their home country, a group of passionate and hardworking GCI students and staff are helping to bring awareness in our school and community of the Syrian Refugee crisis. The GCI Welcoming Committee is doing their part to make GCI a welcoming place for newcomers. For more information, and to see how you can help, please visit gciwelcomingcommittee.wordpress.com.



Follow Us on Twitter @GaltCI

