



Galt Collegiate Institute

We Believe In Ghosts

June 2017 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.

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.

Attached to this sheet you will find an explanation of key parts of the Provincial Report Card. For a definition of each of the six Learning Skills and Work Habits, please see page 4 of the Report Card.

Transcripts & Summer School Report Cards

GCI's main office will be closed from July 13th to August 25th. Transcripts may be obtained through the Records Department at the Education Centre while the GCI office is closed for the summer. Summer school report cards will be available in the main office at GCI in **September**.

Information of Note for the 2017-18 School Year

Transportation

Transportation details will be available beginning on August 21st, 2016 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

September Home Packages are available online only. The September Home Package contains board-wide information such as: a welcome letter from the Director, 2017-18 school year information, student accident insurance letter, character development information, code of digital conduct, safe, caring and inclusive schools information, parent engagement, school council information, etc. 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 available in paper format.

Data Verification Form (DVF) & Standard Release Form

Parents* and/or students are asked to come to the school to pick up the Data Verification Form and Standard Release Form from August 28th to September 1st, 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 28th to September 1st in exchange for a timetable.

Course Changes

From August 28th to 30th, counselors will be available to make course changes **for students who have turned in signed DVFs and received a timetable in the main office.** After that, students may make appointments to see counselors for course changes from September 11th to 15th.

School Day

School Day is an online communication and cashless payment system. *School Day* can be accessed from any web browser and provides real-time access to information, and the ability to receive communication, approve permission forms online, register for extracurricular events, and make online payments for students cards, sports fees, yearbooks, trips or other activities. Accompanying this newsletter is a separate sheet with *School Day* information, including instructions on how to subscribe.

MSIP

All GCI students have an MSIP period (Multi-Subject Instructional Period) built into their timetable. Students may use MSIP to engage in many academic tasks, including completing homework, working in pairs or small groups, meeting teachers for extra help or student-teacher conferences, accessing computer resources, working on course projects or assigned readings, using the library, and other possibilities. MSIP allows students to exercise choice and make decisions. Teachers have found that students who consistently use MSIP well enjoy a higher level of academic success.

First Day of School: September 5, 2017

Each year, we use a modified timetable on the first day of school. To support Grade 9 students on their first day of high school, Grade 9 students will arrive at 9:00 for an assembly, 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); Chromebooks Distributed to Grade 9 students (A to G)
12:22 – 1:22	Lunch
1:22 – 1:50	D Block (all grades); Chromebooks Distributed to Grade 9 students (H to N)
1:57 – 2:25	E Block (all grades); Chromebooks Distributed to Grade 9 students (O to Z)

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 5th. There will be limited cafeteria service on the first day; full cafeteria service will begin on September 6th.

Photo Day

Wednesday, September 6th is photo day for all students.

Blitz Days

Blitz days will take place from September 11th to 15th. 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, but not limited to, school dances, athletic teams, and clubs. 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 28th to 30th. Please see the GCI website for more information.

Wishing you a safe & happy summer!

