

## **CYCLE 2 VICE-PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE**

**2007-08**

Welcome to Alexander Galt Regional High School! We are very happy that you chose Galt as your school and feel confident that you will be satisfied with your choice.

As Vice-Principal of Cycle two, I am responsible for students in Grades 10, Grade 11, and most of Grade 9. The main goal of cycle two is to give students the tools that they need to be responsible, productive members of society. My role as Vice-Principal involves assisting students in making the transition from cycle one to the new demands of cycle 2, and guiding them through the decisions that will influence their success in level four and five and ultimately their graduation. I also work closely with the teachers and staff to find solutions to problems and to achieve school excellence through constant improvement and re-evaluation of teaching and administrative practices.

This year brings particular excitement as we are embarking on the challenge of implementing the Quebec Educational Reform at Cycle 2 (Grade 9) this year. Changes will be implemented over the course of the year.

As the parent of an adolescent, you have an extreme impact on your child's success. Now, more than ever, the support, guidance, and boundaries that you provide to your adolescent child are essential to their school success. Your children are listening to you and they value your opinion; however, they need your guidelines and expectations in terms of behaviour,

school attendance, homework, and success to be made clear. There are a few major areas where parental support is essential for school success and the partnership between home and school is vital. We look forward to our collaboration on these elements. Please assist your child by:

1. Ensuring that your child comes to school everyday well-rested and ready to learn. Students are responsible for all material that is missed when they are absent so the best practice is regular attendance.
2. Limiting your child's working hours so as to not interfere with assignments and studying. We have found that working over 10-15 hours per week has hindered success for many students.
3. Assisting your child to create homework and study routines. Studying a few minutes per day, particularly in content heavy courses is much more effective than "cramming" at the last minute. It also solidifies the day's learning and allows students to know right away what questions they have so they can ask their teachers before the exam.
4. Keeping informed by checking our website, reading newsletters, and asking questions. Parental communication with school and particularly with your child's teachers can have drastic effects on your child's success. For this reason we want to make efforts to keep you informed and to open the lines of communication between home and school, to create a community environment despite the vastness of our school's geographical territory. To this end our school website contains

valuable and up to date information. Every teacher and administrator can be reached via email on the website or by calling the school.

I look forward to a productive and exciting school year and I feel confident that by working as a cooperative team of student, teacher, parent, and administrator, we can have a positive impact on school success and ultimately the success of our youth.

*Godi Coleman*  
Vice-principal – Cycle 2