

CONNECTIONS

No. 4 Volume 1

September 2023



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DEAR ETSB PARENTS,

As we find ourselves at the beginning of a new school year, we extend our warmest welcome back to you and your families. We hope you all had a wonderful summer and are ready to embark on another journey of learning together.

We are excited to announce that in the coming months, the ETSB will launch its new Commitment-to-Success Plan that will cover years 2023-2027. While our core pillars remain the same, we have raised the bar once again increasing our target for the graduation and certification rate to 82.5%. We know this might be a challenge, but we believe in our staff and students, and collectively, we will continue to rise to meet our goal.

On behalf of the School Board, may this year be one of accomplishment, collaboration and growth as we foster the joy of learning for all!

Educational Services

Terms, Communications and Report Cards

The following end-of-term dates have been set at the Eastern Townships School Board:

End of Term 1 - November 3, 2023, with report cards available on the portal on **Nov. 15, 2023**. This term is weighted at 20% of the year's final mark

End of Term 2 - February 2, 2024, with report cards available on the portal on **Feb. 14th, 2024**. This term is weighted at 20% of the year's final mark.

End of Term 3 - June 21, 2024, with report cards available on the portal on **June 30th, 2024**. This term is weighted at 60% of year's final mark.

As parents, you will also receive a first communication from your child's school, with information of his/her progress, by **October 12th, 2023**.

MEQ Prioritized Learnings and Weighting of Exams

For the 2023-2024 school year, the ponderation for end-of-year compulsory and sanctioned exams will also return to:

- 20% for compulsory (Grade 6) examinations;
- 50% for all other sanctioned exams.

Virtual Library

The ETSB is proud to offer a virtual library with access to online books, research databases, encyclopedias, tools and much more. Most resources can be accessed from home, 24/7, by clicking on the following [link](#) or by visiting the Parent Section of the ETSB website (www.etsb.qc.ca).



Pride Event

The Sherbrooke Record is organizing a pride event at Square Queen in Lennoxville on September 17th from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Staff and students of the post-secondary institutions in Lennoxville are invited to attend as a means of showing that all students coming to Sherbrooke are welcomed. If you're interested in participating in some capacity, you can contact Matthew McCully at mmccully@sherbrooke.com.

SEAC - Recruiting Members!

The ETSB's Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) is recruiting members! Your elementary or secondary school child has an I.E.P. and you are interested in learning more about services at the ETSB for students with special needs and would like to share with other parents of students with special needs? This committee is for you!

We are looking for one parent per school to join our dedicated and interactive committee. We have five online meetings from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. during the school year on Wednesday evenings. Applicants will be considered on a first come first serve basis. Our first meeting will be taking place on Wednesday, October 11th at 7 p.m.

[CLICK HERE](#) to submit your application.

If you have questions about this committee, please contact us at ces@etsb.qc.ca or at (819) 868-3100, ext. 55035

If you have questions about Special Education Services in your school, please call your child's or children's principal.

SPECIAL EDUCATION WEBSITE

We invite you to visit our [Special Education website](#) where you can find pertinent information about various topics pertaining to students with special needs. You will find information about I.E.P.s, recordings of information sessions offered to parents in the past, services offered in our schools, etc. It is well worth a visit!

PARENT INFO SESSIONS - SAVE THE DATES

We are extremely pleased to inform you that we have planned four (4) online informational sessions for parents this year on subjects that were identified as topics of interest by the members of ETSB's Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC). Please save the following dates as more information will be coming your way closer to the dates of the events.

- Building Resilient Children/Teens and Families:
 - Monday, September 11th at 7 p.m. for parents of **elementary** school students;
 - Wednesday, September 13th at 7 p.m. for parents of **secondary** school students;Click [HERE](#) for more information and to register.
- Individualized Education Plans (I.E.P.s) - What are I.E.P.s and what is my role as a parent?
 - Wednesday, November 8th at 7 p.m. for all parents.
- The Different Pathways in our Secondary Schools and Adult Sector Centres:
 - Wednesday, February 21st at 7 p.m. for all parents.
- Modified Quebec Education Program (Q.E.P.) Outcomes - Your child is experiencing academic difficulties and is assessed based on modified expectations?
Here is what it means for them in the short and long term:
 - Wednesday, April 17th at 7 p.m. for all parents.



International Student Program



The international student program (ISP) was thrilled to welcome 19 students this past August. The students are now attending high school at Richmond Regional, Massey-Vanier and Alexander Galt. They hail from Austria, Brazil, China, Germany, Switzerland and Thailand. It is with great excitement that we welcome them and are happy they chose to join us at the ETSB!

Want to hear first hand what it's like being an international student with the ETSB? Have a listen to a radio interview that was featured on CJMQ's "Friday Drive" with Bryan Laprise and Laura Kaiser, an ISP student: [Listen HERE!](#)

[CLICK
for the
ISP
Newsletter!](#)

EASTERN TOWNSHIP SCHOOL BOARD

International Student Program Newsletter

ISSUE
SEPTEMBER
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MESSAGE FROM THE ISP DIRECTOR

Dear Families,

On behalf of our ETSB ISP staff, we wish you a wonderful 2023-2024 school year filled with cultural experiences and exchanges with your student. We are excited to welcome students from abroad and we know you will lovingly welcome them to your homes and lives. You will be their Canadians moms and dads throughout the duration of their stay. THANK YOU for joining our network of amazing host families! All the best for the school year to come!

Marie-Andrée

MESSAGE FROM THE HOMESTAY COORDINATOR

Dear Host Families,

After weeks (and months) of discussion and preparation, we are now getting there: the students have arrived! This is very exciting! As a homestay coordinator, I start my eighth school year with great enthusiasm. To tell you the truth, I still have butterflies in the stomach at the start of each school year. I am stimulated to embark on this journey together, dedicated to live and learn through this international communion. I wish you an amazing 2023-2024 school year!

Marie-Michèle (ETSB)

IMPORTANT DATES

- September 5th:** Registration deadline for Fall ISP activities
- September 9th:** Family picnic
- September 15-16th:** Nature Camp
- September 22nd:** Pedagogical Day (holiday)

September 2023

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

ISP FALL ACTIVITY CALENDAR

We prepared a bundle of activities for the International Students. These activities are meant for them to explore the nature and live the culture. Participation is optional but strongly recommended to enhance the overall experience. We are trying to offer a balance between big trips and affordable local activities. Sometimes, the outing is meant for youths only and other times is family oriented. You will find the details in this chart. Even though not all the details are finalized, students and host families must reserve their spot before September 5th.

To access the activity calendar, please [click here](#).

WELCOME ACTIVITY WITH HOST FAMILIES

One of our famous Quebec traditions is to host a corn roast party at the end of the summer. We will tweak the classical format and play around the theme of corn! Indeed, all host families and students are invited to attend the **welcoming activity** on Saturday, September 9th in Waterville. We will "get lost" in the beautiful lands at the Topher Farm. This fun activity will be followed by a pot luck picnic. All the details in the [invitation poster](#).