



NEWSLETTER TO STUDENTS -- SEPTEMBER 2014

Our school office will be closed from July 11 to August 25, 2014

1. Enclosed you will find your June Final Report Card **and/or** your September Timetable. The first day of school is **Wednesday, September 3rd**. If your timetable needs to be changed, Student Services will take care of you in September (see the enclosed yellow sheet for the timetable change schedule from Student Services).
2. On the first day and every school day, **buses** arrive at GCHS at 8:30 and the buses leave at the regular times as follows: **3:25 pm for Aroland, Nakina, Camp 25, Geraldton Townsites, Hutchison Lake and Beardmore/Jellicoe buses. Buses for Longlac leave at 3:55** with the possibility of an early Longlac bus (still to be determined). If you are new to the area or new to GCHS and you don't know where to catch your bus in the morning, please contact: Beaulieu Bus Lines at 876-4260 for Longlac, Beardmore, Jellicoe, Nakina, Camp 25, Hutchison Lake, Geraldton Townsites and the Wild Goose Areas. Aroland students contact the Band Office at 329-5970.

The East of Thunder Bay Transportation Consortium (www.etbtc.on.ca) will be posting all routes with approximate time on their website two weeks prior to the start of the new school year. You will find the walk distance policy there and you can sign up under the "Route Status" tab to have an email sent to you anytime there is a bus cancellation or problem with the buses.
3. You can also follow the school on **Twitter @G_CHS** for announcements, reminders, road conditions, etc. Or visit our website at www.gchs.ca
4. **A \$10.00 registration fee is payable to the office on the first day of school**. You will be assigned your locker as time permits before the student assembly or during a spare period during the day, during lunch or after school. Each student has to have his/her **own locker**. You cannot share one and only a lock supplied by the school can be used. You cannot use your own lock. When you return the lock at the end of the school year, you will get \$2.00 back. Students must pay their registration fee in order to take part in any school activities. If you are unable to pay the registration fee, please see Mr. Luomala to make confidential arrangements or your parents can call Mr. Luomala at 854-0130 – Ext. 225.
5. On the first day of school you can return any **outstanding textbooks** or settle your book account at the Library. You will not be issued textbooks until the books are returned or accounts are paid.
6. To new and returning students, please have your parents notify the school if you have an **anaphylactic allergy, epilepsy or other life threatening medical condition**. Please contact Mr. Luomala prior to the start of school at 854-0130 Ext. 225 to set up a meeting with administration to discuss your medical situation. If that is not possible, please call Mr. Luomala or leave a message for him (on his voice mail) prior to September 3rd. GCHS is a **Nut Safe** and **Scent Free** school. In order to ensure a nut safe and scent free environment, students are to refrain from bringing any nut products to school and not to use perfumes, colognes, body sprays or other scent products in the school at any time.
7. Students should come to school prepared to start all classes on the first day of school. Binders, pens, pencils, erasers, rulers, pencil crayons and calculators (scientific ones will work well for you in all your classes) are provided by the student and are necessary for class work in all grades.

8. If you anticipate taking **phys.ed/gym or participating in sports**, you need to be prepared to participate. **Body Piercing & Jewelry:** Students are required **TO REMOVE ALL JEWELRY AND BODY PIERCINGS** for any physical activity where it is required in the Physical Education Safety Guidelines.
9. There will be a **Grade 9 Parent Information Evening** at GCHS on Wednesday, **September 10th at 6:30** pm in the **Library**. At that time, we will explain the Grade 9 program, school policies and routines, etc., and answer any questions your parents may have. Students can come with their parents if they want to. Please mark this date on your calendar.
10. GCHS has a **School Council** consisting of parents, community representatives, teaching and non-teaching staff, student representatives, the Principal. If your parents are interested in sitting on the Council, please contact Mr. Luomala at 854-0130, Ext. 225. The meetings are open to anyone. We would like to get representation from all communities. Meetings are open to all interested GCHS Parents.

Meetings are usually held on the second Wednesday of each month at 6:30 pm in the Library. **The first meeting of this school year will be on Wednesday, September 10th at 7:30 pm in the Library following the Grade 9 Parents Information Meeting.**

11. After 9:00 am daily, the outside doors of the school are locked. During the day, all visitors to the school must report and sign in at the main office. The east-facing Main school access door (Flag) is to be used.
12. On Monday, September 8th, all students will receive a copy of the **GCHS Calendar, Code of Conduct, Policies & Procedures**. You will be asked to **review it** with your parents/guardians and **return the signed Student/Parent Acknowledgement Form by September 12th**. This calendar will also show you important dates and activities taking place throughout the year.
13. If your address, phone number, who you live with or any health conditions have changed over the summer, the school will need to know. Please bring this new information to the office as soon as possible in September. If any of this information changes during the year, please advise the office.

<i>First Day Bell Schedule Wednesday, September 3rd</i> <i>(tentative)</i>		Regular School Day Bell Schedule	
Buses arrive at 8:30		Buses arrive at 8:30	
Assembly for all students	8:50 - 9:10	Period 1	8:50 - 10:05
Period 1	9:20 - 10:30	Period 2	10:10 - 11:25
Period 2	10:35 - 11:45	Lunch	11:25 - 12:05
Lunch	11:45 - 12:45	Activity Period	12:05 - 12:35
Period 3	12:50 - 2:00	Period 3	12:40 - 1:55
Period 4	2:05 - 3:15	Period 4	2:00 - 3:15
Bus Departure	3:25 Aroland, Caramat & Beardmore/Jellicoe, Nakina & Local Area Buses 3:55 Longlac	Bus Departure	3:25 Aroland, Caramat, Beardmore/Jellicoe, Nakina & Local Area Buses (early Longlac bus to be determined) 3:55 Longlac

Have a fun, safe summer & we'll see you on Wednesday, September 3rd, 2014, the first day of school!