

Georges P. Vanier School Student Handbook



Georges P. Vanier School Mission Statement

The Georges P. Vanier School is dedicated to helping every student attain their full potential through a variety of programs, some of which reflect the unique bilingual and multi-cultural nature of the area it serves. The staff, parents and students strive to promote critical thinking, caring, sharing and tolerance with a positive learning environment.

La mission de l'École Georges P. Vanier

L'École Georges P. Vanier veut amener chaque élève à atteindre son plein potentiel par l'entremise d'une programmation qui pour but le prolongement de la nature unique du bilinguisme et du multiculturalisme qui existe dans notre région.

Le milieu scolaire et familial vise à développer la pensée critique, la tolérance, le partage et le respect chez tous et chacun: tout ceci dans un environnement stimulant et positif.

Academic

COURSE OUTLINES (senior high)

At the beginning of the course, objectives of the course and the mark breakdown will be provided. Students are expected to retain these outlines and familiarize themselves with the contents of each semester. Teachers will give handout course outlines for each course, which outlines the curriculum, the evaluation policy and an approximate dateline for instruction as well as how to obtain extra help.

Evaluation may be based on:

- a. Class work and participation
- b. Assignments and Tests
- c. Projects
- d. Attitude and Work Habits
- e. Lab Work
- f. Notebooks and Binders
- g. Exams

DISTANCE LEARNING (senior high)

- All students on Distance Learning who require that course for Valediction purposes must have fully completed that course by the end of specified date.
- All students on Distance Learning courses, who wish to write the course exam at the end of June, must have completed that course in conjunction with Distance Learning requirements.
- All students wishing to enroll in a Distance Learning course must receive permission from the Principal and/or Counselor.
- All students will be required to pay \$100.00 per course prior to beginning any Distance Learning course. This will be refunded upon successful completion of the course.

SCHOOL FINAL EXAMS (senior high)

With the exception of designated "Career and Technology" courses, most courses will have a final exam. The examination can be a school based exam set by the classroom teacher, a Divisional Exam, or in the case of Grade 12 Diploma Courses, an exam set provincially by Alberta Education. School final exams shall be one to two and one-half hours in length, and shall reflect the weighting attached to final exams which shall be 20% to 40% of a student's final grade. The schedule for final exams will be issued approximately six weeks in advance of writing for the student's convenience and planning.

MAKING CHANGES, TRANSFERRING OR WITHDRAWING FROM G.P.V.

Registration - All students must complete a personal data sheet and have a copy of their timetable before they are considered registered in the school. Once registration is complete and approved, students are asked to follow the procedures outlined below when changes to their original program are required.

Senior High students: Any withdrawal from a course must be reported and approved by the Principal or the grad coach.

STUDENTS TRANSFERING TO A DIFFERENT SCHOOL

The student's records will be forwarded upon receiving a written request from the receiving school. Students are advised to take a copy of their most recent report card in order to aid in registration.

MARK APPEALS (senior high)

A student, or a parent or guardian on the student's behalf, shall have the right to appeal the final standing awarded in any subject. For courses in which the school awards the final mark, the first appeal should be made to the principal within five school days from the time that the final standings are released to students. In the absence of the principal, or should a student not be satisfied with the outcome of the appeal made to the school principal, the student may request a hearing with the superintendent of schools. If a student is dissatisfied with a mark in a Diploma Examination subject he/she shall have three options:

- (i) Request the exam be remarked
- (ii) Rewrite the exam at a later sitting
- (iii) Take the course again.

MISSED TESTS (senior high)

Each teacher, normally in their course outlines, will indicate his/her expectations for students who miss exams or quizzes. Generally this requires that the student either lets the teacher know in advance that he/she will be away or has his/her parents call on the morning of the exam to indicate that they are aware an exam is being missed and indicating which teacher to notify. In all cases, the student must have an acceptable reason for which he/she can be exempted or permission to make up the exam will be revoked. A student whose parent excuses the absence shall not be automatically impacted by the absence. The decision to offer an alternative assessment will be at the discretion of the teacher.

STUDENT EVALUATION/HOMEWORK

Student evaluation is continuous and ongoing. The process ensures that student progress is clearly and fairly portrayed. Students at Georges P. Vanier will be evaluated on a cumulative basis. This means that the result statements that you will see during reporting periods will reflect the status of a particular student at that time (the mark from the beginning of the course up to that time). If parents and/or students request a term report, indicating the performance of a student during the specific term, individual teachers will make these available.

Teachers at Georges P. Vanier will strive to evaluate students on as consistent and fair a manner as possible. In order to do this, such mechanisms as teacher marksheets and test boards will be utilized. Report cards will also reflect the personal habits and the study skills of individual students and are issued three times per semester to Senior High students and quarterly to Junior High students.

It is the school's responsibility to promote good work habits among the students. In order for students to become proficient in their expected areas of endeavor, to develop good work habits and to promote responsibility, homework will be assigned at each grade level.

Guidelines:

Grade 7 - 9	60 - 90 minutes per day
Grade 10 - 12	40 minutes per class

The aforementioned study hours are intended to be used as guidelines only. The homework assigned to any one student will vary from individual to individual although it should not deviate to any great extent from the established guidelines.

PARENT-TEACHER INTERVIEWS

Interviews are held four times a year; please check your “Vanier at a Glance” and/or School Website for dates and times. Parents are encouraged to bring students to interviews. This year, Parent-Teacher interviews will be held from 5-8 p.m.

STUDY PERIOD (senior high)

It is the belief of the Georges P. Vanier community that students should maximize their learning opportunities. Based on this belief it is thus that we recommend that students not take any spares. Only grade 12 students will be permitted to take a spare.

Note: Spare students are not permitted in the hallways. A student who does not have a class is expected to be in the area of his/her choice within the same timeframe as other students. The following areas/options are accessible:

- a) Learning Commons
- b) Rotunda
- c) Leaving the school

Awards

The staff feels it is important to reward not only academics but also a variety of other skills and attributes that are conducive to a healthy learning environment. The primary aim of presenting students with awards is to recognize all students whose accomplishments make them stand out among their peers. It is also true that a school must celebrate what it honors and this is the primary aim of awards celebrations - we celebrate citizenship, academic success and incredible steps forward.

JUNIOR AND SENIOR HIGH AWARDS

Undergraduate Awards ceremonies complement the beginning of the year for Vanier. These are a commencement which gives focus to students new and returning concerning expectations and celebrations for the forthcoming year. Undergraduate Awards are focused on academic achievement and excellence in effort. For the grade 7 student beginning his journey with Vanier, this is his introduction to our community. For the grade 12 student beginning his final year with us, this is the moment where his or her sights are set high. Parents are welcomed and encouraged to attend.

Communication

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Announcements are typically made once daily. Students should listen carefully to the announcements. Students called to the office should report there immediately after dismissal.

WEBSITE

As our website is kept current, please visit our website for up to date information on current events, important dates, newsletters, etc. Our website is: www.gpv.hpsd48.ab.ca. Our website is an invitation into and a celebration of our educational community. Come on in to check frequently and learn about what is happening at Vanier. To comment on the material or if you have any questions or concerns, please email Denise Blanchette at: dmb Blanchette@hpsd.ca.

BLACKBOARD CONNECT – automated phone system

Blackboard connect is our voice messaging system which we access through the internet in order to place mass announcements to every students' home.

The message is recorded by a staff member and then distributed through the Blackboard connect system. The message will be announced when the phone is answered, or will be recorded on your voice mail or answering machine.

MESSAGES

Students and staff will not be called out of class for personal messages or phone calls except in emergencies. Any messages received during class time will normally be relayed to students at breaks.

VANIER AT A GLANCE - Calendar

Georges P. Vanier publishes a monthly calendar with important dates and information for both students and parents. This calendar will be posted on our school website at www.gpv.hpsd48.ab.ca. It can be found under the "Student & Parents" tab. Vanier at a Glance will be mailed to your home free of charge. Happy reading.

Personal

FOOD/DRINK SERVICES

For student convenience, a food counter (Café Vanier) and 3 juice/water vending machines are in operation within the school. Proceeds from these ventures go directly towards extracurricular activities and equipment within the school.

LOCKERS

Each Georges P. Vanier student is provided with a locker at the beginning of the year. With the privilege of having a locker comes the responsibility of taking care of it. Students should ensure that their lockers are kept clean and free of decaying materials. Also students should remember that this is a public facility and that staff is responsible for deciding whether or not material put in or on the lockers is appropriate. Any abuse or vandalism of the locker may result in the student's locker privilege being canceled. The school will assume no responsibility for personal property brought into the school. Money or valuables should not be left in your locker. They can be left at the School Office on a short-term basis only. Students are encouraged to purchase Division locks from the main office. If a student chooses to use a personal lock, the combination and serial number **MUST** be registered with the office staff. Lock combinations are kept confidential. Any locks that have not been registered may be cut. **We strongly recommend that all students lock their lockers.** Please note that students can expect periodic inspections of lockers.

High Prairie School Division #48 – Rules & Regulations Covering Lockers

1. All lockers assigned to students are the exclusive property of the Division. Combination locks issued by the school may be used on school lockers. If a student uses a personal lock on a locker, the student must file either the combination or a duplicate key with the office. The Principal shall have custody of all combinations and keys to lockers or locks. Any unauthorized lock may be removed without notice and the school shall not be responsible for replacing the lock. No right or expectation of privacy exists for any student as to the use of any locker assigned to a student by the school, and lockers are subject to search in accordance with this administrative procedure.
2. The Division, as the owner of school lockers for all purposes, reserves the right, at any time, with or without notice, to search or repossess the lockers provided to students. This authority is delegated to the school principal.
3. Students are assigned lockers for their convenience and temporary use for the purposes of storing authorized personal belongings and instructional materials. Students are responsible for the contents of their lockers.
4. Principals will establish such rules as are necessary to monitor use of school lockers by students. Such rules will include the requirement that students shall not be permitted to have in their possession any illegal materials, including various forms of illicit drugs, narcotics, intoxicants, weapons, stolen property, and pornographic or any other offensive materials.
5. Students shall be made aware, both verbally and in written form, of the school rules respecting school lockers at the beginning of each school year or upon registration.
6. Where a locker search is conducted:
 - a. A reasonable effort should be made to have the student present during the search, if deemed appropriate by the Principal having regard to all of the circumstances.
 - b. An adult, additional to the Principal, shall also be present during the search.
 - c. The Principal shall maintain a written report listing the reason for conducting a search, all items discovered during the search, and the disposition of those items (e.g., returned to student, destroyed, provided to police).
7. In the event dangerous, stolen, illegal, or other offensive materials are found during a locker search, the Principal will remove and securely store the materials. The Principal shall then determine whether the matter will be handled as an internal disciplinary matter or referred to police. In making such a determination, the Principal shall consider whether the materials found are dangerous, stolen, illegal, or otherwise offensive and whether a law enforcement proceeding is likely to result.
8. If a decision is made to hand the matter over to the police, items removed under rule #7 above shall be provided to police.
9. The Principal may use the RCMP dog unit to assist with locker searches in an effort to keep the school facility drug-free. Actions by a Principal in response to a search by the RCMP dog unit must comply with this administrative procedure.
10. We strongly recommend that all students keep their lockers locked at all times to ensure the safety of their belongings.

LOST AND FOUND

There is a "Lost and Found" bin located in the Junior High section of the school. Parents/guardians are encouraged to verify the contents if they are missing any items. At the end of June a number of items are always left behind. These items will be collected and placed in the main entrance for a period of one-week following the last day of school. At such time articles will be either given away to an organization such as Grandma's Den or discarded. Valuable items (glasses, jewelry, etc) are generally turned in to the office.

PERSONAL INSURANCE

Personal property is not covered by HPSD insurance. If staff members or students bring personal property to school, they do so at their own risk. Most home or tenant insurance policies will provide coverage for these items, even when lost or stolen when off your residential premises. Damage may or may not be covered by these policies. If you are unsure, you should check with your insurance provider.

STUDENT/PARENT PARKING

Student parking is located on the west-end of the school. No parking is permitted on the bus route or in front of the main office doors. Please obey all parking signs. When visiting the school during regular school hours, parents should be cautious about parking in the school bus area. Also, if you are parked across from the bus lane, the traffic regulation regarding flashing lights is in effect.

VISITORS/GUESTS AT G.P.V.

All visitors are required to report to the office when they arrive at the school. All visitors will be provided with a Visitor Identification Card.

Students wishing to have a friend visit with them for the day must obtain permission from the office and their individual teachers prior to the requested date.

Rules & Regulations

ATTENDANCE POLICY (senior high)

Students are expected to attend school every day, and to arrive to classrooms on time. Irregular attendance curtails the learning experiences and often hinders class progress through the effort to "catch up."

SENIOR HIGH POLICY

- Policy 1.1** Regular attendance is the responsibility of the students and parents. School staff will assist whenever possible.
- Policy 1.2** When a student is absent from school, the parent must contact the school.
- Policy 1.3** All students are considered late if they are not in their scheduled classrooms by the bell. Teachers will apply consequences as they deem appropriate.

Policy 1.5 If a student needs to leave early, they are to remain in their regular classes until the parent or guardian comes to pick them up. Please come to the office and we will contact the classroom for you.

Policy 1.6 Students are responsible for catching up on all the work that they miss when they are absent, regardless of the reason.

BELL SCHEDULE

- 8:48 Warning Bell
- 8:50 Period 1
- 9:32 Period 2
- 10:15 Morning Break**
- 10:21 Warning Bell
- 10:23 Period 3
- 11:05 Period 4
- 11:48 Lunch**
- 12:29 Warning Bell
- 12:32 Period 5
- 1:14 Period 6
- 1:57 Afternoon Break
- 2:03 Warning Bell**
- 2:05 Period 7
- 2:47 Period 8
- 3:30 Dismissal**

ELECTRONIC DEVICES

Cell phones Grades 7-12

Many problems arise from the use of cell phones in schools. These problems include students texting each other from class to class, students photographing other students in compromising situations, cyber-bullying, cell phones ringing and disrupting classes, cell phones left on in lockers and beeping thereby disrupting classes. Use of cell phones and music devices in the classroom is only allowed with teacher permission.

PRE-REQUISITES – GRADE 10 COURSES

It is essential that Grade 9 students enrolling in High School enter the appropriate level course. To guide students in selecting the appropriate course, the following criteria have been established:

	Grade 9	Grade 10
English LA 9	65% and above <u>64% and below</u>	English 10-1 <u>English 10-2</u>
Math 9	65% and above 50% - 64% <u>49% and below</u>	Pure Math 10 Applied Math 10 <u>Math 14</u>
Social Studies 9	65% and above <u>64% and below</u>	Social Studies 10-1 <u>Social Studies 10-2</u>
Science 9	65% and above <u>64% and below</u>	Science 10 <u>Science 14</u>

If a student does not meet the criteria, the student can apply to get into higher level classes. This will require the student, along with their parent or guardian, to meet with the Principal and grad coach to formulate a constructive agreement on an academic plan. It also requires the consent of the teacher.

DRUGS/ALCOHOL/CONTRABAND

Students who are suspected of using or being associated with alcohol or illegal drugs (behavior, odor, appearance, etc.) will have their parents/guardians contacted and informed of the situation. At that time they will be asked to pick up their child from school. The student will be sent to a room while awaiting pickup. If parents cannot be contacted or are unable to pick up their child, the student will remain in a room until the school day ends. However, parents will be advised of the situation as soon as possible.

Possessing, using, or being under the influence of alcohol or drugs either at school, on the school bus, or during school-sponsored functions is forbidden. Students in violation will be suspended from school and depending on the circumstances, may be expelled and charged by law. This is in accordance with HPSD Policies 916 and 920, respectively, Suspension and/or Expulsion of a Student and Alcohol and Drug Abuse. Contraband items such as pornographic materials, cigarettes (Junior High students), knives, clubs or other such devices, firearms, laser pointers, explosive materials, alcohol, illegal drugs and syringes are not permitted on school property. This is not an exhaustive list. It is only meant to serve as a guideline.

LEAVING SCHOOL GROUNDS/NOON PASS PRIVILEGE

During the lunch break all Senior High students are granted the privilege of leaving the school grounds if they desire. This is a privilege which individuals may have revoked should either the school or the parents feel it is being abused.

Students will be allowed to leave the school during classes only if a prior note or phone call has been received from a parent and/or if approval has been received from the school administration. All students must check out at the office before leaving. Failure to observe this request may result in the absence being treated as truancy. It is expected that personal appointments will be scheduled outside of school hours.

At the Junior High level - only village students have the option to leave the school, all bus students must remain on the school grounds. This includes many after school functions, including school dances.

MAJOR MISCONDUCT

The staff and parents of Georges P. Vanier School recognize that the gravity of certain behaviors is such that they require more serious consequences. Such major misconduct may include:

1. Conduct which interferes with or threatens the orderly functioning of the school.
2. Conduct injurious to the safety and/or dignity of students or staff:
 - a) Physical and/or mental abuse of others;
 - b) Open opposition to authority;
 - c) Willful damage to school or other's property;
 - d) Theft;
 - e) Continuous disruptive behavior. It is the repetitiveness of the event that matters as well as the fact that the student is not making an effort to correct his/her behavior.
 - f) Fighting.

PHYSICAL AFFECTION

Visible signs of personal affection such as kissing, embracing and fondling are not acceptable forms of behavior within a school environment.

POTENTIALLY DANGEROUS BEHAVIOR

Students can often get carried away with some of their activities. Jostling beside their lockers, pushing and shoving around doorways or stairways, tackle football and other contact sports and many other activities are all considered to be potentially dangerous behavior and will not be allowed by the staff. The Faculty and staff will be responsible for determining what behaviors are appropriate or inappropriate. Once again, safety and common sense should be the guidelines used by all.

DRILLS

Throughout the year, we have a number of drills, which are aimed at ensuring student safety. These include:

A) Fire Drills:

1. Students should ensure that they know their particular emergency exit routes. They are located on a chart in every classroom.
2. If the fire alarm sounds, the building must be cleared, regardless of the circumstances or event in progress. Students must follow the guidelines outlined by their teachers.

B) Emergency Drills:

1. **On Alert**
The On Alert procedure is an early warning system for school staff. The procedure instructs staff to direct students to classrooms because of a possible emergency.
2. **Shelter-In-Place**
The Shelter-In-Place procedure retreats students to their classroom or another room to seek immediate shelter when the option to evacuate the area is not prudent.
3. **Lock-Down**
The Lock-Down procedure is a process for securing students and staff in classrooms and/or offices during emergencies or other special situations.
4. **Hold & Secure**
The hold & secure is a process used to lock all exits/entrances of the school when there is an emergency situation in close proximity to the school.
5. **Emergency Evacuation**
On command, all staff and students will evacuate the premises, in a prescribed and rehearsed manner, via pre-arranged evacuation routes.
6. **Drop-Cover-Hold**
Drop-Cover-Hold is used during incidents related to potential structural damage or falling/flying debris such as earthquakes, tornadoes and explosions.
7. **Hit-The-Floor**
Hit-The-Floor is used when there is potential to be hit by gunshot or flying debris.
8. **Stay Put**
When the Stay Put command is added on to any command, do not attempt to get to your classroom or office. Minimize all movements.

SCHOOL PROPERTY AND VANDALISM

Students who willfully cause damage to school property will be charged for the cost of materials as well as labor costs for repairing the damage. This also includes textbooks and library materials. Students are encouraged to assist the school's campaign for combating vandalism by respecting school property themselves and reporting any vandalism immediately to the office.

SMOKING

Georges P. Vanier has been designated as a smoke-free school. Therefore smoking is not permitted anywhere within the school building or on the school grounds.

STUDENT CONDUCT

A citizen of the Vanier community is expected to display maturity and personal responsibility. He or she:

- a) Treats the building and its contents in a respectful manner. That is, avoid leaving your physical mark anywhere within or on the building.
- b) Interacts with the staff, their fellow students, substitute teachers and any guests in an appropriate manner. Treats others as they would like to be treated.
- c) Displays appropriate public decorum for a school.
- d) During any school-sponsored excursion each member is expected to follow the school guidelines and any guidelines set by the institution/location hosting the event.

Inappropriate conduct will be treated seriously and will be dealt with under HPSD Policy 916 - Suspension and/or Expulsion of Students if deemed necessary by the Administrator.

STUDENT DRESS CODE

Student clothing should be neat, clean and not distracting. Although we recognize that the parents have "primary" responsibility for the general appearance of their children, the policy does create specific rules that take into consideration the safety, order and general welfare of the students. The school does realize that parents' and students' opinion of what is appropriate dress for a school situation may vary greatly. We feel that the standards established below are in keeping with standards maintained at most work-places and are, therefore, appropriate standards for a public school. The following regulations will be in effect at Georges P. Vanier School.

1. Students are not allowed to wear lapel pins, badges, jewelry or clothing that in any way may promote the use of drugs, alcohol, violence, racism, or sexual permissiveness.
2. Student clothing cannot depict messages, whether written or in picture form, which are profane, demeaning or promote illegal or immoral activity.
3. Students in laboratory settings must wear the proper safety clothing when the teacher deems it necessary. Safety regulations may also require that students not wear loose fitting clothing or jewelry.
4. Students are not to wear apparel which is too revealing. Pajamas, pajama pants, slippers and blankets are NOT permitted.
5. Students are required to change for physical education.
6. Georges P. Vanier School is a "No Hats" facility. No hats shall be permitted within the school. Any appeal should be made to the Principal.

*****Students will be asked to change or cover up if their clothing is deemed unacceptable.*****

Some of these regulations will be eased for special events such as track and field meets, outdoor instruction and theme days.

STUDENT ILLNESS/EMERGENCIES

Students who fall ill during school should be reported to the Administration or to the main office. Parents will be contacted to come and pick them up. In cases where the parents cannot be contacted, the child will be placed in the infirmary.

In an emergency situation (injuries, etc) students are taken to the Sacred Heart Health Centre in McLennan as quickly as possible while the parents are being called from the school. **IT IS EXTREMELY IMPORTANT THAT THE SCHOOL HAS AN EMERGENCY PHONE NUMBER** where one of the parents can be reached or someone designated by the parents.

STUDENTS' RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

According to the school act (1988): A student shall conduct himself so as to reasonably comply with the following code of conduct:

- a) Be diligent in pursuing his studies.
- b) Attend school regularly and punctually.
- c) Co-operate fully with everyone authorized by the Board to provide education programs or other services.
- d) Comply with the rules of the school.
- e) Account to his teachers for his conduct.
- f) Respect the rights of others.

It is important to note this is Alberta law. Our government expects that students comply with these regulations. In light of this law, the staff has identified the following rights and responsibilities for all students attending the Georges P. Vanier School.

1. I have the right to an education.

It is my responsibility to listen, to learn, to practice, to complete school assignments and to accept graciously remedial assistance when necessary. I will not disturb, disrupt or interfere with the instruction of my teachers and/or the learning of fellow classmates.

2. I have the right to be treated with dignity and respect in the school.

I have a responsibility to treat others with honor and polite consideration. I will not mock, harass or humiliate other students, staff members or adults.

3. I have a right to hear and be heard in this school

It is my responsibility to help maintain a calm, peaceful and quiet school. I will not interrupt, shout or make loud noises when others are speaking.

4. I have the right to be safe and secure in this school

I have a responsibility not to threaten, intimidate or be emotionally or physically abusive towards other people.

5. I have a right to free expression in learning about others and myself.

I have a responsibility to express my ideas and feelings in ways that are sensitive to and not offensive to individuals or groups.

6. I have a right to be myself at this school.

It is my responsibility to respect others as individuals regardless of their race, ethnic or national origin, religion, age, sex or ability.

7. I have a right to privacy and to my own personal space.

I have a responsibility to respect the personal property of others and to accept their right to privacy.

8. I have a right to assistance and support in learning self-control.

I have a responsibility to practice self-control and ask for assistance when necessary. I will expect to be corrected when I abuse the rights of others, as they shall be corrected if my rights are abused. I will not silently stand by and witness the violation of personal rights.

I can expect that all these rights will be mine and that I will live up to and be accountable for my responsibilities.

School

COLORS (SCHOOLS)

Georges P. Vanier School colors are black, white and teal. Students are encouraged to wear their Viper colors and support their school teams.

SCHOOL COUNCIL

The Georges P. Vanier School Council is dedicated to helping every student at Georges P. Vanier attain his full potential and assist the staff, parents and students by promoting the varied programs offered at the school. The council shall strive to promote bilingualism and multi-culturalism in conjunction with the school's version of promoting critical thinking, caring and sharing within a positive learning environment.

GRAD COACH/WELLNESS COACH

Grad Coach: GPV offers career counseling services throughout Jr./Sr. high. Students are welcomed and invited to visit the grad coach's office and resource center on a drop-in basis, or by scheduling an appointment. Grade 10, 11 and 12 students are met with individually throughout the year to review career options and course loads. Assistance is given to students filling out application forms for post secondary education and current information is circulated regarding scholarships, bursaries and grants available. Parents are encouraged as well to drop in to access information for their child.

Wellness Coach: The wellness coach at GPV is available for private, personal counseling to assist students in dealing with issues of concern that arise on occasion. Depending on the severity of the situation a referral can be made to community agencies and resources.

SCHOOL OFFICE

The School Office is open from 8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. to receive calls regarding attendance, to make appointments with staff, and to answer any student and parent queries.

STUDENT ACTIVITIES

School life can be as interesting and as rewarding as the students, individually and collectively, are prepared to make it. A wise selection of a limited number of extra-curricular activities can be very rewarding for a student without interfering with his/her academic endeavors. Catch the action! The "spirit" begins with you.

Georges P. Vanier offers students a wide variety of activities in which to become involved. These include intramurals, athletics, committees and clubs. Students should watch for announcements posted throughout the school and listen to daily announcements for specifics regarding the times and locations of each activity.

Transportation

INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY

In extremely cold or inclement weather the following shall apply. The School Division maintains thermometers at the residences of the Supervisor of Transportation and other designated employees within the school system. Thermometers will be read before 6:30 a.m. When the air temperature drops to 40 degrees Celsius or below, the Supervisor of Transportation shall be notified. It shall be his decision whether or not to cancel bus operations for the day. In the case that a decision has been made to cancel the buses, the Supervisor of Transportation shall notify all of the local radio stations (CKYL Peace River, CKVH - High Prairie and CKRP - Falher) to relay the information to the public. Please remember to check the HPSD website for bus statuses as well as the GPV app from your cell phone. Schools will be open even though the buses are not running. In cases where schools must be dismissed early due to inclement weather, the Principal in consultation with the bus drivers will make a decision.

SCHOOL BUSES

Students riding a school bus are under the immediate authority of the driver. When the need arises, the driver may report cases of student misconduct to the principal of the school, which the student attends. Because of the age and maturity of Vanier students, it is expected that they will assist the driver by serving as excellent role models for the younger children. Please cooperate with your driver. They have a huge responsibility and student cooperation is required for safe transportation.