



The Weekly Wave

WEEKLY GLA FAMILY NEWSLETTER: July 26th, 2022

PRINCIPAL'S CORNER

The first day of school is just under 4 weeks away! We are so excited that soon we will be welcoming all of our brilliant scholars for their first day of school!

It has been a busy summer at GLA. Last week, our summer school programming ended. Nearly 100 scholars participated in the program. Members of our operations and administrative team have been hard at work preparing for the coming year.

We have changes in store for the coming year directed toward the goal of improving the student and family experience. These changes include, but are not limited to, improving family communication and feedback systems, creating a different model for afterschool programming that increases enrichment choice, and a shorter school day. We have also added instructional coaching support in an effort to continue improving the quality of classroom instruction across the school.

We hope to see each family in our virtual orientation meetings (see time and dates below). Families will receive more information about the coming school year there.

We hope everyone has had a safe, joyful summer, and we look forward to seeing students and families soon!

With excitement,
Principal Miller

NEW ANNOUNCEMENTS

Virtual Family Orientation Meetings:

We will be holding a series of virtual Parent Orientation meetings for parents through early August. The meetings will include details about the coming school year. We are asking parents to attend **one** of the following meetings (Zoom links below):

- [Wednesday, August 3rd](#) from 5-6 pm
- [Friday, August 5th](#) from 7:30-8:30 am
- [Tuesday, August 9th](#) from 7:30-8:30 am
- [Wednesday, August 10th](#) from 4:30-5:30 pm

Back to School Block Party:

All GLA students and families are invited to our Back to School Block Party on Wednesday, August 17th from 3:30-5:30! The event will take place on GLA's turf field. Students and families will have the opportunity to meet teachers and learn more about the coming school year. Students can also drop off completed summer work packets for a special treat, and there will be food for attending families. More information to come!

First Week of School:

- August 19: First Day of School - K-1st; **1:45 Dismissal**
- August 22: First day of School - 2nd-8th; **1:45 Dismissal**

- August 22-26: Student Orientation Week; **1:45 Dismissal**

School Start & End Times:

The table below reflects the student schedule for the upcoming school year. Based on family feedback, we made some minor adjustments. Please note GLA building hours are 7am - 6pm. There will still be optional before school programming beginning at 7am for this school year (more information to come).

Grade Level	Monday - Thursday			Friday		
	Doors Open	Instruction Starts	Instruction Ends	Doors Open	Instruction Starts	Instruction Ends
K-4	7:45 AM	7:55 AM	3:15 PM	7:45 AM	7:55 AM	1:45 PM
5-8	7:30 AM	7:55 AM	3:15 PM	7:30 AM	7:55 AM	1:45 PM

Supply List:

Supplies that are donated by parents will be used to stock your scholar's classroom through the first portion of the school year. GLA pools all of its school supplies and materials are shared across the school. **Please do not put your child's name on any materials.**

[2022-23 Supply List](#)

Uniforms:

The Uniform Policy was recently updated, so please make sure you review it in detail for the upcoming 2022-2023 school year. You can find the policy [here](#), please be sure to review carefully.

Purchasing GLA Uniforms Online

Purchase Great Lakes Academy polo shirts, jackets, and cardigans by visiting the SchoolBelles website and typing in the **school code: s2919**. Please note, prices of items will appear higher than they are until you create an account and login during checkout. Once logged in, prices should be discounted, as reflected in this flyer. According to the company, and as of mid-July, any orders placed online may take up to 3 weeks to be delivered.

Purchasing GLA Uniforms In-store

You can also visit the Schoolbelles Retail Store to purchase GLA gear. Schoolbelles is located at 10139 S Harlem Ave, Chicago Ridge, IL (708-929-4695). If purchasing online, we recommend ordering at least 3 weeks in advance, and if visiting the store, calling ahead to confirm they have the size you need in stock.

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

PAST DUE: 22-23 Annual Registration Forms for Returning Students

- If you secured a seat for your scholar in the 22-23 school year, you must complete annual forms in Schoolmint (<https://glachicago.schoolmint.net/signin>).
- These forms include updated emergency contacts and permission slips for next year.
 - 2nd Graders require a Dental Form

- 6th Graders require a physical, immunization records and Dental Form
- All forms must be filled out annually, even if the information has not changed.
- **These are now past due.** If you need help logging in, contact the front office at 773-530-3040 or email Ms. Jimenez at mjimenez@glachicago.org.
- You may also stop at the front office and request a paper copy of these forms, we are here Monday - Friday from 8 am - 3 pm.

Breakfast and Lunch Menu

- To view the breakfast and lunch menu for the upcoming month, please [click here](#).

IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES

August 3: Virtual Parent Orientation from 5-6 pm
 August 5: Virtual Parent Orientation from 7:30-8:30 am
 August 9: Virtual Parent Orientation from 7:30-8:30 am
 August 10: Virtual Parent Orientation from 4:30-5:30 pm
 August 17: Parent Meet & Greet from 3:30-5:30
 August 19: First Day of School - K-1st; **1:45 Dismissal**
 August 22: First day of School - 2nd-8th; **1:45 Dismissal**
 August 22-26: Student Orientation Week; **1:45 Dismissal**
 September 5: **Labor Day: No Classes**

August 17 - September 9, 2022

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
15	16	17 Back to School Block Party 3:30-5:30	18	19 First Day K-1st Grade
22 First Day 2nd-8th 1:45 pm Dismissal	23 K-8th Orientation Week 1:45 pm Dismissal	24 K-8th Orientation Week 1:45 pm Dismissal	25 K-8th Orientation Week 1:45 pm Dismissal	26 K-8th Orientation Week 1:45 pm Dismissal
29	30	31	1	2

5 Labor Day <u>No School</u>	6	7	8	9 Parent Go to School Night KG-4: 4:00 pm 5-8: 5:00
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COVID Vaccination Information for Scholars

GLA is currently reviewing our COVID policies for the upcoming school year. Information for the 2022-23 school year will be shared in the coming weeks. In the meantime, we advise all of our families to consider vaccinating their Scholars.

This week and beyond, there are many ways for children to get vaccinated across the city:

- Family health care providers – CDPH recommends families first reach out to their pediatrician or family medical provider to see if appointments are available.
- CPS sites – CPS’ regional vaccination clinics and mobile school-based events will offer the Pfizer vaccine for ages 5 to 11 starting on Wednesday, November 10th.
 - Use [this link](#) to view the schedule for the clinics.
 - Use [this link](#) to view the schedule for mobile events.
 - Visit cps.edu/vaccinations for more information and vaccine opportunities
- Local pharmacies – Across the city, many pharmacy locations already have vaccines and more will receive doses in the coming weeks. Each has their own registration.
 - Walgreens: [Register online](#), call your local Walgreens or 1-800-WALGREENS (1-800-925-4733)
 - CVS: [Register online](#), call your local CVS or 1-800-679-9691
 - Mariano's: [Register online](#)
 - Walmart: Call 833-886-0023, Option 1
 - Chicago Costco Pharmacies: [Register online](#) for an appointment or call a pharmacy directly
- Select children’s hospitals will host pediatric vaccine events – check hospital websites for dates and more information.

CDPH will host family vaccination clinics at City Colleges of Chicago. These events will offer pediatric COVID-19 Pfizer vaccines, as well as Pfizer and Johnson & Johnson vaccines and booster doses to all Chicagoans. Patients must be 18 or older to receive a J&J vaccine. All clinics will be open 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Registration is required and open now at www.chi.gov/YouthVax.

Starting November 15, CDPH’s in-home vaccination program, Protect Chicago At Home, will also offer pediatric vaccination for all children ages 5 to 11. Make an at-home appointment at Chicago.gov/AtHome or by calling (312) 746-4835.

Standing CDPH immunization clinics will also offer pediatric COVID-19 vaccines by appointment only. This includes:

- Greater Lawn WIC located at 4150 W. 55th St. (call 312 745-1477 for an appointment)
- Starting November 15, all CDPH-sponsored community events will offer pediatric vaccinations. For the calendar of community events, visit Chicago.gov/VaxCalendar.