



The Weekly Wave

WEEKLY GLA FAMILY NEWSLETTER: August 9th, 2022

PRINCIPAL'S CORNER

The first day of school for our kindergartners and 1st graders is just over one week away (Aug 19th). The rest of our students will have their first day on August 22nd. We are so excited to begin welcoming students back for the 2022-23 school year!

This week we brought our entire staff back into the building for team building and training in preparation for the start of the year. There has been lots of energy and excitement in the building amongst our staff.

One of our core areas of focus for the coming school year is to increase parent and family engagement. We will be implementing a new survey tool to get quick feedback from families during the year. We will also be increasing events and participation opportunities for families at the school.

Our upcoming event, the Back to School Block Party (August 17th), is an excellent engagement opportunity for families. Parents and students will get an opportunity to connect with their teachers and learn more about what is in store for this school year. I hope that you will be able to come and fellowship with our staff and other families. I look forward to seeing you there!

Principal Miller

NEW ANNOUNCEMENTS

COVID Mask Policy:

For the coming school year, GLA plans to follow Chicago Public Schools' guidance on mask policy. Currently, masks are "highly recommended" for students but not required. Masking recommendations shift based on city COVID numbers. GLA reserves the right to a more restrictive protocol if it deems it necessary for the safety of students based on local COVID numbers.

Before School Programming:

We are excited to offer **On Deck** before school programming again at GLA this year!

This program will run every day, Monday - Friday, before school from 7:00-7:45 am. Fees will be collected on a monthly basis, due by the first of the month of service. Invoices will be sent via PayPal (no account is needed), and enrollment and un-enrollment will be on a rolling basis.

Please note: Drop-ins are available for a \$10/day flat fee, regardless of the time dropped off.

SY23 On Deck Fees:



1 student, \$80/month
2 students, \$140/month
3 students, \$200/month

Due to a shortened month, August prices will be as follows:

1 student, \$40/month
2 students, \$70/month
3 students, \$100/month

If you would like to sign up for the On Deck program, please click [HERE](#) to complete the form. **Please fill out a form for each student you would like to enroll.**

When filling out this form, you will automatically be enrolled and billed for programming. If plans change, please contact me at your earliest convenience, Stephanie Beck - sbeck@glachicago.org.

We look forward to another great year with you and your family!

After School Programming:

We are pleased to offer after school programs that are teacher and student-led. These after school programs will run Monday-Thursday and will vary each trimester, with some new offerings for each grade.

A sign up solely for trimester one will be sent out shortly and is only, Tuesday, September 6th - Thursday, November 10th. All programs will run from 3:15 - 5:00 pm.

You will have the opportunity to sign up your child for programming that will run Monday and Wednesday or Tuesday and Thursday only. Each program will hold a max capacity for students and you will be notified if you get into the program by **Friday, September 2nd** via letter and email.

The prices for these programs are based on program needs.

*Please note, these programs could overlap with any athletic practices/intersquad games that we offer.

Offerings for trimester one will be sent out shortly via an online form and will be first come, first serve until the program is at max capacity.

Student Records Access:

In accordance with the federal Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act ([FERPA](#)) and the Illinois School Student Records Act ([ISSRA](#)), individuals not verified as the parent or legal guardian must have documentation on file granting them permission to engage in conversation or receive documentation related to student academic performance, attendance, behavior, or any other protected information. If there are members of your family that you would like to grant this level of authorization, please complete the GLA Student Records Release form found [here](#) and return it to our main office. Permission is valid for one calendar year from the date submitted.

Note: Emergency contacts only have the right to receive physical custody of the student. Listing someone as an emergency contact does not give them authorization to access student records.

Note: GLA Staff is not allowed to restrict access to student records for verified parents/guardians, regardless of their personal relationship to the student or primary parent/guardian without valid court documentation on file.

Virtual Family Orientation Meetings:

We will be holding our last virtual Parent Orientation meeting for parents. This meeting will include details about the coming school year. We are asking parents to attend **the last meeting below if you have not already attended one before** (Zoom links below):

- [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 (ALL STUDENTS Attend)**
- August 22-26: K-8th 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

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

- If you have not been able to complete the registration, please stop by the front office, we have a printed paper copy for your convenience, we have registration help available Monday - Friday from 9 am - 2 pm.
- You are also able to log into Schoolmint to complete the registration online. (<https://glachicago.schoolmint.net/signin>).

Supply List and 2022-23 School Calendar:

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.**

We have also attached the 2022-23 School Calendar below for your convenience!

[2022-23 Supply List](#)

[2022-23 School Calendar](#)

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.

As of last week, Schoolbelles had inventory of many uniform types and sizes in their store. Few items are currently backordered.

Breakfast and Lunch Menu:

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

IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES

August 10: Virtual Parent Orientation from 4:30-5:30 pm

August 17: Back to School Block Party 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**

August 26: Back to School Fest

September 5: **Labor Day: No Classes**

September 9: Parent Go to School Night

August 8 - August 26, 2022

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
8	9 Virtual Parent Orientation 7:30-8:30 AM	10	11 Virtual Parent Orientation 4:30-5:30 PM	12
15	16	17 Back to School Block Party 3:30-5:30	18	19 First Day K-1st Grade 1:45 pm Dismissal
22 First Day 2nd-8th K-8th Orientation Week 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

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.