



The Weekly Wave

WEEKLY GLA FAMILY NEWSLETTER: August 16th, 2022

PRINCIPAL'S CORNER

We are a couple days away from our first day of school! For the last week and a half, our entire staff has been at GLA preparing for the school year. Our hallways and classrooms are humming with the energy of staff who are excited to welcome each scholar into the building.

In the coming school year, you will notice some changes geared toward improving the student and family experience at GLA. We have made shifts to afterschool enrichment by adding athletics and changing to a program model. Our hope is that interest will increase and students will get more out of the program-specific model. We are already seeing much more interest from our own staff in participation in afterschool programming as coaches and activity sponsors. We will also be adding more events for students and families during the school year. We have made staffing shifts to support a focus on event programming. Additionally, we will be implementing a survey tool called Possip to get feedback from families on how the school year is going and to provide our staff with positive feedback for the hard work they are doing.

We look forward to seeing all families tomorrow at the Back to School Block Party, and then again on the first day of school!

Principal Miller

NEW ANNOUNCEMENTS

Back to School Block Party:

We are so excited to welcome our new and returning GLA families to our Back to School Block Party this Wednesday, August 17th. The event will take place on the GLA turf field from 3:30pm to 5:30pm. There will be food, backyard games like cornhole, giant Jenga, giant Connect 4, and of course fun! There will also be an interactive photo booth to capture all the fun!

There will be stations for parents to complete any missing paperwork and pick up their 2022-23 car placards. Additionally, scholars who turn in a completed summer packet will receive a special treat. Lastly, there will be stations for uniform donations and school supply dropoff.

Don't miss this chance to meet your scholar's new teacher for the 2022-23 school year! Can't wait to see you Wednesday!

Uniforms:

We have learned that GLA families are having issues again this year getting uniform orders fulfilled in a timely fashion through Schoolbelles. Effective immediately, GLA will be allowing navy blue polo shirts that do not have the GLA branded logo. This change to the uniform policy will stay in effect for the rest of this school year.

UPDATED 2022-23 School Year Calendar:

We have made some changes to our school calendar! We did not make any mayor date changes, all we changed was the format to improve communication.

[2022-23 GLA School Calendar](#)

Power Parents:

- Join us for the GLA Power Parent welcome line and car parade on Monday 8/22. Please [sign up here](#)
- Save the Date: Power Parent Mtg Monday, 9/22 at 6pm via Zoom. Zoom link to be sent.

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.

Fall Athletics

We are excited to announce that athletic programming will begin at GLA Fall 2022! Programming will be for student-athletes in 5th-8th grade only and will take place directly after school from 3:30-5:30 pm.

Athletic Fee: \$150/season/student

Sports offered this year: boys soccer and girls volleyball in the fall, boys and girls basketball and co-ed cheerleading in the winter, co-ed track, girls soccer and boys volleyball in the spring.

If you have a student-athlete that might be interested in the announced fall sports, please fill out the interest [form](#).

*Please note: sports could overlap with any after school programming that we offer for 5th-8th grade.

Please reach out to Athletic Director, Titus Perez tperez@glachicago.org with any questions!

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 can be located [HERE](#) 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 and/or Tuesday and Thursday. Each program will hold a max capacity for students and enrollment will end on Wednesday, August 24th. You will be notified if you get into the program by Wednesday, August 31st via letter and email.

The prices for these programs are \$150 per trimester unless otherwise marked.

*Please note: these programs could overlap with any athletic practices/intersquad games that we offer for 5th-8th grade.

Offerings for trimester one via an online [form](#) and will be first come, first serve until the program is at max capacity. More details are attached on the above links.

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Final Virtual Family Orientation Meeting:

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):

- [Tuesday, August 16th](#) from 4:30-5:30 pm

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

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 for 2022-23 school year:

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](#)

Breakfast and Lunch Menu:

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

IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES

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 15 - August 26, 2022

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

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.