



# The Weekly Wave

WEEKLY GLA FAMILY NEWSLETTER: September 20th, 2022

## PRINCIPAL'S CORNER

On Friday, we kicked off Hispanic Heritage Month (September 15th-October 15th) celebrations throughout the school in Morning Meeting classrooms and in Community Celebration. Over the next month, students will learn about the history and influence of Hispanic and Latinx culture on the United States. We want to make sure our students and families with Hispanic and Latinx heritage feel valued and respected, which is how we want students of all cultural heritages to feel.

South Chicago, the neighborhood in which GLA is located, has had a vibrant Latino community for over a century. In the early 1900's, people of Mexican descent began moving to the area to work in the South Works steel foundry owned by the U.S. Steel Corporation. Over the next couple of decades, the Mexican-American community grew and developed deep social bonds in the area. Their influence in South Chicago was strong and remains strong today. In fact, the very building that houses our gym, cafeteria, and kitchen was not long ago a Catholic church that was home to mostly Mexican-American parishioners, including parents and grandparents of some of our GLA scholars!



Please join the students and staff at GLA in celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month and the rich tapestry of cultures that enrich our school community!

Principal Miller

## NEW ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Class Dojo (K-3)

- Thank you to all the parents that have signed up to class dojo! We are extremely close to getting 100% of parents signed up! If you have not signed up here are the links:
  - **Kindergarten:**
    - Illinois- <https://www.classdojo.com/invite/?c=CCVKKWK>
    - Northwestern- <https://www.classdojo.com/invite/?c=C6WLRPK>
  - **1st Grade:**
    - UChicago- <https://www.classdojo.com/invite/?c=CLY86HK>
    - Depaul: <https://www.classdojo.com/invite/?c=C85MFKY>

- 2nd Grade
  - Duke- 100%!
  - Howard- <https://www.classdojo.com/invite/?c=CHNMJG6>
- 3rd Grade
  - Emory- <https://www.classdojo.com/invite/?c=COZG8BJ>
  - Harvard- <https://www.classdojo.com/invite/?c=CR3UNVE>

### **Entry**

We want to ensure everyone's safety during entry, when dropping of scholars please be sure to follow these safety rules:

- Please do not stop in the middle of Saginaw to drop off scholars, you must follow the car line
- If walking, please do not cross in the middle of the street, be sure to cross on the corner where there is a staff member directing traffic
- If you arrive after 7:55, please use the car line and come into the driveway and come inside to sign your scholars in.

### **Uniforms:**

GLA short & long sleeve polos are now available for purchase in the GLA front office daily between 10am-1pm. We are not able to sell polos during entry and/or dismissal. GLA polos are \$15 each, cash credit/debit card is accepted.

### **Staff Directory:**

Need to get in touch with a staff member? Please see this [Staff Directory](#) for contact information.

### **Family Income Form:**

GLA is encouraging all families to complete the attached CPS Family Income Information Form for the 22-23 school year. This form is used to help determine school funding and help GLA keep programs like our free lunch program. Only one form needs to be completed per household. Please email completed forms and any questions to [sthunherst@glachicago.org](mailto:sthunherst@glachicago.org).

### **Dismissal**

- Thank you families for your patience and your support as we have worked to speed up dismissal.
- We are consistently hitting the end of the car line within 15 minutes of the start!
- Dogs or any other pets should stay in cars when picking students up. **Dogs, even if leashed, should never be brought on campus during entry or dismissal.**
- Owners are liable for any incidents involving their pets on school grounds.

### **Power Parents**

- The **Great Lakes Academy Power Parents** is a group of parents coming together to get more involved at GLA and is open to all Great Lakes Academy parent/guardians!
- The group aims to build community with one another to better support the scholars and school.
- If you're interested in joining, or in taking on a more active role like facilitating or hosting meetings, please reach out to Nicole Woodfork at [nwoodfork@sbcglobal.net](mailto:nwoodfork@sbcglobal.net).

## **GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **2022-23 Family Handbook**

- We've shared several important policy updates from the Family Handbook over the last few weeks.

- The full Family Handbook is on the GLA Website - Parent Resource Page (linked [here](#)).

### **DeansList Parent Portal**

- Last week sent parents/guardians of 4th-8th graders an invite to sign up for the DeansList Family Portal
- This invitation had a validation code and a link to set up your account. By clicking on the link, you will be brought to a page where your student's last name and validation code are automatically filled out.
- Parents need to enter their full name, email address, and password and then click "Register" to complete the process.
- Once you have registered, you [can log in here](#) to see Weekly Reports (for 4th-8th grade). You will still receive Weekly Report emails on Friday as well.

### **Parent Volunteer Opportunities**

- We are looking for some Before School, Afterschool, and Special Event Volunteers to help assist with entry, dismissal, set-up, and event stations. If you are interested please fill out this form [here](#).
- Requirements:
  - Covid Vaccination (Unless exempt with proof)
  - Pass a Background Check (Paid for by the School)

### **Refresh Your GLA Parent Swag!**

Great Lakes Academy has -some new parent swag arriving just in time for fall! Beginning next week, GLA will have a short sleeve shirt (\$20), a long sleeve shirt (\$30) and a hoodie (\$40) available for purchase. Sizes range from mens small to 3XL. Options for delivery include: scholar hand-off, pick up, or shipping (an additional \$5 fee) Pick-up hours will be communicated in the future.



### **School Event Calendar**

- Please see this [School Event Calendar](#), also attached. Please note, some events may change with notification.

## **Enrichment and Athletics**

Sign ups are closed for after school programming and athletics, but please reach out to Stephanie Beck, [sbeck@glachicago.org](mailto:sbeck@glachicago.org) for questions.

**Enrichment programs** only run Mondays and Wednesdays and/or Tuesdays and Thursdays. There is **NO FRIDAY** programming. **Pick-up for programming is 5:00 pm daily.**

Athletics run Monday through Thursday until 5:00 pm daily. There are NO FRIDAY practices.

On Deck (**before school**) enrollment will always be open and available as an as needed basis as well for \$10 cash/card paid on the spot. Reach out to enroll today!

Invoices have been sent out and are due upon receipt.

### **Breakfast and Lunch Menu:**

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

### **IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES**

September 15th: First Day of Hispanic Heritage Month

September 26th-October 3rd: Mobile Dentist Visit

October 7th: Mid-trimester Reports emailed to families

## September 12th - October 7th, 2022

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
19	20	21	22	23
26 Mobile Dentist Visit	27 Mobile Dentist Visit	28 Mobile Dentist Visit	29 Mobile Dentist Visit	30 Mobile Dentist Visit
3 Mobile Dentist Visit	4	5	6	7 Mid Trimester Reports (emailed to families)