



## Weekly GLA Family Newsletter

December 6th, 2022

### PRINCIPAL'S CORNER

Across the country, schools have reported increased challenges with student behavior, bullying, and aggression since returning to full in-person learning last year. Despite schools' best efforts, some students have struggled with the transition back into school more than others. We have seen similar trends at GLA.

Overall, incidents of physical and verbal aggression have decreased this year. However, we all want a school environment where these incidents never happen so that students always feel physically and emotionally safe. As educators, we have noticed trends that lead to escalating situations:

- Students touching other students in playful but unwanted ways (e.g. grabbing, hitting, pushing, pulling, kicking, etc.);
- Students gossiping or saying mean things about other students;
- Students having a disagreement or conflict with another student that leads to using physical aggression when confrontation occurs;

Each of these issues can be minimized by teaching students the appropriate ways to respond. At GLA, we constantly message to students the following:

- We keep our hands and feet to ourselves.
- We say kind things to our peers.
- When we have a disagreement or conflict with a peer, we tell an adult to help resolve it.

We need the support of our entire parent body to reinforce (and continue to reinforce) these messages. It will make an even healthier school culture for our student body, and help them continue their growth toward having healthy relationships as teenagers and adults.

Principal Miller

### NEW ANNOUNCEMENTS

## **Picture Day - School Picture Orders**

School picture orders are being processed. Picture Day has informed us that we should have our orders within 1-2 weeks (just before winter break). If you have any questions about your order please reach out to the Picture Day support team by phone or email at 773-276-4588 or support@picture-day.com.

## **4th-8th Winter Sport Pep Rally**

On Wednesday, December 14th at 2:30 pm we will have a pep rally to honor our winter athletes prior to their first home game the following day. **This pep rally is for students only.**

## **5th-8th Boys and Girls Basketball - Cheer Game**

On Thursday, December 15th at 4 pm we will host our first basketball games at GLA!

All girls and boys basketball players will play, with co-ed cheer on the sidelines cheering them on!

## **This game is open to parents, friends, and family!**

Please reach out to Titus Perez, [tperez@glachicago.org](mailto:tperez@glachicago.org), with any questions.

## **Possip Feedback**

Hi GREAT LAKES ACADEMY Community!

Thank you for sharing ideas through Possip this week! We've heard from 217 of you during the course of the year. We are seeing that 91% of you are happy or mostly happy with GREAT LAKES ACADEMY this week.

The School Leadership Team reviews Possip survey results every other week to respond to feedback and to pass along praise to our staff! We really appreciate you taking the time to answer. **Feedback is a gift!**

This week we heard members in the school community share examples of praise, appreciation, and feedback or questions.

- *Appreciation for excellent staff communication*
- *Praise for an efficient carline*
- *Feedback about the school start time*

We are taking all of your feedback and ideas into consideration for our future planning and follow-up. We hope to hear from you again on our next Possip Pulse Check!

Thanks again for sharing!

## **Winter Ball**

On Thursday, December 22nd from 5:30-7:30 pm all 6th-8th graders will be a part of a "dress to impress" dance! Mark your calendars!

**Behavior Expectations:** No more than two (2) referrals, no more than three (3) resets, no fights, 92% attendance for the month of December

Please reach out to Stephanie Beck, [sbeck@glachicago.org](mailto:sbeck@glachicago.org), or Melone Shurney, [mshurney@glachicago.org](mailto:mshurney@glachicago.org), with any questions.

## **November Student's of the Month**

We are so excited and happy to announce our Student's of the Month that showed exemplary achievement through leadership, core values, and doing the right thing. Please join us in celebrating the following students:

U of Illinois- Jaiden Lett  
Northwestern- Byron Bradley Jr.  
U of Chicago- Lamonte Lewis  
DePaul- Asa Williams  
Howard- Shaniya Owens  
Duke- Mya Thomas  
Emory- S'ven Daniels  
Harvard- Tyrece McClinton  
Stanford- Isis Poole  
Michigan- Shamiya Poe  
Purdue- Johan De La Cruz  
Tennessee- Shariah Patton  
GT- Sophia Jimenez  
UIC- Alex Guerrier  
Xavier- Ariyawna Johnson-Bryant  
Morgan State- Jerrit Mattox  
Princeton- Jayelyn Thomas  
NIU- Lauren Short

Congratulations, scholars!

### **Book Fair - 12/5-12/9**

The Scholastic Book Fair is here! Students will visit the book fair according to this schedule:

- **Monday:** Purdue, Princeton, Illinois, Michigan, GT
- **Tuesday:** UChicago, DePaul, UIC
- **Wednesday:** Howard, Northwestern, Duke, NIU
- **Thursday:** Harvard, Stanford, Emory, Xavier, UT, Morgan State

If you wish to have your scholar make a purchase, please set up an eWallet account prior to the day their class is attending the book fair *or* send cash with them in the envelope provided in their Book Fair packet. To set up eWallet, click this link

<https://bookfairs.scholastic.com/bookfairs/parent-how-it-works.html?fairID=511625>. Questions? Contact Maddie Harlan at [mharlan@glachicago.org](mailto:mharlan@glachicago.org).

### **Health Insurance CPS Program**

Does anyone in your household need health insurance? Please click [here](#) for more information.

### **Opportunity for Diverse Learners**



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## GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

### **After School (Anchor) Programming**

Trimester two programs began on Monday, November 28th, via acceptance letters and emails.

Note: Please only attend the days your scholar was accepted into for T2.

**Reminder:** Pick-up is at 5 pm daily for after school programming. There are no late pick-ups.

Please see your email for acceptance and policies and procedures.

## **Before School “On Deck” Programming**

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, [sbeck@glachicago.org](mailto:sbeck@glachicago.org)- Stephanie Beck, to enroll today!

## **Winter Athletics**

Winter sports started Monday, Nov. 7th and run through Tuesday, January 17th.

Winter Sport sign-ups are closed.

Reminder: Pick-up is at 5 pm daily for athletics.

If you have any questions, please reach out to Athletic Director, Titus Perez, [tperez@glachicago.org](mailto:tperez@glachicago.org)

## **GLA Parent Swag is ON SALE!**

Great Lakes Academy new parent swag is still available for purchase. Sizes range from men's small to 3XL. Head over to the [GLA Store](#) to grab yours today!

We can't wait to see you in your GLA parent swag!

Options for delivery include: scholar hand-off, pick up\*, or shipping (an additional \$5 fee).

*\*To avoid disruption to the scholar drop-off and dismissal process, pick up hours will be from 8:30 am-2:30 pm Monday - Thursday and 8:30 am-1:00 pm on Friday. Thank you for your understanding.*

## **Breakfast and Lunch Menu:**

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

## **IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES**

December 5th-9th: Student Book Fair (*schedule above*)

December 12th-22nd: STEP and ANET Q2 Assessments

December 14th and 21st: Winter Art Showcase

December 14th: Monthly Principal Townhall (*5:30-6:30 pm at GLA*)

December 22nd: Winter Fest

December 22nd: Winter Ball - 6-8th Grades (*5:30-7:30 pm*)

December 23rd: Staff PD, **No Classes**

**December 26th-January 6th: Winter Break, School Closed**

January 9th: Staff PD, **No Classes**



## December 5th, 2022 - January 6th, 2023

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
5 Book Fair	6 Book Fair	7 Book Fair	8 Book Fair	9 Book Fair
12 STEP and ANET Q2 Assessments	13 STEP and ANET Q2 Assessments	14 STEP and ANET Q2 Assessments Winter Art Showcase Monthly Principal Townhall <i>5:30-6:30 at GLA</i>	15 STEP and ANET Q2 Assessments	16 STEP and ANET Q2 Assessments
19 STEP and ANET Q2 Assessments	20 STEP and ANET Q2 Assessments	21 STEP and ANET Q2 Assessments Winter Art Showcase	22 STEP and ANET Q2 Assessments Winter Fest Winter Ball <i>6th-8th Grades 5:30-7:30 pm</i>	23 Staff PD <b>No Classes</b>
26 Winter Break <b>School Closed</b>	27 Winter Break <b>School Closed</b>	28 Winter Break <b>School Closed</b>	29 Winter Break <b>School Closed</b>	30 Winter Break <b>School Closed</b>
2 Winter Break <b>School Closed</b>	3 Winter Break <b>School Closed</b>	4 Winter Break <b>School Closed</b>	5 Winter Break <b>School Closed</b>	6 Winter Break <b>School Closed</b>

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