



The Weekly Wave

Weekly GLA Family Newsletter

March 21, 2023

PRINCIPAL'S CORNER

As we enter our last trimester of the 2022-23 school year, we are focused on finishing the school year on a strong note for our students. Building leaders have also been planning for the 2023-24 school year and beyond. Members of school leadership teams are currently engaged in a strategic planning process that will propel Great Lakes Academy into the next phase of our mission as a school.

The last few years have brought extraordinary challenges on society that have destabilized institutions, and schools were not immune to this. As we enter the last few months of the school year, we are excited about how we have used our new facilities to enrich students through afterschool programming and athletics. We have implemented new structures to bring joy to classrooms and the overall student experience. We have seen noticeable changes in student engagement and behavior. We are seeing signs of academic recovery from losses endured during the pandemic. And we are fully enrolled!

Please see the video below from our Executive Director, Ebonie Durham, that highlights her vision for the future of our school.

I am excited about the future of Great Lakes Academy!



Principal Miller

NEW ANNOUNCEMENTS

Reclaiming Minds Therapy and Wellness

GLA has begun a new partnership with Reclaiming Minds Therapy and Wellness to offer a series of workshops for our school parents and guardians only. The workshop will include subject matters around parenting with special challenges, financial stability, problem solving, goal setting and more.

GLA will offer these workshops every Saturday from April 29th-May 20th from 10:00-12:00 pm.

Please RSVP here: [GLA Brunch and Learn](#)



 **SCHOOL OF CARE PRESENTS**

BRUNCH & LEARN

PARENT DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP SERIES

Great Lakes Academy has partnered with Reclaiming Minds Therapy & Wellness to offer a series of workshops to support families with topics such as:

- Cultural Perspectives on Parenting
- Parenting with Special Challenges
- Exploring Childrearing Strategies
- Financial Stability and Family Well-being
- Guiding, Nurturing, and Motivating Children
- Problem Solving & Goal Setting
- Improving Communication

Date: Every Saturday, April 29 - May 20
Time: 10am - 12pm
Location: 8401 S Saginaw Ave, Chicago, IL 60617
RSVP: 773-530-3040 or tinyurl.com/glabrunchandlearn

Please Note: These workshops are for parents/guardians of GLA scholars only. Onsite childcare will be available. Brunch will be provided.



GLA Open House for New Staff and Students - 3/28

Do you have anyone in your circle with elementary school aged children? If so, invite them to attend our Open House on March 28th to meet with leadership, take a tour of our facility, and learn more about enrolling their student at GLA!

Also, to apply for next school year, you can direct families to the application link on the homepage of our website: www.glachicago.org or have them call our front office for more



FUTURE BEACONS OPEN HOUSE

FOR TEACHER & STUDENT RECRUITMENT

MEET GLA'S
PRINCIPAL AND
STAFF

TOUR GLA'S
AWARD-WINNING
FACILITY

LEARN ABOUT GLA'S
ENRICHMENT &
ATHLETIC
PROGRAMMING

TUESDAY, MARCH 28TH | 5:15 PM - 6:15 PM

8401 S SAGINAW AVE., CHICAGO, IL 60617



Lab Study Opportunity

The Neurodevelopmental Disability Lab at Northwestern University is recruiting participants for an exciting study! The lab studies language abilities and related skills in children (ages 6 and up) with autism spectrum disorder, fragile X syndrome, and their families. Participation in the study involves playing games, solving puzzles, telling stories, and making and listening to different sounds. You will be compensated for your time and mileage. Don't miss out on this exciting opportunity to become involved in science! *If you are interested in participating, please contact the study staff at familystudy@northwestern.edu.*



5th-8th Grade Trimester Three Honor Roll

Honor Roll

Oluwashomi Benson
Alexzandrea Guerrier
E'Miyah Harris
D'Niyah Chester
Odin Foster

High Honor Roll

Johan De La Cruz
Mia Jones
Alexandria Frazier
Samuel Jean-Baptiste
Aymar Valdivia

Principal's Honor Roll

Trinity Smith
Carille Chaney
Jayden Harris
Ethan Herrera

Christopher Patlan	Robinson Banks	Malani Lockett
Quincy Plair	Alante Henry	Kaleah Tyson
Jayelyn Thomas	Jamya Thurman	Caleb Williams
Noah Avila	Jamya Vaughn	Reginald Banner
Amir Boyd	Arthur Lee Williams	Tyrell Logan
Averi Lowe	Camryn Williams	Laniya McCall-Overton
Johnathan Thomas	Maximiliano Pena	Lauren Short
Chloe Woodfork	Olakunle Ebietomiye	Israel Smith
Zhaiden Campbell	Aniyah Gonnigan	Jaden Stewart
La'Majay Gipson	Melina Gonzalez-Acosta	LaShaun Taylor
Nevaeh Daniels	Caleb Jean-Baptiste	Aedaughn Spann
Joseph Lovings	Jordan Jean-Charles	Ty'miyah Hill
Alivia Edwards	Ja'nya Johnson	Immanuel Jackson
Jayden Nelson	Alondra Martinez	Teniola Owoade
Ariyawna Johnson-Bryant	Lamonze Railey	Rodrigo Valdivia
Cameron Shepherd	Xaniahia Rias	Jayden Wricks
Jacolby Johnson	Naimah Amacker	Adam Avila
Cortney Thomas	Eirian Burks	Ryan Short
Joscelyn Thompson	Khalil Cromwell	Jaxon Stewart
Jeremiah Logan	Azhahn Galloway	Jada Williams
Lejlia Lovings	Jerrit Mattox	Jermani Williams
Destiny Williams	Christiana Lakes	Breanna Bunch
Zaniyah Steward	LaMarria Lewis	Amiah Dunlap
Kaleayh Williams	Olivia Wilson	Naidelyn Espinoza
Nyla Austin	Christian Turner	Anyce Graham
Reginald Cleve	D'amari Rias	Takhya Gray
Yaneli Ramirez	Zyannah Johnson	Emmanuella Marseille
Jai'Kayla Smith	Minah Alexander	Azariah Mercer
Charles Stewart	Olasukami Ebietomiye	Alant'e Petty
Corinne Woodfork	Matthew Ramirez	Kiara Valdivia
Patrice Thomas	Michaela Williams	Jamia Vaughn

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

After-School “Anchor” Programming

All T3 billing has been sent out to emails on file and are due by Friday, March 31st.

T3 Programs will run from Monday, March 20th to Thursday, June 1st from 3:15-5:00 pm.

Reach out to, sbeck@glachicago.org- Stephanie Beck, with any questions!

GLA Summer Programming

The GLA Summer Program will run from June 26th to July 21st. All programming will take place Monday-Friday (exception July 3rd-4th - building closed for holiday).

June					July				
M	T	W	Th	F	M	T	W	Th	F
					3	4	5	6	7
12	13	14	15	16	10	11	12	13	14
19	20	21	22	23	17	18	19	20	21
26	27	28	29	30	24	25	26	27	28

*Dates in yellow are program dates

**July 3rd and 4th there is no programming - GLA CLOSED

There will be three different programs offered for students:

- AM Academic Support
- AM and PM Enrichment Camp
- Professional Theater and Dance Youth Academy (PTDYA) Summer Camp

AM Academic Support (8:30am-12:00pm)

This program is only for students required to take summer school for promotion. The school's administration will notify families if students are required to take summer school. Doors will open for breakfast at 8am. Lunch will be served at 12pm. The cost is \$150. Students required to take AM Academic Support classes may opt-in for PM Enrichment Camp. The cost for PM Enrichment Camp is an additional \$150.

AM/PM Enrichment Camp (8:30 am - 4:00 pm)

This program is open to all interested K-7th grade students on a first-come, first-served basis. Doors will open for breakfast at 8 am. Lunch will be served at 12 pm. Programming ends at 4 pm. The cost for AM/PM Enrichment Camp is \$300.

PTDYA Summer Camp (8:30 am - 4:00 pm)

This program is open to 4th-7th graders who are interested in music and theater. Participants will be rehearsing for an end of program performance that will take place on July 21st at GLA. Doors will open for breakfast at 8 am. Lunch will be served at 12 pm. The cost for PTDYA Summer Camp is \$400.

Please sign up [HERE!](#)

8th Grade Upcoming Important Dates

Cap and gown invoices will be sent via email. The invoice will be \$20. All measurements have already been done during the school day. Students are able to design their cap with school appropriate creativity, if wanted.

For the graduation ceremony, four (4) tickets will be provided for each family, not including the graduating scholar. For the Awards Dinner, four (4) tickets total, including the scholar, will be provided.

Dates to Mark Down:

Friday, May 5th - 8th Grade Graduation Photos (during the school day)

Friday, May 19th - Cap and Gown Invoices Due

Friday, May 26th - High School Selection Day at 9:00 am

Wednesday, May 31st - Saturday, June 3rd - Washington D.C. trip

Tuesday, June 6th - 8th Grade Awards Dinner at 5:00 pm

Friday, June 9th - 8th Grade Graduation at 4:00 pm

Please reach out to Stephanie Beck, sbeck@glachicago.org, if you have any questions!

March Madness

We invite all 3rd-8th families to participate in March Madness by completing a different activity each night with your scholar to help us prepare for the upcoming IAR state test. Teachers have created 3rd-5th and 6th-8th calendars that include fun activities to be completed as a family for each day in March. Please look for calendars in homework folders on March 1st, or click on the link below for the appropriate grade level.

- **[3rd-5th grades March Madness Calendar](#)**
- **[6th-8th grades March Madness Calendar](#)**

There will also be Spirit Week Days to help pump ALL our scholars up for testing, including K-2nd. Please feel free to participate if able:

Monday, March 20 -Disney Day

Tuesday, March 21 -Twin Day

Wednesday, March 22 -Pajama Day

Thursday, March 23 -Decades Day

Friday, March 24 - Blackout Day

2023-24 School Year: Intent to Return Form due 3/31

To help us plan our enrollment for the 2023-24 school year, **please confirm if your scholar will be returning to Great Lakes Academy next year by filling out and returning the Intent to Return Form** (sent home with your scholar or [click here](#)). Families can send completed forms to school with their scholar or can email them to info@glachicago.org. Please fill out one form per scholar **no later than March 31st**.

GLA Annual Fee

Each year, GLA families pay an annual fee for each scholar enrolled. This nonrefundable fee covers a small portion of a variety of individual online learning platforms for your child, along with supply needs.

This year, the fee of \$90 per student is due by August 11th, 2023, but can be paid now by visiting our website (<https://glachicago.org/supplyandtechfee>) or calling the front office (these are the only two methods in which the fee may be paid).

Spring Sport Sign-Ups

Spring sports began Monday, February 27th and will conclude on Thursday, April 20th.

Please contact Titus Perez, tperez@glachicago.org if you have any questions.

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-Stephanie Beck, to enroll today!

GLA Parent Swag!

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

March 20th-24th: March Madness (Math Olympics)

March 20th-24th: Staff and Student Spirit Week

March 23rd: Ageless Eyecare Eye Exams

March 27th-31st: STEP Testing

March 28th-31st: IAR Testing

March 28th: Recruitment Open House (*for potential new students*)

March 31st: Intent to Return Form due

April 3rd-7th: **Spring Break, School Closed**

April 12th: Monthly Parent Townhall (*5:30-6:30 pm at GLA*)

March 13th - April 7th, 2023

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
13	14	15	16	17
ANET Q3 Assessments STEP testing	ANET Q3 Assessments STEP testing Pi Day	ANET Q3 Assessments STEP testing	Staff PD No Classes	T2 Report Cards (<i>emailed</i>) Parent-Teacher Conferences No Classes
20	21	22	23	24
Trimester 3 Begins March Madness (<i>Math Olympics</i>) Staff and Student Spirit Week Disney Day	March Madness (<i>Math Olympics</i>) Staff and Student Spirit Week Twin Day	March Madness (<i>Math Olympics</i>) Staff and Student Spirit Week Pajama Day	Ageless Eyecare Eye Exams March Madness (<i>Math Olympics</i>) Staff and Student Spirit Week Decades Day	March Madness (<i>Math Olympics</i>) Staff and Student Spirit Week Blackout Day
27	28	29	30	31
	IAR Testing Recruitment Open House <i>5:15-6:15 pm</i>	IAR Testing	IAR Testing	IAR Testing Intent to Return Form Due
3	4	5	6	7
Spring Break School Closed	Spring Break School Closed	Spring Break School Closed	Spring Break School Closed	Spring Break School Closed

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