



Weekly GLA Family Newsletter

April 12, 2023

PRINCIPAL'S CORNER

Earlier this year, I wrote about our social-emotional learning (SEL) programming. One of the tools we are using this year is a program called Panorama. Panorama is an online platform that houses research-based surveys and tools that support student SEL development. In the fall, I shared that students took their first “well-being” survey. It revealed that our students are struggling with emotional regulation and dealing with challenging feelings. As a result of that survey, we created a scope and sequence of lessons that targeted development in those areas in conjunction with our Leader In Me curriculum.

This month our students took another round of the same survey. We found that students reported improvements in 6 out of the 8 targeted areas, including those areas that students reported the greatest challenges. That’s a big win! As we move into the last 7 weeks of school, our Culture and Climate Team will be revising SEL lesson choices for classrooms to target additional areas of need in service of further developing students’ SEL skills.

Principal Miller

NEW ANNOUNCEMENTS

Community Volunteers Needed

As the saying goes: “It takes a village to raise a child.” GLA needs your support! We need your help with supervision during arrival, dismissal, and lunch/recess. Please click [HERE](#) to sign up to volunteer your time at GLA. If you cannot offer time, please share the opportunity with your family and network. Volunteers are required to complete a background check and fingerprinting. Please click [HERE](#) to access those forms. However, GLA no longer requires COVID-19 vaccinations to volunteer. If you have any questions, please contact GLA’s Volunteer Coordinator, Maddie Harlan, at mharlan@glachicago.org or call our main office.

Day of the Children Celebration/Dia del Niño

GLA will be celebrating elDia del Niño, a celebration of children in Mexican culture, on Friday, April 28th in observance with the holiday on Sunday, April 30th. The Student

Government Association will be handing out goodie bags to each student present on this day!

Autism Acceptance - WEAR RED OR BLUE, April 28th.

In conjunction with Autism Acceptance Month, we are asking that all staff and students wear blue or red on Friday, April 28th.

National Autism Acceptance Month raises awareness for autism and Asperger's syndrome during April. Autism is a complex brain disorder that often inhibits a person's ability to communicate, respond to surroundings, and form relationships with others. Let's make this month one of Awareness, Action, Inclusion, Acceptance, and Appreciation!

Unique Abilities Community Resource Fair



UNIQUE ABILITIES
COMMUNITY RESOURCE FAIR

SATURDAY
APRIL 29, 2023

Calumet Park Fieldhouse
12:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.
9801 S. Avenue G, Chicago, IL 60617



Learn more about Autism Spectrum Disorder, living with Developmental Differences and unique abilities. Together we can cultivate awareness and educate each other!



PARENT WORKSHOPS

Presented by local professionals on a variety of helpful topics to include Autism 101, IEP's, Q&A's and more!



RESOURCES

Come connect with local providers offering a variety of programs and services for all ages including therapy, recreation, advocacy, etc.



KID ZONE

Enjoy snacks, face painting and fun balloons!

GOT RESOURCES? LIMITED TABLES AVAILABLE.

CONTACT US:



outloudforautism@gmail.com



outloudforautism



GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Art Show - This Friday!

GLA will be hosting an Art Show in the Link this Friday, April 21st from 4:00-6:00 pm. Come view your scholar(s) hard work in the classroom and enjoy some snacks and drinks!

Displayed art entails work from K-4th and special projects from 5th-8th SkyART and Sculpture/Painting After-School Programming

We hope to see you there!

Power Parents “Movie Night”

The Power Parents will be hosting a movie night fundraiser on April 29th, 1pm-4pm, at GLA. There will be snacks available during this event for the children. This will be a great way for students to come out and socialize with classmates in a safe space and the proceeds will be supporting a great cause, GLA students.

Please fill out [this form](#) so that we can ensure we have an appropriate number of volunteers in place.

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/qlbrunchandlearn

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



Six Flags Field Trip 6th & 7th Grade

On Thursday, June 8th our 6th & 7th graders will be attending Six Flags of Great America for our Trimester 3 field trip. **Beginning Monday, March 27th, these stipulations went into full effect for scholars to be able to attend:**

- 5 or less Absences
- 85% Homework Completion
- 2 or Less uniform Infractions
- 2 or Less Referrals
- 4 or Less Resets
- No Physical Incidents

Spring Ball, 5th-8th Grade

On Friday, May 12th at 5:30 pm we will be hosting a 5th-8th Spring Ball here at Great Lakes Academy. This event is "Dress Your Best" or whatever your scholar is comfortable in. **Beginning Monday, April 10th, these stipulations went into effect for scholars to be able to attend:**

- No more than 1 referral
- No more than 3 resets
- 90% attendance
- No physical or verbal altercations

Please help in assisting us in getting as many scholars as possible to this event!

If your scholar is no longer eligible, you will receive a call from the Behavior Team.

After-School “Anchor” Programming

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 (9:00 am - 3:00 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. 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!

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).

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

April 20th: 2023-24 Lottery

April 20th: Last Day of Spring Sports

April 21st: Art Show (4:00-6:00 pm at GLA)

April 25th: Power Parent Meeting (5:00 pm at GLA)

April 28th: Day of Children Celebration/Dia del Niño

April 28th: Wear Red or Blue to Support Autism Acceptance Month

April 29th: Reclaiming Minds Family Workshop (10:00-12:00 pm at GLA)

April 29th: Power Parents Movie Night(1:00-4:00 pm at GLA)

May 1st: Mid T3 Progress Reports Emailed to Families

May 5th: 8th Grade Graduation Portraits

Week of May 8th: Staff Appreciation Week

May 10th: Monthly Parent Townhall (5:30-6:30 pm at GLA)

May 11th: GLA Spring Benefit

May 12th: 5th-8th Grade Spring Ball(5:30-7:30 pm at GLA)

April 17th - May 12th, 2023

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
17	18	19	20 2023-24 Lottery Last Day of Spring Sports	21 Art Show 4:00-6:00 pm at GLA
24	25 Power Parent Meeting 5:00 pm at GLA	26	27	28 Dia del Niño Celebration at GLA Wear Red or Blue for Autism Acceptance Month
1 Mid-trimester 3 Progress Reports Emailed to Families	2	3	4	5 8th Grade Graduation Portraits
8 Staff Appreciation Week	9	10 Monthly Principal Townhall 5:30-6:30 pm at GLA	11 GLA Spring Benefit	12 5th-8th Grade Spring Ball 5:30-7:30 at GLA

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