



Weekly GLA Family Newsletter

February 13, 2024

NEW ANNOUNCEMENTS

NEW: Late Pick Ups

We continue to have issues with parents picking up students late after dismissal. This is a problem that requires us to pay staff extra to supervise students who are left at GLA after pick-up time.

Effective February 21, 2024, we will begin charging families for late pick-ups according to the following schedule:

Late Pick-up Fee (Per Student)	Monday - Thursday	Friday
\$10.00	After 3:45 PM	After 2:15 PM
\$20.00	After 4:00 PM	After 2:30 PM

If you are having challenges picking up your child(ren) on time, we encourage the following:

- 1) Sign your child(ren) up for after-school enrichment programming, which runs to 5 pm.
- 2) Join the [Power Parent GroupMe](#) to connect with other parents who can support pick-up.

NEW: Student Fees Payment & Enrichment Eligibility

Effective February 21st, 2024, families with an outstanding student fee balance are no longer eligible to enroll in enrichment activities, including sports or after-school programming. Families enrolled in current and active payment plans for outstanding balances remain eligible for enrollment in enrichment programs.

Nut-Free School

- As is stated in our handbook, to protect students and staff with allergies, we are a nut-free school.
- Please be mindful if you're packing your scholar's lunch that it does not include any nut products. If a nut product is noticed, it will be discarded.

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Reminder: New Beacon Open House TODAY

GLA is hosting a *New Beacon Open House* TODAY (Tuesday, 2/13) from 5:15-6:15 pm for any *new* families interested in applying for the 2024-25 school year. **Please share this with anyone you may know who is interested in applying for the 2024-25 school year!**

Family Communication Focus Groups

- GLA will be creating a brand new Parent Portal - a virtual hub designed to offer real-time insights into your student's progress. GLA Parents'/Guardians' thoughts and perspectives will play a crucial role in shaping this innovative platform.
- Your input is invaluable to us; please join us for one of our virtual Family Communication Focus Groups!
- There are four focus group options later this month:
 - K-4th Grade Families (PM option) - 2/21 from 5:30-7:00 pm
 - 5-8th Grade Families (AM option) - 2/22 from 8:00-9:30 am
 - 5-8th Grade Families (PM option) - 2/22 from 5:30-7:00 pm
 - K-4th Grade Families (AM option) - 2/23 from 8:00-9:30 am
- All focus groups will be held virtually; links will be sent closer to the session dates. We hope to see you virtually!

Intent to Return Form - Due 3/1

To help us plan our enrollment for the 2024-25 school year, **please confirm if your scholar will return to Great Lakes Academy next year by filling out and returning the Intent to Return Form** (sent home with your scholar at the start of the month and linked [here](#)). Families can send completed forms to school with their scholar or email them to info@glachicago.org. Please fill out one form per scholar.

February Attendance Incentive

The top 3 homerooms with the highest attendance percentage will get a popcorn party!!
Be in school Every day On time.



The top 3 Homerooms with the best Attendance for February will receive a popcorn party.



8th Grade High School Success Upcoming Dates

GoCPS decision results will be released via the portal on Friday, February 23rd, at 5:00 pm. The accept/decline deadline is Friday, March 15th, 2024, at 5:00 pm. Please log into

your portal and accept and decline your schools in the two-step process by the deadline!

Please contact Ms. O’Leary, coleary@glachicago.org, or Ms. Beck, sbeck@glachicago.org with any questions.



Reflection Forms



The Culture and Climate Team has prepared each classroom with reflection forms. After receiving two deductions, scholars are asked to complete the reflection form in the calm corner/ reflection desk. The reflection form is used to reset the scholar’s behavior inside the classroom to prevent a behavior reset/referral to the dean’s office. Parents are expected to review, sign, and return the form the next day to acknowledge awareness and encourage parental support about the incident.

Parent and Family Volunteers



Current Opportunities:

  Arrival and Dismissal Support

Lunch and Recess Support  

  Classroom Support

Upcoming Events:

 Library Support 

If you are interested in helping grow the GLA community and volunteering please complete [this form](#). You can reach out to Madaline Harlan, mharlan@glachicago.org, with any questions.

GLA Breakfast, Lunch and Supper Menus

Click [here](#) to access (these are also linked on our website’s [Parent and Student Resource Page](#))

IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES

February 12th - March 8th, 2024

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
12 National African American Parent Involvement Day	13 New Beacon Open House <i>for students interested in attending GLA next school year</i> 5:15-6:15 pm	14 Friendship Day	15	16 Career Day
19 Presidents Day School Closed	20 Staff PD No Classes Office Closed	21 GLA Monthly Community Conversation 8:00-9:00 @ GLA and online Family Communication Focus Groups: K-4 Virtual PM Option: 5:30-7:00	22 Family Communication Focus Groups: 5-8 Virtual AM Option: 8:00-9:30 PM Option: 5:30-7:00	23 Family Communication Focus Groups: K-4 Virtual AM Option: 8:00-9:30 High School Results Released 8th Grade
26 8th Grade NAEP Testing First Day of Spring Athletics	27	28 GLA Community Outing to the Chicago Bulls 5:30-8:30 pm	29 Wave 2: Anchor After-school Program Ends K-4 Black History Month Class Performances 1:00-2:00 pm	1 First day of Women's History Month Intent to Return Forms Due
4 ANET & Navigator Q3 Assessments Begin Today Wave 3: Anchor After-school Programs Begin	5	6 Reclaiming Minds Therapy: GLA Parent Workshop 6:00-7:30 pm	7	8 ANET & Navigator Q3 Assessments Ends Today

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