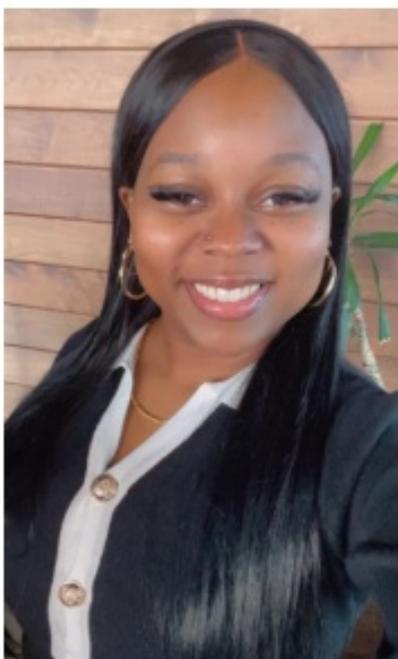




The Weekly Wave

Weekly GLA Family Newsletter
January 22, 2025

STAFF SPOTLIGHT



Ms. Jameca Hannah - Kindergarten Teacher

Tell us one of your favorite memories from your time at GLA.

So far my greatest memories are being a part of a very supportive staff and witnessing the growth and progress of my Chicago State Scholars within the last few months.

Tell us one of your proudest teacher moments.

My proudest teacher moments will forever be witnessing the growth and upward progress of my students who struggle the most academically, emotionally, or behaviorally.

What made you want to become a teacher (or what made you want to work in a school)?

Being a leader and making a positive impact on the lives and futures of our children has always been a

dream of mine.

What keeps you coming back to GLA every day?

My love, dedication, and promise to give my students and teammates my all is what keeps me coming back to GLA every day.

Where are you originally from? (If Chicago, tell us what neighborhood!) What do you love about that place?

I am originally from the West Side of Chicago. What I love most about Chicago in general is that it built me Ford Tough ;)

What's your favorite memory from elementary/middle school?

My favorite memory of elementary school is the sweet memories that my kindergarten teacher left me with.

We all know teaching can be a stressful job! What's your favorite way to unwind?

My favorite way to unwind is to sleep!

What are your hidden or surprising talents?
Singing, cooking, and decorating

PRINCIPAL'S CORNER

Parents please join us for our upcoming Family Curriculum Night hosted Thursday, January 30th from 4:00-5:00pm. You will have the opportunity to connect with your child's teachers, explore their classroom, and do fun activities with your children. You will learn more about what students have been and will be working on in the second half of the year.

Come out to learn more about how to best support your student through their academic journey and have a little fun with the GLA community. You can find more information below in the Weekly Wave. We hope to see you there!

Additionally, I wanted to thank our students, parents, and staff who came out for Family Fitness Night. We participated in activities students do in their character and fitness classes and learned how they helped us build stronger, fitter bodies and minds. There was a lot of sweat and even more fun! Thanks, Coach Ali and Coach Perez for leading the event.



Nash Miller

NEW ANNOUNCEMENTS

8th Grade Graduation Package

Class of 2025 GRADUATION PACKAGE



PAY BY MAY 1ST VIA:



(773) 530-3040



PayPal Invoice

\$100

INCLUDED ITEMS:

- Class of 2025 T-Shirt
- Yard Sign
- Cap & Gown
- Cap & Gown Portraits
- Graduation Day Photos

TICKETED EVENTS:

- Awards Dinner
 - For additional purchase
- Graduation
 - No cost, limited # available



For 8th Grade Events, families can purchase the Class of 2025 Graduation Package. Graduation packages cost \$100 and include: Class of 2025 T-Shirt, Yard Sign, Cap & Gown, Cap & Gown Portraits, and Graduation Day Photos. 8th Grade Awards Dinner tickets will be available for additional purchase at a later date. Invoices will be sent via PayPal by the end of the week, with a payment deadline of May 1, 2025. Please contact Stephanie Beck (sbeck@glachicago.org) or Caitlin O'Leary (coleary@glachicago.org) for any questions.

[Save the Date: 8th Grade Events](#)

Great Lakes Academy
Class of 2025
8th Grade Events

**25
APRIL**

during school hours
scholars only

Graduation Portraits

Scholars will take individual photos in their cap & gown, as well as a Class of 2025 photo.

**16
MAY**

9:00am - 10:30am
families invited

HS Decision Day

Each 8th grader will announce which high school they will be attending in the Fall.

**27
MAY - 30
MAY**

overnight
must meet requirements

DC Trip

Scholars will travel to Washington DC. Please reach out to Ms. Lifka for more information.

**02
JUN - 06
JUN**

during school hours
scholars only

Spirit Week

Scholars will vote on spirit day themes, and days will be announced in May.

**03
JUN**

5:30pm - 7:00pm
ticketed event

Awards Dinner

8th grade only Awards Night to celebrate their time at GLA!

Tickets must be purchased (\$25 per person) for each individual attending.

**05
JUN**

during school hours
scholars only

Clap Out

K-7 scholars will cheer on our 8th graders on their final walk through the halls of GLA!

**06
JUN**

4:00pm - 5:30pm
ticketed event

Graduation

Eligible scholars will participate in the graduation ceremony.

Attendees 5 years old + must have a ticket. Tickets are limited to 4 guests.

Please contact Stephanie Beck (sbeck@glachicago.org) or Caitlin O'Leary (coleary@glachicago.org) for any questions.

NJHS Induction

Join GLA's National Junior Honor Society on Thursday, February 6th from 6:00-7:00 pm for their Induction Ceremony. Celebrate our scholars as they officially become members of our NJHS Chapter.

This event is for scholars, and their families, who have applied to and been accepted into NJHS. Please reach out to Christina Harr (charr@glachicago.org) for any questions.

Great Lakes Academy's chapter of
the National Junior Honor Society
invites you to:

NJHS
Induction Ceremony

Thursday, February 6th at 6 p.m
Great Lakes Academy Gymnasium
8401 S. Saginaw Ave.



GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

2nd Annual Sneaker Ball



Kindergarten through 4th Grade scholars are invited to attend GLA's Sneaker Ball on Friday, January 31st from 4:00pm-6:00pm! Each scholar must have a guardian (18 years old+) present in order to attend. In addition, please see the participation requirements for attending:

- Reporting Period: 01/20-01/31
 - 0 referrals
 - < 2 resets
 - 0 physical altercations
 - < 2 Absences
 - < 4 Tardies to School

GLA Family BINGO Night

Join us for our first family event of 2025! Mark your calendars for Friday, February 21, 2025. Students must attend with a parent or guardian. See you there!

BINGO

GREAT LAKES ACADEMY
Family Night

Come for an evening of GLA family, fun, food, and lots of prizes! We will even be offering school tours Scan the QR code
RSVP TODAY!

**FRIDAY,
FEBRUARY
21, 2025**

**5:00PM
-
7:00PM**

**8401 S. SAGINAW
AVE.
CHICAGO, IL
60617**

**MUST HAVE A PARENT
OR GUARDIAN PRESENT**

Save the Date! Join us for Family Curriculum Night!

Come explore your child's educational journey! You'll have the opportunity to:

- Learn strategies to support learning at home
- Get important information about upcoming state testing (IAR)
- Discover valuable educational resources for families
- Connect with other parents in our school community

Plus, don't miss your chance to win exciting prizes, including gift cards and gift baskets!

FAMILY CURRICULUM NIGHT

K- 8th Grade

Thursday,
January 30, 2025

4pm-5pm

**PRIZES
GAMES**

Join us !!

**Homeroom with the most
attendees wins a pizza party**

Great Lakes Academy
8401 S. Saginaw Ave



Immediate Kindergarten Enrollment

We have an exciting update! Great Lakes Academy currently has five open Kindergarten seats available for immediate enrollment! If you know a family looking for a high-quality, supportive learning environment for their child, this is a great opportunity to join the GLA community. Feel free to share this message and flyer with friends, neighbors, and anyone you know who might be interested. Let's bring more amazing families into our GLA family!



Great Lakes Academy

Looking for a high-quality, supportive learning environment for your child?

Great Lakes Academy has five kindergarten seats open for immediate enrollment!



Why Choose GLA?

- ✓ Free and open admission to all
- ✓ Full-day kindergarten with early entry for 4-year-olds
- ✓ Free 7AM drop-off and daily meals provided
- ✓ State-of-the-art campus featuring an enrichment center
- ✓ Full athletic facility and turf field



8401 S. Saginaw Ave. Chicago, IL 60617
(773)530-3040 | www.glachicago.org



Career Day

We are excited to host our Career Day Friday, February 7, 2025. Please share with your networks.



CAREER DAY 2025

SAVE THE DATE

Friday February 7th

 8401 S SAGINAW AVE

 [HTTPS://GLACHICAGO.ORG](https://glachicago.org)

 @GLA_CHICAGO  773-530-3040

JOIN US



Chicago Bulls Black History Family Outing

JOIN US!

**CHICAGO BULLS
BLACK HISTORY MONTH GAME**

TICKETS AS LOW AS

\$66



VS



CHICAGO BULLS

DETROIT PISTONS

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2025
UNITED CENTER**

PRE-SHOW: 5:45 PM

TIP-OFF: 7:00 PM

TO PURCHASE TICKETS VISIT:

[HTTPS://FEVO-ENTERPRISE.COM/EVENT/GROUPLAKESACADEMY](https://FEVO-ENTERPRISE.COM/EVENT/GROUPLAKESACADEMY)



School Year Office Hours

Monday-Thursday, 7:30-4:30 pm

Friday, 7:30-2:00 pm

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

January 20 - February 14th, 2025

| Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
|--|---|---|---|--|
| 20 MLK Day, Building Closed | 21 | 22 | 23 Math IA #3 (Kinder) | 24 Math IA #3 (Kinder) Comer Pediatric Medical Van |
| 27 HOME Boys Basketball Game vs. Chicago Lab (JV & V), 4:30 pm HOME Cheer Game, 4:30 pm AWAY Girls Basketball Game vs. Chicago Lab, 4:30 pm | 28 Math IA #3 (2nd Grade) | 29 Math IA #3 (2nd Grade) | 30 Family Curriculum Night, 4:00-5:00 pm | 31 K-4th Sneaker Ball, 4:00-6:00 pm |
| 3 Math IA #3 (1st Grade) AWAY Girls Basketball Game vs. Chicago Jesuit Academy, 5 pm | 4 Math IA #3 (1st Grade) | 5 AWAY Boys Basketball Game @ CJA (JV & V), 5 pm | 6 | 7 Career Day |
| 10 | 11 Parent Advocacy Meetings, 4:30 pm Black History Month Bulls Game, 7 pm | 12 | 13 | 14 100th Day of School Friendship/Love Day |

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Great Lakes Academy Charter School | 8401 S. Saginaw Ave | Chicago, IL 60617 US

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