



Weekly GLA Family Newsletter

March 19, 2024

NEW ANNOUNCEMENTS

3rd-8th IAR Encouragement Letters

- 3rd-8th grade are participating in March Madness during testing week.
- If you would like to send your student a note of encouragement during testing, please fill out [THIS](#) form.
- We will print the message out for your scholar to read the morning of testing.
- If you have more than one scholar testing, please fill out a separate form.

Police Presence Near Campus

Last week, the Chicago Police Department was dispatched to 84th and Marquette to investigate a suspected carjacking that took place in a different part of the city. The stolen car was left on one of the surrounding blocks and was found by police there. The police issue had nothing to do with GLA and the incident happened nowhere near campus. CPD was on Marquette at dismissal to process evidence and wait for a tow truck to get the car.

Spring Break and Attendance

We wish you a restful and refreshing spring break beginning on *March 25th*. In the face of challenging weather and illness, our teachers, families, and students have persisted in keeping learning and engaged! We appreciate everyone's hard work and commitment to our school community. Thank you, thank you!

After spring break, there are only 49 days of school left until the end of the year. Every school day is an important opportunity for students to learn and connect with peers and teachers.

School resumes on Monday, April 1st. If your family or your student needs support, please contact Ms. Melissa (mstangl@glachicago.org) or Ms. Jasmine (jcaston@glachicago.org) for help.

Until then, have a wonderful spring break!
GLA Attendance Team

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

2024 - 2025 Calendar & Student Code of Conduct Feedback Due 3/22

We would like your feedback on our next school year's calendar and student code of conduct. To provide your feedback, please take a few moments to fill out the following Google Forms:

- School Calendar Feedback Form: Click [HERE](#)
- Student Code of Conduct/Family Handbook Feedback Form: Click [HERE](#)

Birthday Celebrations

We cannot allow birthday celebrations to interrupt the academic day or allow birthday celebrations at lunch considering that classes are eating together in the cafeteria. If you would like to bring a birthday treat, please contact your child's classroom teacher to make arrangements for the treat to be distributed at dismissal. Parents will be informed if there is a food allergy in the class; if such an allergy exists, we ask parents to be considerate and avoid that food product in birthday snacks. Treats must be store bought (not homemade).

Middle school has academic classes until dismissal, therefore they are not allowed birthday celebrations at school.

Parent Portal Survey: Please Give Your Feedback!

GLA is excited to introduce a cutting-edge Parent Portal, a virtual hub tailored to provide real-time insights into student progress. We value the input of GLA Parents/Guardians and Staff Members in shaping this innovative platform. Your perspectives are essential to us; we invite you to respond to our survey below and help shape the future of our Parent Portal!

- Access the survey [here](#)
- Please respond by Friday, March 22nd

Lost and Found

If your student is missing any hats, gloves, sweatshirts, or jackets, please have them check the lost and found. All items remaining in the lost and found on March 22nd will be donated.

Loaner Uniforms

All K-2nd parents, please send an extra labeled change of clothes to school with your scholar. This will remain in their locker in the event they have a spill or accident and need a change of clothes.

All parents, please return any GLA loaner pants your scholar has worn home.

If you have extra pants that your scholar has grown out of, we will always accept donations at the front office.

Use Your Voice to Shape the Black Student Success Plan

The CPS Black Student Success Working Group would like to hear from you as they shape their plan to improve outcomes for Black students across the district. Please consider attending one of the opportunities listed below to share your thoughts.

Help Chicago Public Schools Create Our Black Student Success Plan

What is the Black Student Success Plan?

Helping our Black students achieve increased success in the classroom and beyond is one of our top priorities. Thus, we have created a **Black Student Success Working Group** to develop a plan to guide our efforts.

How Can I Help?

Our **Black Student Success Working Group** wants to hear from you as they decide on the recommendations to include in our plan. We are hosting seven upcoming community roundtables to discuss these recommendations. You are welcome to attend any of the meetings below.

Date	Location	Time	Location
Tuesday, March 12	Northside (Uptown)	5:30 – 7:30 p.m.	Uplift Community High School (900 W Wilson Ave)
Wednesday, March 13	Southside (Englewood)	5:30 – 7:30 p.m.	Kennedy King College (U-building is 740 W. 63rd St, Chicago, IL, 60621)
Thursday, March 14	Westside (North Lawndale/West Humboldt Park/Garfield Park)	5:30 – 7:30 p.m.	Beidler Elementary (3151 W Walnut St, Chicago, IL 60612)
Tuesday, March 19	Virtual	10 a.m. – 12 noon	Link to be provided
Tuesday, March 19	Far South (Roseland)	5:30 – 7:30 p.m.	Metropolitan Family Services (235 E 103 St)
Wednesday, March 20	Southside (Bronzeville/Hyde Park)	5:30 – 7:30 p.m.	Walter H. Dyett High School for the Arts (555 E 51st St)
Thursday, March 21	Far Westside (Austin)	5:30 – 7:30 p.m.	Michele Clark Magnet High School (5101 W Harrison St)

REGISTER!

Where Can I Ask Questions?

Please feel free to send any questions to bss@cps.edu.



[Great Lakes Academy's 9th Annual BE GREAT Benefit](#)



SAVE THE DATE

Be Great Benefit

05

MONTH

02

DAY

24

YEAR

Galleria Marchetti

825 WEST ERIE ST
CHICAGO, IL 60642

START TIME
6 p.m.

March Madness! March 18-March 22nd

March Madness this year will be Monday, March 18th - Friday, March 22nd. During this week, students will compete in academic challenges and fun activities as they pump up for the upcoming IAR tests. Spirit dress down days are as follows for *all* grades:

Monday, March 18 -Hat Day (wear your favorite hat!)

Tuesday, March 19 -Superhero Day (dress as your favorite superhero!)

Wednesday, March 20 -Twin Day (dress up with friends and match!)

Thursday, March 21 -Class Clash Day (pick a class color and everyone wears it!)

Friday, March 22 - Game Day (wear your favorite jersey!)

4th-8th Grade 5Essentials Survey

- Wednesday, March 20th during school
- Survey on the comprehensive picture of the school environment based on five essential areas critical for school improvement in a meaningful context of similar and successful schools
- All 4th-8th scholars will take the survey

Wave 3- After-School Programming

- T3 programming runs Monday, March 4th-Thursday, May 30th
- Programs will be Monday/Wednesday and/or Tuesday/Thursday
- Programs run from 3:30-5:00 pm each day
- Please reach out to Stephanie Beck, sbeck@glachicago.org or Caitlin O'Leary, coleary@glachicago.org with any questions.

Athletics- Co-ed Track and Field

- Co-ed Track and Field begins Tuesday, February 27th-Thursday, May 9th
- All practices will be Tuesdays/Thursdays from 3:30-6:00 pm
- Meets will be on the GLA website calendar and given to the athletes by the coach

- Please reach out to Titus Perez, tperez@glachicago.org, with any questions.

8th Grade Dates to Note

The countdown is on for the 8th Grade celebratory events happening at the end of this year! I wanted to remind you of important dates approaching quickly. In order to send our scholars off the GLA way and to their high school of choice, we have many events planned. Please mark down and/or reserve the following dates of importance:

Friday, May 3rd - 8th Grade Photos (during school hours, must wear cap and gown)

Friday, May 10th - Spring Ball, 5:30 pm (5th-8th grade)

Friday, May 17th - High School Decision Day, 9 am*

Tuesday, May 21-Friday, May 24th - 8th Grade DC Trip

Tuesday, May 28th - 8th Grade Awards Dinner, 5:30 pm*

Thursday, May 30th - 8th Grade Clap Out (during school hours)

Tuesday, May 28th-Friday, May 31st - 8th Grade Spirit Week

Friday, May 31st - Graduation, 4 pm*

Wednesday, June 5th - Field Day (during school hours)

(*families invited)

Families are invited to Decision Day, the Awards Dinner, and Graduation. The Awards Dinner and Graduation will be ticketed events. The following ticket amounts will be available for purchase:

Awards Dinner: Four (4) tickets available including scholar

Graduation: Four (4) tickets for family, no ticket needed for scholar

In addition, we will be taking measurements for cap and gowns in the next few weeks. These will be taken by adults and parents will purchase at cost, \$25.

8th Grade photos will be free of charge, complimentary of GLA. You will receive the photo link approximately 2-3 weeks after portrait day. No photo packet is necessary.

Furthermore, class t-shirts will also be available to purchase once designed prior to Decision Day.

Please reach out to Stephanie Beck, sbeck@glachicago.org or Caitlin O'Leary, coleary@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

March 18th - April 12th, 2024

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
18 March Madness Celebration Begins Staff and Student Spirit Week Hat Day Trimester 3 Begins	19 Staff and Student Spirit Week Superhero Day	20 GLA Monthly Community Conversation <i>8:00-9:00 am @ GLA or virtual</i> 5Essentials Survey Staff and Student Spirit Week Twin Day	21 Staff and Student Spirit Week Class Clash Day	22 March Madness Celebration Ends Staff and Student Spirit Week Game Day
25 Spring Break School Closed	26 Spring Break School Closed	27 Spring Break School Closed	28 Spring Break School Closed	29 Spring Break School Closed
1 First Day of Autism Acceptance Month	2	3 Reclaiming Minds Therapy: GLA Parent Workshop <i>6:00-7:30 pm</i>	4	5
8 IAR State Testing	9 IAR State Testing	10 IAR State Testing	11 IAR State Testing	12

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