



The Weekly Wave

Weekly GLA Family Newsletter
November 19, 2024

STAFF SPOTLIGHT



Miss Littleton - 8th Grade Math & Science Teacher and 7-8 Cluster Lead

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

One of my favorite memories at GLA is planning and attending our first Washington DC trip! It was so fulfilling to see all the planning come to life and provide our students with a once in a lifetime opportunity! Being able to connect with students outside of the classroom and experience many "firsts" alongside the students was so much fun! It is a trip I will never forget!

Tell us one of your proudest teacher moments.

My proudest moment is seeing the 8th graders walk the stage at graduation! I have cried every year, without fail, because I truly feel so proud of each of them for this accomplishment and love to see them proud of themselves as well!

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

I am originally from Novi, Michigan! There is SO much I love about Michigan, but specific to Novi, I love the strong hometown pride the city has! Stands are packed for sporting events, parades and pep rallies dance throughout the streets, community events are held throughout the city, and it takes pride in their saying "once a wildcat, always a wildcat". Before teaching at GLA, I actually went back and taught 2nd grade in my hometown district!

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

My favorite memory from middle school is my Industrial Tech class! We got to build picture frames, race drag cars, and make wooden gumball machines using a variety of high tech machinery! My teacher was my dad's friend & my older brother's football coach, and all my friends were in my class, so we always had a lot of fun!

What's your favorite thing to do in Chicago?

It's so hard for me to pick just one favorite thing to do in Chicago... there is SO much that I LOVE! My top activities are going to concerts, playing beach volleyball at

North Ave Beach, going to sporting events, and working out at SoulCycle!

What's your dream vacation?

Mykonos or Ibiza!

PRINCIPAL'S CORNER

In conversations with parents, our leadership team is finding that many parents are unaware of some of the activities their children are engaging in online. Parents have identified it as a major area of concern for them and one of the greatest challenges of parenting in 2024.

As a parent of a kindergartener, I empathize with each of you. Supervision as a parent was hard enough before smartphones put the online world at all of our fingertips. Now our children have access to people and things online that are extraordinarily difficult to monitor. Humans are built to be social and emotionally connected and accountable to each other. The veil of the internet provides a degree of separation from connection and accountability to others that leads many people to behave in ways they would not in an in-person social setting. Children, who are still developing a wide array of cognitive functioning skills, are especially vulnerable to temptation online and susceptible to engaging with others in inappropriate ways (e.g. conflict, bullying, sexually).

Whether your child has a smartphone or other device, it is important that parents take steps to limit and monitor the internet and social media use of their child(ren). Compared to a decade ago, I am astounded at the number of discipline issues our school's staff and administration deal with that have a direct or indirect connection to students' online activities *outside of school!* Whether it is a younger student mimicking behavior they have seen in a Tik Tok video or a group of middle school students having conflict over a group chat from the weekend, dealing with behavior related to unmonitored online activity has occupied more time of school staff than we would like.

We need your support, and more importantly, your child needs your support. Please consider how you are monitoring your child's activity at home. I have included a couple resources that show how you can set parental controls on devices at home:

[Parent Controls - iPhone and iPad](#)

[Parent Controls - Android](#)

[Cyber Safety for Children by Cyber Fareedah](#)

We all have a responsibility to make the world (digital or not) a safer place physically and emotionally for our kids.

In Partnership,

Principal Josh Miller



NEW ANNOUNCEMENTS

Far South CAC Meeting

REMINDER TONIGHT AT GLA!

Please join us **Today, November 19th from 6 - 7:30 pm** for the Far South Community Action Council (CAC) meeting. The meeting will be held in person at GLA, but families are welcome to join virtually here. (Meeting ID: 873 1054 0302 Passcode: 752956). As part of this meeting the INCS will be sharing notes about the CPS Board of Education's Special Meeting held this past Thursday, 11/14. Included in the CPS meeting was a motion to "maintain Acero academic centers" and a presentation "Acero Update." There was also a "closed session" scheduled. If you are interested in learning more about information coming out of the CPS meetings and how it can possibly impact charter schools, be sure to join us tonight. We hope to see you there!

Fall Break

Fall Break November 25-29, **School Closed!**

Book Fair

The Book Fair will be here December 2nd-6th!

Parents and Families are invited to attend Tuesday, 12/3 3:30-4:30pm.

More information will be sent home with students by the end of the week.

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Wave Two: After-School Enrichment

Wave Two After-School Enrichment began this week!

- Program Dates: Mon. November 18th-Thurs. February 27th
- Invoices Due: December 6th
- Pricing: \$175*, payment plans available

Programs still available:

- Monday/Wednesday:
 - K-3rd Homework Help
 - 2nd-5th Beacon Board Games
 - 4th-8th Goddess Mentoring*
 - 4th-8th Spoken Word
- Tuesday/Thursday:
 - K-2 Homework Help
 - 3rd-5th Homework Help
 - 6th-8th Party Planning Committee

Please reach out to Caitlin O'Leary (coleary@glachicago.org) if you need to set up a payment plan or are interested in enrolling your scholar!

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



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GoCPS High School Applications: **Deadline Extended Sunday December, 15th**

The GoCPS deadline has been extended to Sunday, December 15th at 5pm. There will not be a re-rank period, all submissions and rankings will be locked. If you need help accessing your account, please select "forgot password" to reset your account or email Ms. O'Leary (coleary@glachicago.org)

Join us on our next Community Outing!

JOIN US!

COMMUNITY OUTING

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)



— ACOMPAÑANOS! —

SALIDA COLECTIVA

CHICAGO BULLS

JUEGO PARA CELEBRAR EL MES DE LA HERENCIA AFROAMERICANA

BOLETOS A TAN SOLO
\$66

 VS 

CHICAGO BULLS DETROIT PISTONS

MARTES, 11 DE FEBRERO, 2025
UNITED CENTER
PRE-SHOW: 5:45 PM
TIP-OFF: 7:00 PM

PARA COMPRAR BOLETOS VISITA:
[HTTPS://FEVO-ENTERPRISE.COM/EVENT/GROUPLAKESACADEMY](https://FEVO-ENTERPRISE.COM/EVENT/GROUPLAKESACADEMY)



Scan the QR code or click here [Purchase Bulls Tickets Here!!!](https://FEVO-ENTERPRISE.COM/EVENT/GROUPLAKESACADEMY)

6th- 8th Grade Family Scavenger Hunt

Join us on **Friday, December 6, 2024**, from **5 PM - 7 PM** for an exciting evening of family fun and adventure at Great Lakes Academy! **Important:** All students must attend with a parent or guardian.

RSVP today! Scan the QR code on the flyer to register and secure your spot.

We can't wait to see you there for an evening of exploration and excitement! Let's make this a night to remember!

6th- 8th Grade

FAMILY SCAVENGER HUNT



Friday, December 6, 2024
5pm-7pm

RSVP TODAY:



Must attend with
parent/guardian

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

November 18th - December 13th, 2024

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
18 Wave 2 After-School Programs Begin	19	20 GLA Community Conversation, 8 am IA #2 (5th-8th Grade)	21 IA #2 (1st-2nd Grade)	22 IA #2 (1st-2nd Grade)
25 Fall Break, No School Boys Varsity Basketball vs St. Patricia, 5:00 pm	26 Fall Break, No School	27 Fall Break, No School	28 Fall Break, No School	29 Fall Break, No School
2 Winter Book Fair Boys Varsity Basketball @ Russell Square Park League, 5:45 pm	3 Winter Book Fair Shelter in Place Drill #1 Book Fair open to Parents, 3:30-4:30 pm Boys JV and Varsity Basketball @ Morgan Park Academy, 5:00/6:00 pm	4 Winter Book Fair Girls Basketball @ Morgan Park Academy, 5:00 pm	5 Winter Book Fair	6 Winter Book Fair Family Scavenger Hunt (6th-8th grade), 5:00-7:00 pm
9 iReady MOY Assessment	10 iReady MOY Assessment Parent Engagement Meeting, 4:30-6 pm	11 iReady MOY Assessment IA #2 (4th Grade)	12 iReady MOY Assessment IA #2 (4th Grade) IA #2 (Kinder)	13 iReady MOY Assessment 5th-8th Winter Ball, 5:30-7:30 pm IA #2 (Kinder)

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