



## Weekly GLA Family Newsletter

February 27, 2024

### PRINCIPAL'S CORNER

This past Friday our eighth graders received high school offers for next school year. I am pleased to report that nearly 40% of our soon-to-be graduating eighth graders received offers to attend top high schools in Chicago. These offers include seats at Payton, Whitney Young, Jones, and Brooks! We are so proud of our eighth graders and the hard work they have put in academically over the years.

It is already the time of year where we are recruiting future K-8 GLA scholars who will one day be attending top high schools in Chicago. We know that GLA has so much to offer students academically and social-emotionally, and we are looking for families who want to enroll their child(ren). We know that referrals from families of current GLA students have always been a powerful tool for us. In fact, over half of our applicants come from family referrals! When you recommend GLA to family and friends, we get students and families that are highly engaged and invested in their child's success.

Just as last year, we also are accepting students for early enrollment. If you know a family with a child who will be turning 5 by December 31st, 2024, they can apply for kindergarten and start their educational journey early with us.

Please let interested families know to apply by the lottery deadline of Tuesday, March 12th. Encourage families to visit our website at [GLA Chicago Admissions Application FAQs](#) to start their application process today. We do not want them to miss out!

Principal Miller

### NEW ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### **Parent Communication Focus Groups - Thank You!**

Thank you to the parents who took the time to hop on one of our Parent Focus Group calls last week. We appreciate your insight and feedback; the guidance you provided is helping shape the design of our new parent portal.

In March, we'll be sending a survey to all families asking for additional feedback as we develop this new tool!

**Parent Teacher Conference Sign-ups - Launching This Week**

Parent teacher conferences will be held virtually on Friday, March 15th. Sign-ups will launch this week and close Tuesday, March 12th. Please be on the lookout for your sign-up link (each homeroom has a unique link) and reach out to the front office with any questions.

**Leader In Me Corner**

Habit 7: Sharpen the Saw (Balance is Best!)

It is important to take time and plan some activities your family can do to balance your lives. Is there something you would like to do but haven't or haven't done in a long time? Here are some ideas. Make a plan to Sharpen the Saw together.

<p><b>Physical- Body</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Exercise &amp; do physical activities together</li><li>• Do family work/chores together</li></ul>	<p><b>Mental -Mind</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Learn new things together</li><li>• Develop your talents</li><li>• Write and keep a family journal</li></ul>
<p><b>Emotional- Heart</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Love and affirm one another</li><li>• Laugh at inside jokes &amp; relax together</li><li>• Build relationships of trust &amp; unconditional love</li></ul>	<p><b>Spiritual- Spirit</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Renew your family commitments</li><li>• Read inspirational literature together</li></ul>

**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.

**GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Here are some materials that can be used at home to [practice fluency skills](#) and [prepare your scholars for the upcoming IAR assessment](#). Below you will find a link to grade level work packets and answer keys for 3rd through 8th. Please reach out to Ms. Whaley or your scholar's teacher if you have any questions.

- [3rd Grade](#)
- [4th Grade](#)
- [5th grade](#)
- [6th grade](#)
- [7th grade](#)
- [8th grade](#)

### **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. Families who have signed up for T3 programming with outstanding fee balances have been notified.

### **Intent to Return Form - Due THIS FRIDAY**

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](mailto:info@glachicago.org). Please fill out one form per scholar.

### **K-4th Black History Month Performance**

- Grades K-4th will be having a performance on Feb 29th at 1:00 pm!
- Each class, beginning with Kindergarten, will perform a poem, fun facts, song, presentation, etc.
- All scholars will be involved in the 5-6 minute performance.
- Families are welcome!

### **Wave 3- After-School Programming**

- T3 programming will begin Monday, March 4th or Tuesday, March 5th depending on enrollment
- Programs will be Monday/Wednesday and/or Tuesday/Thursday
- Acceptance letters, emails, and invoices will be sent out this week, 2/26-3/1
- Programs run from 3:30-5:00 pm each day
- Please reach out to Stephanie Beck, [sbeck@glachicago.org](mailto:sbeck@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](mailto:tperez@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 27th - March 22nd, 2024

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
26  8th Grade NAEP Testing  First Day of Spring Athletics	27  First Day of Spring Athletics	28  GLA Community Outing to the Chicago Bulls <i>5:30-8:30 pm</i>	29  Wave 2: Anchor After-school Program Ends  K-4 Black History Month Class Performances <i>1:00-2:00 pm</i>	1  First day of Women's History Month  Intent to Return Forms <b>Due</b>
4  Q3 Assessments Begin Today  Wave 3: Anchor After-school Programs Begin	5	6  Reclaiming Minds Therapy: GLA Parent Workshop <i>6:00-7:30 pm</i>	7	8
11  5Essentials Survey	12  5Essentials Survey  Trimester 2 Field Trips	13  2024-25 Lottery  Q3 Assessments End Today	14  Staff PD <b>No Classes</b>	15  T2 Parent Teacher Conferences <b>No Classes</b>  T2 Report Cards <i>Emailed to Families</i>  GoCPS Accept/Decline Deadline <i>8th grade</i>
18  March Madness Celebration Begins  Staff and Student Spirit Week  Trimester 3 Begins	19	20  GLA Monthly Community Conversation <i>8:00-9:00 am @ GLA or virtual</i>	21	22

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