



# Grizzly Gazette

SEPTEMBER 5, 2025



## Dear GIS Community,

Can you believe it's already been a month since the school year began? Time is flying, and we have *so much* to share with you!

In this edition of our newsletter, you'll find important updates and exciting highlights, including:

- Construction progress on campus
- An invitation to our upcoming parent workshop on MYP grades
- A special video and announcement of our Student Council election winners
- Information about Multicultural Heritage Month
- Updates on the After School Program
- Beginning-of-Year Assessments
- Upcoming Picture Day
- ...and much more!

We kindly ask you to read through the entire newsletter. A lot of effort has gone into preparing this for you, and staying informed is the best way to stay connected with everything happening at GIS.

Thank you for being an engaged part of our community!

# Construction Updates



I'm excited to share some updates on our campus construction project. The first increment is nearly complete—our new field is almost finished, and we're just waiting for the grass to grow before it's ready for use.

We're also moving right into the second increment of the project. This phase includes building new TK classrooms and offices, along with a large shade structure that will benefit our PE classes and outdoor activities.

As part of this work, the construction team will be setting up their trailer in the front parking lot.

**Please note** that this will not impact our arrival or dismissal routines—we'll continue with our regular processes.

Thank you for your patience and support as we make these exciting improvements for our students and community.

Mr. Maita, Principal

## How Does Grading Work in MYP? Come to Our Workshop to Find Out!



We invite you to join us on **Monday, September 8th, from 8:40-9:30** for an informative session on assessment practices in the Middle Years Program (MYP). The workshop will provide an overview of the context and purpose of IB assessments, an explanation of the 8-point rubric used for summative tasks, and how these assessments contribute to students' final grades.

We will also review how families can **access and monitor student progress through Toddle**. Families will also learn how and when grades will be reflected in Aeries. The session will conclude with time for questions and discussion. Mrs. Patel, PYP Vice Principal & IB Coordinator

*Know the Grades. Support the Growth.*

# Parent Assessment Workshop



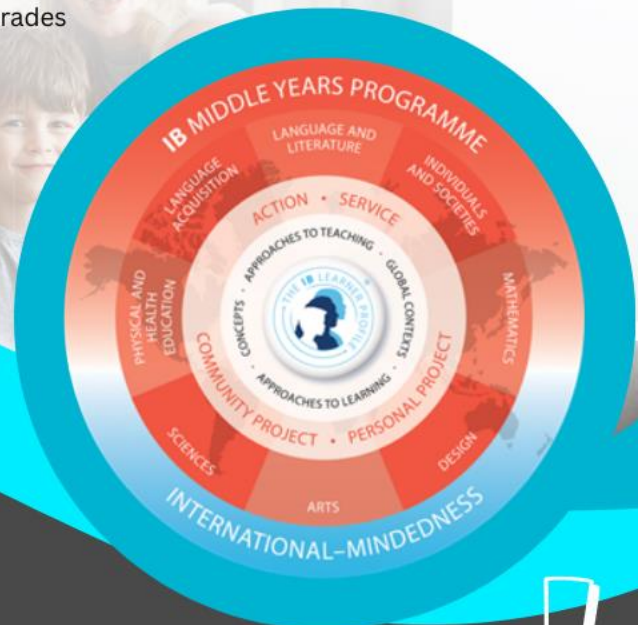
Join us for an informative workshop to get clarity on how IB assessment works!

## What You'll Learn:

- The context and purpose of IB assessment processes
- Understanding the 8-point rubric used for summative tasks
- How summative assessments impact final grades
- Where and when to find grades in Aeries
- Live Q&A session with our team

## Can't make it?

No worries — the session will be recorded and shared with all parents!



## Date/Time :

Monday, 8 September 2025

Starting at 8:40AM - 9:30AM

## Location :

Inquiry Center (Library)

Don't miss this opportunity  
to better support your MYP student's  
academic journey

900 Morse Avenue, Sacramento, CA 95864

## 2025-2026 Student Council Committee

At GIS, Student Council elections are more than just a vote—they are a vibrant celebration of student leadership, voice, and community spirit. These elections give our students the power to participate in the democratic process while helping to shape the school environment they proudly call home.



We applaud every student who stepped forward to run for office. In doing so, they gained leadership skills, public speaking experience, problem-solving abilities, and the confidence to make a real difference. These experiences are transforming them—not only as leaders on our campus today but as the future leaders of our communities tomorrow.

After an exciting campaign and thoughtful voting process, we are thrilled to announce our newly elected Student Council officers!



Mrs. Olson, Student Council Advisor



Ms. Cooper, Student Council Advisor



Aisha, President



Genesis, Vice President



Margarita, Treasurer



Arseni, Historian



Isabelle, Speaker of the House



Arina, Speaker of the House

# "Heart & Sole" Registration is Still On

There is still time to register for Heart and Sole! Heart and Sole is a program designed to inspire confidence, strength, and connection in middle school girls. Through running, team activities, and meaningful discussions, participants build healthy habits, develop social-emotional skills, and discover the joy of setting and achieving goals.

**Register at [gotrsac.org](http://gotrsac.org) and use code GIS for free registration.**

**Practice runs 9/15-11/14 M/W from 3:30-4:30.**

**Strong Hearts, Stronger Girls – Join Heart & Sole Today!**



## Find FRIENDS and JOY IN MOVEMENT

That's the power of

# heart & sole

of Greater Sacramento

A program to help every girl strengthen their mind, body and spirit through interactive lessons, physical activity, and team discussions on relevant topics for 6th-8<sup>th</sup> grade girls. Teams will practice 2x per week for 8- weeks and the season concludes with a site-based celebratory 5K event at each school!

**SEASON DETAILS**

- Registration Opens: 8/11/25
- Program Runs: 9/15/25 - 11/14/25
- Practice Times: Mon/Wed 3:30-4:30pm
- Program Fee: \$485 \*Use code GIS\*

Each season, Heart & Sole participants learn:

|                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                              |                                                                                                                                                     |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|  <p>How to embrace who they are, both on the inside and outside</p> |  <p>Strategies to become independent and critical thinkers</p> |  <p>Skills to write their own stories</p> |  <p>Tools to find inner strength through physical activity</p> |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

Learn more and sign up today!

 [www.gotrsac.org](http://www.gotrsac.org)  
 (916)-512-0472  
 [cprinty@gotrsac.org](mailto:cprinty@gotrsac.org)



Register here!

**Girls on the run®**  
of Greater Sacramento

# National Multicultural Heritage Month

As many of you have seen on our social media, we're excited to be celebrating National Multicultural Heritage Month! Thank you to everyone who has been participating by commenting, sharing, and engaging with our Facebook and Instagram posts—you help make this celebration meaningful and vibrant.

## **Which cultures are we highlighting?**

Based on the languages families listed during enrollment, we've created a list of cultures to recognize and celebrate.

This year, we're highlighting the rich heritages of:

**China, Korea, Mexico, Portugal, Fiji, Indonesia, the Philippines, Russia, Ukraine, Romania, Arabic-speaking countries, Persian/Iranian culture, France, Germany, Ethiopia, West & Central Africa, Pan-African heritage, the USA, Armenia, India, and Belarus.**

We know this list may not be complete. Sometimes, a family's native language isn't captured accurately in our database and is marked as "unknown." If you don't see your culture represented, please reach out to **Svitlana**—we would love to include and celebrate it with our community.

Thank you for being part of what makes GIS so special—a **place where every culture is valued and every story matters.**

Respectfully,

Ms. Svitlana

Parent Liaison

PH: 916-225-7695

EMAIL: [svitlana.vlasova@gcccharters.org](mailto:svitlana.vlasova@gcccharters.org)



# Afterschool Program Updates!



We're excited to share important updates about our Afterschool Program! Please take a moment to review the latest news, reminders, and improvements.

## **Clubs Are in Full Swing!**

Our clubs have officially started, and students are loving their activities! Thank you for your enthusiasm and support.

## **New Enrollment Platform – 6Crickets**

We've launched our new platform, **6Crickets**!

Thank you for your patience as we worked through some early technical issues. Most problems have now been resolved, and the system should be running smoothly very soon.

## **Enrollment & Staffing Update**

We are currently short-staffed but actively hiring new team members. Once our team is fully staffed, we'll be able to welcome **more students from the waitlist**. We appreciate your understanding during this transition.

## **IMPORTANT REMINDERS**

### **• Attendance Matters:**

If your child frequently leaves early or does not participate in the program, we may need to offer their spot to another student on the waitlist.

### **• Club Commitment:**

Club spots are limited and highly requested. If a student leaves early or attends only briefly, it prevents another child from fully enjoying the experience.

### **• Behavior Policy:**

All students are expected to follow program rules and respect staff. Ongoing behavioral issues may result in suspension or removal from the program.

Thank you for your continued **support, patience, and understanding** as we work to create the best afterschool experience for your children.

Warm regards,

Ms. Maria

Expanded Learning Manager

# 2025 Golf Tournament Fundraiser



Dear GCC Families and Community Members,  
We're excited to share that the **13th Annual GCC Foundation Golf Tournament** is coming up on **Friday, October 3, 2025**, at **Teal Bend Golf Club**!

This is our **only annual fundraiser**, and all proceeds go directly to supporting programs and experiences for nearly **6,000 students** across our GCC schools.

We'd love for you to be part of this special event by:

- **Registering as a player** – Enjoy a fun day of golf while making a meaningful impact!
- ➤ Use coupon code **GCC2025** at checkout to receive a special discount. (GCC email not required for parents/community!)
- **Spreading the word** – Please help us reach more supporters by sharing the event flyer with family, friends, or local businesses who might want to join or sponsor a player.

Your participation and support help create lasting opportunities for our students, and we're grateful for every way you choose to get involved.

If you'd like a flyer or more information, feel free to reach out—we're happy to help!

**Thank you for supporting our students and schools!**



# FALL PICTURE DAY

**October 18th**

**Lifetouch**

# New Volunteer Opportunities Spreadsheet (For Level 2 Volunteers)

We're excited to launch a new **Volunteer Opportunities spreadsheet** to better connect parent volunteers with the areas where teachers and staff could use support — such as recess, drop-off, classroom help, field trips, and more.

 **Access is limited to Level 2 volunteers only.**

If you already have Level 2 clearance and would like access to the spreadsheet **right away**, please email **Ms. Svitlana** directly. Otherwise, she will be contacting Level 2 volunteers individually — which may take some time.

Once you have access, you'll be able to:

- View tasks by category (Recess, Field Trips, etc.)
- Comment next to tasks you're interested in
- Ask quick questions or leave suggestions directly in the spreadsheet

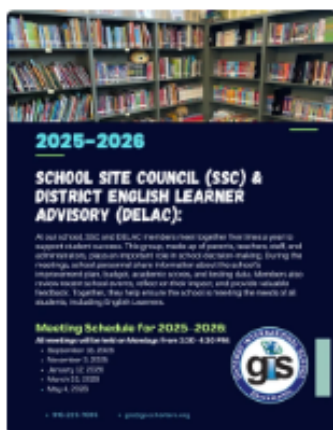
Thank you for helping make our volunteer coordination more efficient and impactful!

Ms. Svitlana's contacts:

PH: 916-225-7695

EMAIL: [svitlana.vlasova@gcccharters.org](mailto:svitlana.vlasova@gcccharters.org)

# You're Invited: Upcoming SSC & DELAC Meetings



We would like to invite you to attend our upcoming **School Site Council (SSC)** and **District English Learner Advisory Committee (DELAC)** meetings. These meetings are open to everyone and provide a great opportunity to stay informed and share your thoughts on important school and district programs.

**All parents and community members are welcome to join!**

This year, parents and teachers participated in voting for the SSC/DELAC Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson positions. The election results will be announced at the first meeting and then shared with the broader community.

**For detailed information about the dates, times, and locations, please refer to the flyer.**

We look forward to your participation!

# Supporting Early Literacy: A Message from Our Reading Specialist

## **BEGINNING OF YEAR**

At the beginning of the year, we use a combination of iReady diagnostics, fluency scores, and SIPPS placement assessments to gain a clear picture of each student's current reading abilities. These tools help us identify strengths and areas of need in foundational skills, comprehension, and overall fluency. Students are placed into SIPPS groups based on the highest levels of need, meaning not all students will be placed. This allows us to prioritize targeted support and ensure that those who need the most intensive instruction receive it.

## **DYSLEXIA SCREENING**

Beginning in October, we will launch dyslexia screening for students in grades K–2 as part of our early identification process. The purpose of this screening is to catch potential reading difficulties as soon as possible, allowing us to provide timely support and intervention. The screening will focus on key foundational skills such as phonological awareness, rapid naming, and letter-sound knowledge. This proactive approach ensures we can better meet the needs of our youngest learners and set them on a strong path toward reading success. More details to follow.

Mrs. McClintock  
Reading Specialist



# ELD TEAM MEMBERS



# Morning Drop-Off Time Reminder

**Dear Parents and Guardians,**

We would like to remind everyone that our morning drop-off policy remains unchanged and is still in full effect. **Students may not be dropped off at the front gate before 7:45 AM.**

While you may see staff members entering the campus before this time, please understand that they are arriving according to their individual schedules and job responsibilities. **They are not authorized to supervise students before 7:45 AM,** and doing so would compromise their duties and professional obligations.

A designated staff member will open the gate promptly at 7:45 AM. This staff member is assigned specifically to supervise students in the MPR at that time.

We kindly ask all parents and guardians to ensure that children are not left unattended before supervision is available. **Please do not drop off your child and leave before 7:45 AM.**

We understand that everyone has work responsibilities—including our staff—and we appreciate your cooperation in keeping all students safe.

**Thank you for your continued support and understanding.**

