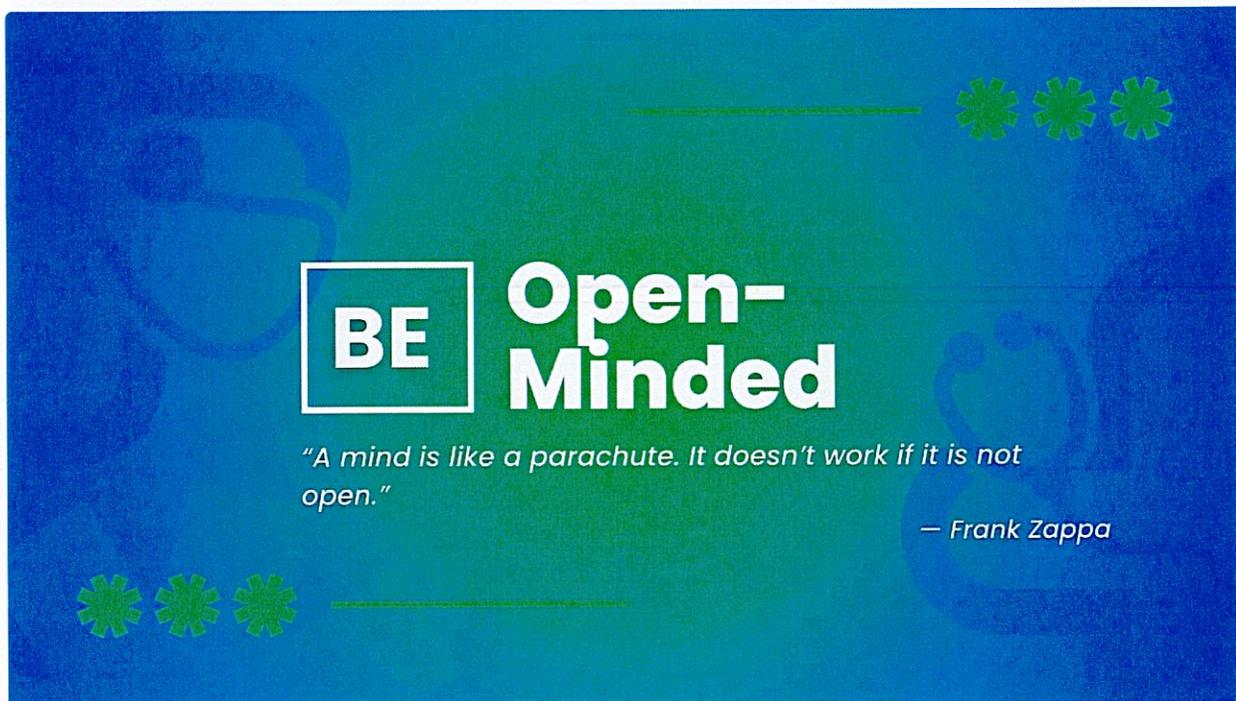




# Grizzly Gazette

## Community Newsletter

MARCH 1, 2026



## Hello GIS Community,

This week brings several important events, including minimum days and student-led conferences. In this newsletter, we also share feedback from Literacy Night, a morning drop-off reminder, an invitation to the 5th Grade Exhibition and Sami's Circuit Virtual Family Night, volunteer opportunities, and a preview of the next school year's calendar. Please take a moment to read the schedule and mark your calendars to stay informed and involved!

## We Escaped... Into a World of Words!

What a success! Our 2nd Annual Literacy Family Night brought families, fun, and reading together!

A HUGE thank you to our Reading Specialist, **Mrs. McClintock**, for organizing such a wonderful event at our school! We also extend our gratitude to all the parent volunteers who helped make our **2nd Annual Literacy Family Night** a success—your time and participation are truly appreciated.

Our families had a fantastic time completing **Secret Code Sight Words**, visiting the **Masked Reader**, receiving an autograph from **Sami Circuit** for his latest book, enjoying a **scavenger hunt in the library**, and much more.

We encourage all families to join us at future events, as they provide valuable strategies and hands-on ideas to help support your young readers at home.



## Morse Avenue Drop-Off Reminders

We have noticed a significant change in our morning drop-off routine on Morse Avenue. We understand that after a week-long break, it can take time to get back into the usual rhythm. However, we would like to kindly remind everyone of a few important safety and traffic guidelines.

**Please do not stop near the entrance or in the middle of the drop-off lane.** If there are no cars ahead of you, continue driving all the way to the end before letting your child out. Even brief stops at the beginning or middle of the lot create congestion, delay other drivers, and back up traffic onto Morse Avenue.

While it is wonderful when students are ready to exit quickly, unexpected delays often occur. This can create unnecessary stress for you, your child, and other drivers. We can avoid this by simply being mindful of those around us.

If you feel your child may need extra time to gather belongings or if you plan to walk them to the front gate, please park at the far end of the parking lot. There are plenty of parking spaces available in the morning.

Additionally, if you drop your child off along the sidewalk on Morse Avenue, please do not allow them to walk through the middle driveway entrance where cars are entering. For everyone's safety, students should cross at the shortest, safest point, and always look left and right before crossing.

Thank you for your cooperation in helping us keep our students safe and our morning drop-off running smoothly.

## March IB Learner Profile - Open-Minded

This March, we celebrate the IB Learner Profile attribute **Open-Minded**—being receptive to new ideas, perspectives, and experiences, and respecting the beliefs and cultures of others.

***"A mind is like a parachute. It doesn't work if it is not open."* — Frank Zappa**

Encourage your child to explore different viewpoints, approach learning with curiosity, and celebrate moments when they demonstrate an open mind.

## Upcoming Events

**March 2nd - 6th** - Reading Across America Week

**March 3rd & 4th** (Tuesday & Wednesday) - 5th Grade Exhibition (MPR), 8:45 AM - 10:00 AM.

Parents are invited to attend and support their students during their presentations.

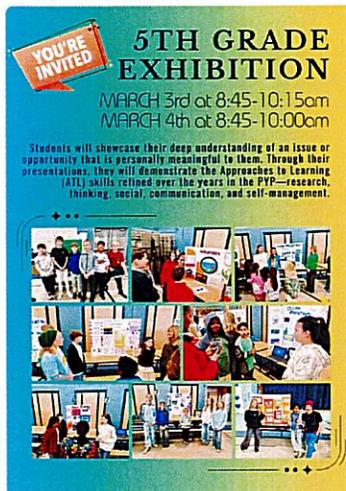
**March 4th & 5th** (Wednesday & Thursday) - Minimum Days Dismissal @ 12:30 PM for all! Please mark your calendars and ensure your students are picked up on time!

**March 5th & 6th** (Thursday & Friday) - Student-Led Conferences. If you have not received a sign-up message from your teacher, please reach out to them directly.

**March 5th** (Thursday)

- 5th Grade Field Trip to SMUD Museum
- Sami's Circuit Virtual Family Night

**March 6th** (Friday) - Last Day of Open Enrollment



## Families Are Invited: 5th Grade Exhibition of Learning

Our 5th graders are preparing for their annual Exhibition, a culminating event of the IB Primary Years Programme where students showcase their inquiry, research, and presentation skills. This is an important milestone in their learning journey, demonstrating how they apply knowledge, think critically, and take action.

**We invite parents to attend and support our students** as they share their projects. Your presence not

only encourages their efforts but also helps strengthen the school-home connection, which is a key part of the IB philosophy.



Get ready for a high-energy evening the whole family will love! Sami will lead you through a fun, get-up-and-move motivational session, packed with positivity, laughter, and raffle prizes!

#### SAMI'S CIRCUIT VIRTUAL FAMILY NIGHT

Thursday, March 5, 2026

ON YOUTUBE & ZOOM: 6PM-7PM

For more information visit: [www.samiscircuit.com/familynight](http://www.samiscircuit.com/familynight)



- Wear comfy clothes and grab some water - we're moving together!
- Laugh, cheer, and give lots of high-fives. No rules, just fun!
- We'll need to stay until the end to hear Sami's secret password for the raffle.
- After the livestream, join Sami on Zoom for shout-outs to your school and a chance to say hi.

## Join us for Sami's Circuit Virtual Family Night

We're excited to invite you to **Sami's Circuit Virtual Family Night!** 🎉 This high-energy event is a wonderful opportunity to laugh, move, and make special memories together as a family.

Join us on **Thursday, March 5, 2026, from 6:00–7:00 PM** on YouTube and Zoom for an engaging, get-up-and-move session filled with positivity, fun, and raffle prizes. Be sure to wear comfortable clothes, have some water nearby,

and stay until the end for a chance to win!

🌟 **Bonus Opportunity:** The school with the highest family attendance will win a LIVE, in-person Sami's Circuit Family Night in May! In-person Family Nights are rare and limited, and this is one of the only chances this year for families to experience Sami live. Participation is measured by unique logins to [www.samiscircuit.com/familynight](http://www.samiscircuit.com/familynight) on the night of the event. The final date for the in-person event will be arranged with the winning school.

Please see the attached flyer for full details, and help us increase our chances of winning by joining and encouraging others to attend! We hope your family can be part of this fun and exciting evening!



**THIS WEEK**

**MINIMUM DAYS - DISMISSAL @ 12:30PM  
FOR ALL STUDENTS**

3/4 WEDNESDAY	3/5 THURSDAY	3/6 FRIDAY
	STUDENT-LED CONFERENCES/ REPORT CARDS	STUDENT-LED CONFERENCES/ REPORT CARDS

LOOK OUT FOR YOUR TEACHER'S EMAIL  
TO SIGN UP FOR STUDENT-LED CONFERENCES

**AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAM WILL CONTINUE AS USUAL**

GIS \* 900 Morse Avenue Sacramento, CA 95864 \* PH: 916-286-1985 \* FX: 916-550-5328 \* [www.gischarter.org](http://www.gischarter.org)

## Are students required to attend Student-Led Conferences?

**Student attendance is expected and strongly encouraged.** Students play a central role by sharing their academic progress, reflecting on their growth, and discussing their goals with both their teacher and family. Their presence is essential, as it allows them to take ownership of their learning and actively participate in the conversation.

These conferences are designed to empower students and strengthen the partnership between school and home. We appreciate your support in ensuring your child attends and takes part in this important experience.

## Reminders

**Advisory Council Meeting** - March 17th

**Talent Show** - March 19th

**Enrollment Lottery** - March 20th

**SSC/DELAC Meeting** - March 23rd

**8th Grade Community Project Showcase** - March 25th & 26th

**Spring Break/No School** - March 30th-April 6th

## Community In Action

Here's a table of upcoming school field trips and events, including dates, times, locations, and volunteer needs. If you'd like to volunteer, please contact our Parent Liaison, Ms. Svitlana.

**Email: [Svitlana.Vlasova@gcccharters.org](mailto:Svitlana.Vlasova@gcccharters.org)**

**Text: 916-225-7695**

Month	Event	Date	Time	NEEDED # Volunteers
MARCH	5th Grade Exhibition	March 3rd & 4th	9:00-10:30 AM	4
	2nd Grade Field Trip to SMUD Museum	March 9th	8:45 AM-2:30 PM	2
	MYP Community Project Showcase	March 25th & 26th	9:00 AM-10:30AM	4
APRIL	Spring Book Fair	April 7th to 10th	8:00 AM-8:30 AM 3:00 PM-5:30 PM	1 1
	4th Grade Field Trip to IMAX Theatre	April 8th	8:30 AM-2:00PM	10
	8th Grade Field Trip to Sierra Nevada (overnight)	April 8th to 10th	8:00 AM-4:00 PM	2
	6th Grade Field Trip to Black Chasm Caverns	April 14th	8:30 AM-3:00 PM	3
	7th Grade Field Trip to B Street Theater	April 14th	11:00 AM-2:30 PM	6
	Open House	April 16th	5:30 -7:00 PM	7
MAY	Maker Fair	May 5th	4:30-5:30 PM	7
	MYP Social	May 14th	TBD	6
	Field Day	May 22nd	TBD	17

# 2026-27 School Calendar

Below is the next year's school calendar. While it does not include every GIS event, it outlines the first day of the 2026–27 school year, as well as holidays and no-school days, to help you plan vacations and family time.

The final 2026–27 student calendar, including additional school events, will be available for parents at our School Orientation in August 2026. The exact date of the orientation will be announced at the end of May.

**Gateway Community Charters**  
2026-2027 School Calendar

JUL '26					0
M	T	W	T	F	
		1	2	3	
6	7	8	9	10	
13	14	15	16	17	
20	21	22	23	24	
27	28	29	30	31	

AUG '26					19
M	T	W	T	F	
3	4	5	6	7	
10	11	12	13	14	
17	18	19	20	21	
24	25	26	27	28	
31					

SEP '26					20
M	T	W	T	F	
	1	2	3	4	
7	8	9	10	11	
14	15	16	17	18	
21	22	23	24	25	
28	29	30			

OCT '26					21
M	T	W	T	F	
			1	2	
5	6	7	8	9	
12	13	14	15	16	
19	20	21	22	23	
26	27	28	29	30	

NOV '26					15
M	T	W	T	F	
2	3	4	5	6	
9	10	11	12	13	
16	17	18	19	20	
23	24	25	26	27	
30					

DEC '26					14
M	T	W	T	F	
	1	2	3	4	
7	8	9	10	11	
14	15	16	17	18	
21	22	23	24	25	
28	29	30	31		



**Key Calendar Dates**

First Day of School, 8/5/2026
Last Day of School, 5/28/2027

**Non-Student Days**

Teacher in Service, 8/3 - 8/4/2026
Teacher in Service, 10/5/2026
Teacher in Service, 1/4/2027
Teacher in Service, 4/5/2027

**Holidays 2026-27**

Jul 3 Independence Day (Observed)
Sep. 4 School Recess
Sep. 4 Labor Day
Nov. 11 Veterans Day
Nov 23-27 Thanksgiving
Dec. 21 - Jan. 1 Winter Break
Jan 18 MLK Jr. Holiday
Feb. 15-19 President's Week
Mar 26 - April 2 Spring Break
May 31 Memorial Day
Jun 18 Juneteenth (Observed)

**End of Grading Periods**

Trimester 1 - (60 Days) 10/30/2026
Trimester 2 - (60 Days) 2/24/2027
Trimester 3 - (60 Days) 5/28/2027
Semester 1 - (88 Days) 12/18/2026
Semester 2 - (92 Days) 5/28/2027

JAN '27					18
M	T	W	T	F	
				1	
4	5	6	7	8	
11	12	13	14	15	
18	19	20	21	22	
25	26	27	28	29	

FEB '27					15
M	T	W	T	F	
1	2	3	4	5	
8	9	10	11	12	
15	16	17	18	19	
22	23	24	25	26	

MAR '27					19
M	T	W	T	F	
1	2	3	4	5	
8	9	10	11	12	
15	16	17	18	19	
22	23	24	25	26	
29	30	31			

APR '27					19
M	T	W	T	F	
			1	2	
5	6	7	8	9	
12	13	14	15	16	
19	20	21	22	23	
26	27	28	29	30	

MAY '27					20
M	T	W	T	F	
3	4	5	6	7	
10	11	12	13	14	
17	18	19	20	21	
24	25	26	27	28	
31					

JUN '27					0
M	T	W	T	F	
	1	2	3	4	
7	8	9	10	11	
14	15	16	17	18	
21	22	23	24	25	
28	29	30			

Total Service Days 180  
BOARD ADOPTED: 1/13/2026

## Launch

**“Education is not the learning of facts, but the training of the mind to think.”  
– Albert Einstein**

True education goes beyond memorizing facts. It trains the mind to think critically, stay curious, and approach the world with open-mindedness. By fostering these skills, we prepare learners to understand, adapt, and grow throughout life.



## Contact info

If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact us.

- 916-286-1985
- [gis@gcccharters.org](mailto:gis@gcccharters.org)
- [www.gischarter.org](http://www.gischarter.org)