

# Glencoe Elementary School

## Weekly Newsletter

### February 5, 2021

#### UPCOMING DATES

Date	Event	Time
2/8/2021	Virtual PTA Meeting	7:00 PM
2/10/2021	<b>RESTAURANT PARTNER: DAR SALAM</b>	
2/12/2021	<b>SPIRIT DAY: CREATIVE CROWN DAY</b>	
2/15/2021	<b>NO SCHOOL: PRESIDENT'S DAY</b>	
2/17/2021	<b>RESTAURANT PARTNER: POR QUE NO</b>	

#### NEWS FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Glencoe Families,

We have closed out an entire semester of Comprehensive Distance Learning and have started in on our 3rd quarter. As I visited classrooms this week I watched students explaining the importance of Black History Month, learning how to organize their informational writing into chapters, sorting and reading “ou” words, determining important facts to record and use to summarize their understanding of a topic, learning the history of Black Music in America, specifically how HIP Hop came to be and describing the relationship between the dimensions and volume of a rectangular prism. I have also enjoyed collaborating with the kindergarten teachers and Ms. Chris our reading specialist to complete some reading assessments with our Kinder students. Besides being adorable, I am amazed at the amount of learning they have done during this first semester. It is true that this year is not a typical kindergarten experience and what is also true is they are wonderful members of our school community who are learning how to be readers.

As I reflect on everything I observed so far this year, I wanted to share my deepest gratitude for our staff, students and families. I am amazed at how our entire teaching staff has been able to pivot to an instructional model that was completely foreign to us all less than a year ago. I am amazed at our students' ability to build classroom communities, access technology and stay engaged in learning. I am also grateful for our families' efforts and commitment to partnering with teachers so that our students are getting the most out of this experience. Of course our commitment and focus is still on CDL, but there are changes on the horizon. If you didn't catch it, [here](#) is the most recent district communication including a comprehensive update on Vaccinations, Expanding In-Person Opportunities and Plans for Hybrid Instruction.

This past week Glencoe's Instructional Leadership Team (ILT), Safety Committee and Building Union Reps reviewed a draft of our school's Limited In Person Instruction (LIPI) plan. Many questions surfaced about what Glencoe could offer students, when, why, and how. If you are interested in knowing more, I have listed some facts about our drafted plan at the end of my newsletter.

Last but not least, I want to give a shout out to our counselors: Ms. Gardner, Ms. Madi and Ms. Hilary (our counseling intern) as this week is Counselor Appreciation Week. They are committed to keeping us on track with our SEL work, ensuring that our students have intentional SEL lessons each day, providing daily or weekly check-ins with some of our kiddos, providing support to our parents/guardians/families, and hosting small groups for some students who need academic and

social/emotional support. They make an awesome trio and we are fortunate to have such a strong and committed team. Go Glencoe Counselors!

Have a wonderful weekend,

Lori Clark  
Glencoe Principal

### **INFORMATION ABOUT GLENCOE'S LIMITED IN-PERSON INSTRUCTION PLAN**

**Who:** Students with the highest need based on academic, social emotional and/or engagement criteria will be invited to participate. Most likely this will be about a dozen students to start, with a focus on our 1st & 2nd grades with the possibility of a few 3rd graders. If for some reason, we don't start hybrid learning in April, we will look to expand our program to additional students and/or other grades. Regarding staff, the "who" will be Ms. Chris, our reading specialist, possibly a primary classroom teacher, a substitute and a few support staff. If our schedule requires us to use a substitute teacher, our hope is to have the same substitute for all of our LIPI sessions.

**What:** Students will participate in a combination of reading and writing lessons, supported Seesaw work and some SEL activities that focus on community building and sense of belonging. This instruction is in addition to what is provided during our regular CDL classroom lessons.

**How:** Students will each have 35 square feet of personal space and everyone will wear masks and observe distancing expectations of 6 feet from each other. There will be daily screenings at check-in for everyone. Any student exhibiting symptoms will be supervised by our health assistant or support staff member and family will be notified. Only staff and students will be allowed in the building. Transportation will be provided.

**When:** Glencoe is a Phase III school, so we plan to begin LIPI the first week of March and wrap up the first week of April. We are looking at 2 days a week for each group for a couple hours a day, after their live classroom instruction has been completed.

**Where:** We will utilize two classrooms that are in close proximity of each other. This will be much easier to ensure all cleaning protocols are followed by keeping all students and staff in one area of the building.

**Why:** There are many questions. I have attempted to answer quite a few below.

Why such a small number of students?

LIPI is only meant to serve students with the highest need. Our classrooms can only hold 10-12 bodies at a time according to the safety metrics. Though we want to welcome all students back as soon as possible, until our staff is fully vaccinated, and we can come back to a hybrid or full model, we do not have that capacity.

Why offer LIPI at all if it's only for a small number of, two-two and a half hour sessions?

PPS is committed to serving our students with the highest need as soon as we are able.

Why are there only a handful of sessions?

LIPI is limited, by definition. Schools are providing LIPI just a couple of days a week.

Why only after school?

We are not permitted to cut into students' distance learning time during the school day. LIPI is a complement to CDL, not a replacement for it. We also only have access to transportation for a short window each afternoon.

Why not teach new content?

LIPI is not designed to load more work on students. All of our students have plenty of content already assigned. The LIPI staff will provide academic support and help so students can get caught up on their Seesaw assignments and will help ensure students understand the lessons they've received.

Why not start right away?

We are still working to identify the students, contact families, set up transportation and train the participating staff on all the standard operating procedures. My hope is to begin calling families next week to discuss the program & our safety procedures, invite them to participate and answer any questions they may have. After determining which of our students will attend, what their transportation needs are, etc., we will go to our waitlist and invite those families until we have 12 - 16 students.

Thank you for reading all of this. I realize it is a lot and many of you want your children to return to the school building as soon as possible. I also have heard from many of you who are not ready for this to happen for a variety of reasons. It's hard to know what to do when we've never charted this course before.

Please keep your questions and concerns coming and direct them to me. Although staff know we will be starting LIPI at Glencoe and have been working on a plan, not all are directly involved in the planning process. I am available by email and am willing to schedule virtual meetings. I will also be at the PTA meeting on Monday. Although we have a full agenda already, I may have time for a few brief questions.

Once again, I feel the need to say "Thank you for all you are doing at home to support your children".

Best,  
Lori

### **BOOK AUTHOR VISIT**

Author Visit: Mr. Steinke (author of the Mr. Wolf's Classroom books) will be doing a virtual presentation for Glencoe on March 11th (see information below). As part of this visit, we want you to have the opportunity to order books for home. Please use [this link](#) to access a how-to-order video and the link for ordering. You will not be charged shipping if you follow the ordering process to have them delivered to Glencoe. There are 2 order deadlines. The 1st deadline has book pickups before the March 11th presentation. The 2nd deadline has book pickups after the March 11th presentation. See the picture below for more information. Qs? Contact Lisa Davidson [ldavidso@pps.net](mailto:ldavidso@pps.net). We will send out a Google Meet link before March 11th. Mr. Steinke will be answering questions at the end of the presentation (which will run about 50 minutes). *PLUS- Mr. Steinke will be autographing these books!! For book pick-up, we will be using the name on the order form for pick-up, so remember whose name you put down!*

### **TAG NEWS**

Please see the [Glencoe TAG website](#) for information as it becomes available to us.

Thanks,  
Lisa Davidson, Glencoe TAG Facilitator

## **PTA NEWS**

Please join us **Monday at 7pm for a presentation by child and family counselor**, Katrina Thatcher! She has tailored her presentation for our PTA and will also spend time answering questions. Join Zoom

Meeting <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86549398074?pwd=RVBnbHl6Z2JVcmF1eGgzN2VOQ2NaUT09>

Meeting ID: 865 4939 8074

Passcode: 675566

## **PTA RESTAURANT PARTNERS**

Please see [this link to see the Dar Salam flyer](#) (second Wed. of each month, starting Wed., Feb. 10) and [this link for the Por Que No flyer](#) (Wed., Feb. 17).

## **FOUNDATION NEWS**

### **Glencoe Foundation – Community Event coming soon!**

As we all know, this year has been extremely challenging on all levels. Unfortunately, in spite of these challenges (and maybe in part because of them), our Foundation goal continues to be to raise \$80,000 to help fund critical staff at our school.

We have a plan! In addition to asking for direct donations from all of you, and approaching our local community business partners for sponsorship, we are holding a 3-part fun community event. The Glencoe Flop, Walk and Roll! Details will be forthcoming, but safe to say, they will be inclusive events that we hope to have 100% of Glencoe families and friends participate in.

Until these events (starting in early March), please consider making your annual Grow Glencoe Foundation donation TODAY. We are hoping families can consider at least matching last year's donation, but we understand that as circumstances have changed, everyone will contribute where comfortable. You can also make a sustaining monthly gift if you would like to spread your donation out.

[Donate Here](#)

Please choose Glencoe Elementary in the Purpose field

If you would like to help out with this year's pared down fundraising efforts, please contact Sara Weith at [glencoe.elementary.auction@gmail.com](mailto:glencoe.elementary.auction@gmail.com). Jobs big and small available!

### **What is the Glencoe School Foundation?**

The Glencoe School Foundation is the sister organization to our school's PTA. The PTA raises funds to help teachers and students with supplies, activities, events, field trips and other enriching activities. The Foundation raises funds to pay for additional staffing support, which the PTA is not allowed to pay for. The Foundation aims to raise a net of \$80,000 over the year through events and direct donations to pay for our reading specialist, increased hours for our valuable school secretary, on-site IT support, part time math teacher and other much needed school and teaching staff.

Glencoe School Foundation, like all Local School Foundations, fall under the umbrella of The Fund for Portland Public Schools. Glencoe School Foundation contributes 1/3 of all funds raised, after the first \$10,000, to be redistributed to PPS schools in the form of PPS Parent Fund grants. Glencoe School Foundation recognized that not all schools are in a position to fundraise at the same level, and is happy to support all Portland Public Schools. For more information, visit their website: [The Fund for Portland Public Schools](#)