



July 8, 2021

GCMS Families:

See below for some important reminders from the end of the school year. Please keep an eye on your email for important information over the coming weeks regarding network-wide changes and the beginning of the school year.

Hope all is well.

CALENDAR CHANGE FOR NEXT SCHOOL YEAR

Our **first day of school** for school year 2021-22 will be **Friday September 3**. A revised calendar reflecting this change can be found here: [Noble Calendar SY22-GCMS](#)

ICYMI: A MESSAGE FROM OUR CEO

CEO letter from June 18: [Our Anti-Racism Commitment in Action](#)

SAVE THE DATE – BACK TO SCHOOL NIGHT AUGUST 31

GCMS will host our **Back to School Night on Tuesday August 31 from 6-8pm**. This will be an opportunity for parents to see the building, meet teachers and advisors, and hear from our new principal, Ms. Hemingway. There will also be opportunities for scholars to sign up for Fall clubs and enrichment opportunities. More information to come soon!

SUMMER WORK

This summer, GCMS scholars will complete their summer work through MobyMax. They have been assigned 16 Math and 16 Reading lessons, and will have the opportunity to complete Stretch projects. All summer work was posted on Monday June 28 and must be completed by Monday September 6. Specific lessons were communicated to scholars through a “playlist” provided by advisors. More information, including how to access the learning platform and how to log in, can be found here: [GCMS Summer Work](#). Questions can go to jpruitt@garycomermiddleschool.org and ibriggs@garycomermiddleschool.org.

SCHOOL DRESS CODE

Many families have reached out to ask about purchasing uniforms for the coming year. The [student dress code policy](#) has been updated for the coming year to align with our commitment to antiracism. We encourage all scholars and families to review it. In August, we will share more about how you can purchase GCMS-branded shirts and other gear should you need it. In the meantime, please continue to reach out if you have questions.

SHARE YOUR PERSPECTIVE WITH PRINCIPAL HEMINGWAY

Principal Hemingway has hit the ground running and is still eager to have parent and family perspectives shape decisions for the 2021-2022 school year. Have an opinion or experience you





want to share? Please reach out to Principal Hemingway at jhemingway@garycomermiddleschool.org or sign up for time to meet here: <https://calendly.com/judonne-hemingway/connect-w-judonne-hemingway?month=2021-07>.

HELP IS AVAILABLE TO GET CONNECTED

The federal Emergency Broadband Benefit is a temporary program that provides discounts of up to \$50 a month for internet service at home. Participants also get a one-time discount of up to \$100 for a device (purchased through a participating provider). A household can qualify if at least one member:

- Participates in a federal assistance program like SNAP or Medicaid;
- Receives benefits under the free and reduced-price school meal program;
- Received a Federal Pell Grant during the current award year; or
- Lost a job or experienced a substantial loss of income during the pandemic.

To find out if you qualify, go to [GetEmergencyBroadband.org](https://www.getemergencybroadband.org) or call 833-511-0311.

VACCINATION OPPORTUNITIES at ACCESS HEALTH

ACCESS Health at the Gary Comer Youth Center is now providing the Pfizer vaccine for children 12 years and older, Moderna for 18 years and over, and Janssen for 18 years and older. Individuals do not have to be patients of ACCESS to acquire the vaccination. Community members can now call the dedicated toll-free phone number at 833.754.2149 to schedule a vaccination appointment.