

October 7, 2021

Catamount Families:

As a reminder, we are making adjustments to our calendar in order to create more time for staff development, learning, and planning.

- **October 7 and 14** will be asynchronous learning days for all 6th and 7th grade scholars. **October 8 and 15** will be asynchronous learning days for all 8th grade scholars. This means the following:
  - Students will be required to engage in independent learning remotely/from home; there is no in-person learning on this day
  - Attendance will be taken in a synchronous morning advisory period.
- **We will convert the week of October 18th into a “Fall Pause”, meaning scholars will not have school that entire week.** Two days that week were already non-attendance days for scholars. We are adding three more days to support the needs outlined above. Monday October 18 will be a Wellness Day for all scholars and staff, and our buildings and offices will be closed. Tuesday October 19 through Friday October 22, all staff will be engaged in learning and professional development, all in the name of forwarding Noble’s mission and vision, and there will be no school for scholars.
- In anticipation of future needs caused by inclement weather, Tuesday June 21 and Wednesday June 22 will now be instructional days. If we don’t need to use inclement weather days, we will reverse accordingly.

**UPCOMING DATES:** October 8- Asynchronous day for 8th grade  
October 11- Indigenous Peoples’ Day, school is closed  
October 14- Asynchronous day for 6th and 7th grade  
October 15- Asynchronous day for 8th grade  
October 18-22- Fall Pause, no school for scholars

You can find our updated calendar [HERE](#).

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See below for the rest of what you need to know right now.

Si necesita información traducida, llámenos al 312-825-5936 o envíenos un correo electrónico a [dloma@nobleschools.org](mailto:dloma@nobleschools.org). Gracias!

### **DUE OCTOBER 15 -- PHYSICALS AND VACCINATIONS**

Illinois State Law requires that all enrolled students have proof of medical compliance on file by October 15, 2021. Physical exams and a record of immunizations are required for all students entering GCMS for the first time, and a new physical exam is required for all sixth graders in



addition to updated immunizations. To find out what's required for your child, please review the [2021-2022 Minimum Health Requirements](#).

If you received a notice of non-compliance from us, **please make sure you submit proof of your child's required immunizations and health exams before October 15, 2021**. You can also submit COVID vaccination records at this time. Students who have not received the required immunizations and/or medical exam will be excluded from any in-person programming until all requirements are met. With your help, we can ensure all of our students enjoy a healthy 2021-2022 school year.

Please send any questions to [kjames@garycomermiddleschool.org](mailto:kjames@garycomermiddleschool.org).

### **COVID TESTING CONSENT & VACCINATION STATUS FORM**

Students may not receive a rapid or PCR COVID test from Noble unless they have a signed consent form on file with us. The form asks parents/guardians to opt-in to weekly COVID testing and also requests the vaccination status for your children. Links to the online consent form are below. We prefer that you use this method to complete the form.

- [English](#)
- [Spanish](#)
- [Simplified Chinese](#)

If completing the online form is not an option, then you may submit a hard copy of the form to the school. When doing so, a hard copy of the vaccination card should be submitted along with the form so we have proof of your student's status. You can print the forms using the PDF links below, or pick up a form in our main office.

- [English](#)
- [Spanish](#)
- [Simplified Chinese](#)

**PLEASE COMPLETE AND RETURN.** Thank you to the parents who have already completed these forms. If you have not completed them, please do so right away. For assistance, you can call the main office at 773-535-0755 or email [kjames@garycomermiddleschool.org](mailto:kjames@garycomermiddleschool.org).

- **PAST DUE -- SY22 PARENT/STUDENT HANDBOOK ACKNOWLEDGEMENT FORM**  
English - [https://nobleschools.formstack.com/forms/parent\\_student\\_handbook\\_acknowledgement\\_form\\_comermiddle](https://nobleschools.formstack.com/forms/parent_student_handbook_acknowledgement_form_comermiddle)  
Spanish - [https://nobleschools.formstack.com/forms/sy22\\_parent\\_student\\_handbook\\_acknowledgement\\_form\\_spanish\\_comer\\_middle](https://nobleschools.formstack.com/forms/sy22_parent_student_handbook_acknowledgement_form_spanish_comer_middle)



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- **DUE OCTOBER 29 -- FAMILY INCOME INFORMATION FORM (FIIF)**  
English -  
[https://nobleschools.formstack.com/forms/family\\_income\\_information\\_form\\_comer\\_middle](https://nobleschools.formstack.com/forms/family_income_information_form_comer_middle)  
Spanish -  
[https://nobleschools.formstack.com/forms/family\\_income\\_information\\_form\\_comer\\_middle\\_spanish](https://nobleschools.formstack.com/forms/family_income_information_form_comer_middle_spanish)

### **ATTENTION ALL 8TH GRADE FAMILIES!**

**High School applications** for the GCMS class of 2022 will open on October 13. Please reach out with questions and concerns to [aagosta@garycomermiddleschool.org](mailto:aagosta@garycomermiddleschool.org).

### **STUDENT CHROMEBOOKS**

If your Chromebook is lost or damaged, please alert your child's advisor or bring it to our main office.. There will be \$150 charged to your account for any lost or damaged Chromebooks.

**Scholars are expected to bring their Chromebooks with them to school every day.**

For troubleshooting outside of school hours, scholars must call the Noble Student IT Support Helpline (833-NobleIT or 833-662-5348) and leave a voicemail detailing their name, return phone number, campus, and a description of the problem.

### **INTERNATIONAL CLASS TRIPS**

8th graders and parent/guardians: If you are interested in joining the class of 2022 in Panama, you can find all the tour info and register at [www.eftours.com/2418754ud](http://www.eftours.com/2418754ud)

For our current 7th graders: we are thrilled to share the International Class Trip for GCMS Class of 2023 will be Italy! Learn more about this exciting tour and register at

<http://www.eftours.com/2487914ut>

Please email Mrs. James at [kjames@garycomermiddleschool.org](mailto:kjames@garycomermiddleschool.org) for any additional information related to either tour.

### **INDIVIDUALIZED EDUCATION PLANS**

Parents: if you scholar has an Individualized Education Plan (IEP), please complete the survey [here](#). Any questions or concerns can be directed to Chelsea Stepnoski, Dean of Specialized Services, at [cstepnoski@garycomermiddleschool.org](mailto:cstepnoski@garycomermiddleschool.org).

### **IF YOU CHILD IS AT LEAST TWELVE YEARS OLD, ACT NOW TO GET THEM VACCINATED**

Esperanza Health Centers is offering vaccinations to Noble students. Anyone in our Noble community can go [here](#) to learn more about the vaccine and [here](#) to find a location to get a shot.



Alternatively, ACCESS Health at the Gary Comer Youth Center is now providing the Pfizer vaccine for children 12 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, or they can contact the clinic inside GCYC directly by calling 773.324.6942.

To view other vaccination opportunities, visit [vaccines.gov](https://www.vaccines.gov)

### **SCHOOL HOURS FOR 2021-2022**

Monday - Thursday: doors open at 7:45. The school day will be 8:00am-3:30pm.

Friday: doors open at 7:45. The school day will be 8:00am-2:15pm.

Scholars not participating in afterschool programs must be picked up within 10 minutes of dismissal.

The main office is open every school day from 7:45-3:45.

### **VOLUNTEERS WELCOME!**

Parents and Guardians: we encourage and welcome the service of anybody who wishes to volunteer at our school to meet identified needs, whether it be speaking at an assembly, chaperoning a field trip, or assisting with duties in the main office. To ensure the safety of our scholars, we require that all Level 1 volunteers submit a fingerprint-based background check: the form and information on submission can be found in our main office. As an added precaution this year, all Level 1 and Level 2 volunteers must either provide a proof of vaccination or a negative COVID-19 test conducted no less than 72 hours before the volunteer opportunity. For more detail on what differentiates a Level 1 from a Level 2 volunteer, please refer to the attached table: [VOLUNTEER DESIGNATIONS](#).

### **IMPORTANT RESOURCES**

Health and Safety Guidelines can be viewed [HERE](#)

Our Technology Acceptable Use Policy can be viewed [here](#).

Many issues with Chromebooks can be addressed using this guide: [Noble Chromebook Support](#).

If your scholar has dietary needs or allergies that would require menu modifications please provide your child's physician with the [Physician Statement for Meal Accommodations](#) form. Please make extensive use of this sheet whenever you need help and are not sure who the best point of contact is: [Who Can I Run To - GCMS Contact List](#)

The Comer Spirit Store is linked here: [Comer Spirit Store](#)

Student fee payments may be made in the main office with cash or credit card, and instructions for paying online are linked [here](#)

