

# Friday Update for September 5, 2025

### Dear Glebe Families,

We had a wonderful start-up, welcoming more than 50 new students to Glebe. This year, we changed our registration approach, and our administration team was able to meet more families face-to-face and learn more about each new student and family. We really enjoyed these interactions and the opportunity to serve our community better.

### **Sports**

This week students were invited to try out for basketball, cross country, field hockey, soccer, tennis, and ultimate frisbee. We are proud to share that over 30 Glebe staff volunteer to coach sports. We look forward to the fall sports season and cheering on our athletes!

#### Music

This week meetings were held for the Choir, Intermediate and Senior Band, and the Jazz Band. Next week, students are invited to meet for Guitar Ensemble and Offbeat. We are happy that many new students are joining, and look forward to welcoming even more.

## **Student Leadership Opportunities**

Student Council members have been sharing announcements this week to invite students in grade 9 to make a difference, share ideas, hone their leadership skills, and get more involved in school life. An interest meeting will be held this week for those who are interested.

# **International Languages Class Sign Up**

Students are able to sign up for international language classes through guidance. The OCDSB runs classes in American Sign Language, Arabic, Cantonese, Czech, Danish, Finish, Gaelic, German, Greek, Hindi, Icelandic, Japanese, Norwegian, Mandarin, Pashto, Persian, Portuguese, Romanian, Spanish, Swedish, Thai and Vietnamese. These courses take place Saturday mornings online from September 20 to June 6 for credit. If you are interested, please contact the guidance counsellour as soon as possible to enrol as registration for these is on a first come-first served basis.

#### **School Council Meeting**

Our first School Council meeting will be held on September 15th in the library. All are welcome. The Library is on the first floor of the school.

#### Parent / Guardian Voice

We want to serve you better. In our last newsletter, we added a link in this letter to ask you to share some concerns. One of the themes in the content was about cellphone use. We are seeing an increase in learning achievement as a correlation to the new policy. However, we have also added other new supports to our school that could also be contributing.

We plan to have some special family information evenings this year, and are looking for input about what content that you would like to learn more about. Please complete this form to tell us what you would like to learn more about and to share any other feedback with us.

### **Learning Opportunities**

In case you missed it in our last newsletter, we will be offering some literacy and numeracy clubs and opportunities. Students will be able to earn an additional credit if they participate the majority of weeks. Please let us know if any of these opportunities are of interest to your student by indicating your interest at this <u>link</u>. You will then be provided with more information at the end of this month.

### **Scheduling Courses Questions**

We had many inquiries the first week of school about timetables. Parents asked our administration team why we could not provide timetables earlier, and why we keep our registration process open so long. First, we wanted to thank you for your questions and second, we wanted to take the opportunity in our newsletter to explain the process better.

We register and welcome new students all year long as they move into our catchment area or already live here, but decide to transfer from a different board. We are funded by the number of students we have in attendance. Unfortunately, students who are late to arrive will not get all the courses they hope for as courses are filled first with those students making requests through the initial spring selection process.

However, as classes fill, new classes do open, new staff are hired and adjustments are made until the very last few days. As new courses open, we are even able to go back and honour requests from students who may not have got their preferred courses in the first shuffle. We really do try our best to create pathway opportunities for all.

Lastly, courses have a cap because there are regulations governing how many students can be in each class, depending on the type of course, and the age of the students. For example, for safety reasons, hard technology courses have a cap of 20 students.

There are many other variables that impact change, like results from summer school courses, for example, can influence fall course selections. Our neighbourhood OCDSB high

schools use almost identical approaches. We hope that this helps, and we welcome additional feedback as our goal is always to be better.

#### Glebe Wear on Sale

Looking to get some new Glebe apparel for this year? Our Athletic Council will be having their first Glebewear sale in the front foyer on Friday September 12th at lunch! All sizes are in stock. Cash and debit will be accepted. There is a flyer on our Glebe Website announcement page with pricing.

#### **Looking Ahead Reminders**

• Picture Day: September 15-16

• Meet the Teacher Night- September 25

PA Day: September 29, 2025PA Day: November 7, 2025

Thank you very much for all you have done to contribute to a great first week at school.

Robin, Christine and Sam

Looking forward to the year,