

Gryphon Gazette

Glacier High School Charter

“Change is Inevitable. Change is Constant.”

Benjamin Disraeli

Glacier’s site closed its doors in Kingsburg at the end of last school year, but it is still functioning in an entirely new and upgraded location. Moving north to Fresno, the learning center is now located near the southeast corner of Palm and Shaw (777 W. Shaw), just south of Fig Garden Village.

Despite the geographic changes, Glacier remains philosophically and operationally much the same, bringing its unique blend of homeschool, classroom, and online education to Fresno.

The school has drawn a great deal of interest from Fresno locals (particularly

homeschoolers) and maximum enrollment numbers are anticipated.

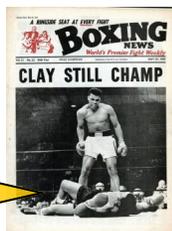
As an added scheduling benefit, all students are eligible for onsite classes at both GHSC campuses. This is most convenient for those located in-between Fresno and Oakhurst.



Glacier
HS
Charter
Fresno

Sometimes,
Even Titles / Names
Get Changed

Cassius Clay won and lost titles but changed his name to Muhammad Ali



The Glacier website and server are undergoing a make-over, listed under an important new label: **wscsfamily.org**

Please bookmark this URL on your computer, and note that staff emails generally follow the format of:

first initial last name @wscsfamily.org

Previous Glacier websites (school and facebook site) as well as email addresses will remain functional for a transitional period of time.

Aug/Sep 2015

Volume 6 Issue 1

Inside this issue:

Kickstart the Year	2
Thy Rod and Thy Staff	2
Who Marked the Benches?	2
Back 2 School Party	3
Schools Get Integrated	3
ON-SITE SCHEDULES	3
Pictures vs. Words	4

Noteworthy Dates:

- 8/17 1st Day
- 8/24 Onsite Classes Begin (ASB after Labor Day)
- 8/27 Back 2 School Event
- 9/7 Labor Day
- 9/10 (2:30) ROV info meeting (Oakhurst)
- 9/11 Attendance Due
- 9/11 Drop Grace Period Ends
- 9/9 (12:15) ASB Info Meeting (Oakhurst)
- 9/16 ASB class starts
- 9/23 (am) Oakhurst Photo Day
- 9/28 (am) Fresno Photo Day

GLACIERHIGHCHARTER.ORG

WSCSFAMILY.ORG

Back in the Saddle? Or Hanging By a Stirrup?

Sometimes it's hard to get back into the mindset for school, especially after a summer full of fun, late nights and sleeping-in.

It's important to get the school year off to a good start, however. Nobody likes pressure-packed workloads at the end of the semester, and life is a lot easier if you spread the work around.

If you haven't yet met with your charter teacher to establish your coursework and contract, please schedule an appointment immediately. Students enrolling late have less days over which to spread the semester's workload, since

only after a contract has been formalized can schoolwork can be assigned.

Some curriculums allow motivated students to move ahead at their own pace. Rosetta Stone and PLATO online courses allow for this. In conventional, off-the-shelf curriculums, it is important that you follow the assignment prescriptions that your charter teacher outlines. If you feel that a slower or faster pace is appropriate in these courses, discuss this with your charter teacher. We're here to help.



Remember that it is not mandatory that you work in every subject every day. Flexibility of schedule is a big plus when it comes to charter school. Sometimes students emphasize one subject for awhile, then another. This is acceptable- however, it is important that you and your charter teacher are both aware of this preference and are coordinated in the overall pacing of each course. Make sure that you are "on the same page" (so to speak). Do not "cherry-pick" assignments and skip subjects that don't happen to be your first choice.

Staffing Changes, Too...

Several GHSC staff members have come and gone since June, including a few surprises. For others, it's business as usual.

Marcia Souza (Fresno) now splits time between GHS and MHS.

Irina Buca shifts from Oakhurst to Fresno site.

Marianne Lord joins Fresno site as the new receptionist.

Adjunct positions:

Gail Irizarry—Algebra 2 (Oakhurst)

Kym Yruegui - American Sign Language (Fresno)

Michael McGough - Art (Fresno)

Emily Dixon - Choir (Fresno)

Martha Gaviria- Spanish

"Friends come and go, but enemies accumulate..."

Arthur Bloch



Benchmark Test Reminder- We Need Your Help!

An important part of tracking student progress is monitoring "benchmarks." Benchmark exams are taken at the start, finish, and sometimes in the middle of the school year. They give a nice indication of progress over the "big picture."

Please take the time to complete three of the EdPerformance online tests in the next few weeks (Reading, Language

Arts, and Math). Your teacher can help with your ID and password login.

The tests can be taken on different occasions (it is not necessary to complete all in one sitting) but plan on about a half an hour for each (1 1/2 hrs. total).

Results are available immediately and your charter teacher is happy to discuss them at your next PLP meeting.

Onsite classes may also ask you to take additional subject specific benchmarks.

Check with your onsite teachers.



Back-to-School Shindig August 27th

This year's "Back to School" gathering for all WSCS campuses will be held at Camp Oakhurst on Thursday, August 27th from 4-6 PM.

Camp Oakhurst is located off Mudge Ranch Road, near the top of Deadwood Mountain and Highway 41. For directions to Camp Oakhurst, pdf files are available through this link:

[Directions to Camp Oakhurst](#)

If, in the past, you've been to "back to school" events that were boringly brutal

- we guarantee that this one will represent a change of pace. For starters, bring a swimsuit. The pool area will be open (with a lifeguard), as well as the volleyball court. Families are also encouraged to bring games for the lawn area.

This time is dedicated to connecting with your teachers, other families, and just plain, old fun.

You won't want to miss this event!

Not-So-Live Pool Cam



Math Additions

With the implementation of Common Core standards, GHSC onsite classes have begun shifting towards Integrated Math. This year introduces Integrated Math I; Integrated II and III will gradually "phase in" over the next two years.

GHSC's Integrated Math I has already been approved by the UC Regents as an "A-G" course. Integrated II and III will be submitted for approval later.

The new Integrated Math I course is

based upon the Carnegie curriculum following both textbook and online formats. The curriculum emphasizes reflection, group work, and discussion.

While the curriculum can be adapted

and modified for independent study, it is perhaps best suited to group settings. In any case, active teacher facilitation during instruction is critical.

With the introduction of Integrated Math I, the onsite class offerings will no longer include Algebra 1. However, it will continue to be offered (independently) in other formats (textbook, video, and online formats). Glacier is, after all, all about a plethora of "choices!"

For more background information

on this subject, click here:

[The Shift to Integrated](#)

Onsite Class Schedules Posted

INCLUDES CLASSES LIKE EMT, ASB, CHOIR, SIGN LANGUAGE, AND ART

Please refer to the "Calendar" section of Glacier's website for latest updates on any specific days, times, and locations of any onsite classes in which you are enrolled.

Oakhurst:

<http://www.glacierhighcharter.org/oakhurst-onsite-class-schedule.html>

Fresno:

<http://www.glacierhighcharter.org/fresno-onsite-class-schedule.html>

Glacier High School Charter

41267 Highway 41
Oakhurst, CA
93644

Phone: (559) 642-1422
FAX: (559) 642-1592
www.wscsfamily.org



HOME OF THE
GRYPHONS

We're on the web!
wscsfamily.org

Communication Is Key

Now that initial meetings, contracts, and initial coursework have been coming together, don't forget to establish a pattern of good communication with your charter teacher, and the school in general.

While Glacier attempts to maintain effective communications with all her students and families through a number of means and social media, it is important that you do your part.

Telephone "all-calls" are oral messages which usually transmit important impending, information updates. Take the time to listen to them, and make sure that our school has current home and cell phone listings if you happen to change numbers. Updates are also important for email changes.

Newsletters keep you posted on upcoming events and help keep you socially connected to the school. Skipping them takes you out of the loop, so to speak. Stay informed, and take the time to read them.

Interested in ASB/Leadership in Oakhurst? An informational meeting will be held at the Oakhurst site on September 9th at 2:30 PM for parents and students. The first class session is scheduled for 2:30-4:00 PM on Wednesday, September 16.

If Only a Picture Was Worth A Thousand Word Essay-

Picture Day comes to Oakhurst on September 23rd, a Wednesday, from 8:30 till noon.

In Fresno, Picture Day is slated for Monday, September 28th from 9:30 till noon.

Michael Jones photography will handle both portrait sessions.

Whether or not you purchase any photo packages, pictures are important since they are included in the school yearbook, and are utilized for student ID cards (valuable for merchant discounts).

Speaking of essays- Oakhurst Composition classes commence the week of August 24th.

According to Oakhurst teacher Kaylene Friesen, Composition 1 and 2 are levelled classes, with entry into Comp 2 contingent upon advanced skills. Both Ms. Friesen's classes have been upgraded to 5 unit courses this year.

In Fresno, Marcia Souza will cover Comp 1 on Tuesdays (see schedule link on page 3)



ROV Info Meeting
September 10 @ 2:30
Oakhurst Campus