



# THE GMA GAZETTE

**GEIST**  
MONTESSORI ACADEMY  
AUGUST 21, 2022

A bi-weekly newsletter from Geist Montessori Academy



## Share our School!

We are off to a great start to the school year at GMA! Our teachers and staff have been working hard to help students get into the routine of being back at school, building community in the classrooms, and setting expectations for all students to succeed. We are all working together to continue creating a strong school community for everyone.

We have openings for new students to join our school in all grade levels from K-8th grade. Our Pre-K enrollment is currently full, and we are on a waitlist for that age level. There are *only two spots remaining* in our kindergarten program at this time.

The highest compliment we can receive is the referral of your friends and family members. Share our school with those in your circles to help us reach our enrollment goals and build our school community! Tell your own GMA story and bring more families to join yours at our school!



## Upcoming Events



- 8/23 Skating party at The Roller Cave, sponsored by Student Council
- 8/29 School Picture Day
- 8/31 Board of Directors meeting, 5:30pm at GMA
- 8/31 PTO meeting, 6:00pm (following the Board meeting) at GMA
- 9/2 eLearning Day for students, Staff PD Day
- 9/5 Labor Day, no school
- 10/5 Parent Teacher Conferences, 4-7pm
- 10/6 Parent Teacher Conferences, 12:30-5pm
- 10/6-7 Early Release Days for all students
- 10/10-14 Fall Break - no school



## Opt-In to Receive Text Alerts

GMA uses a mass-communication system called *OneCall* to send out school-wide communications such as *The GMA Gazette*, weather related school delays/closings, announcements, reminders, and more. All families are added to this system automatically at the time of enrollment using the email address provided on the enrollment application.

You may also opt-in to receive alerts via text/phone call when appropriate. If you have already been receiving text/phone alerts from last year, there is no need to opt-in again. However, if you are new to GMA or did not receive text/phone alerts last year, you may wish to opt-in for this year.

To make this easy for you, we have created a phone alert that will dial the cellular phone number in our system to deliver the information you need to opt-in for this service. We do not share your number with anyone. This is strictly for us to share important/urgent information within our school community.

If you need to add a cell phone number for your family to this alert system please email Ms. Beth at [blarock@gma.k12.in.us](mailto:blarock@gma.k12.in.us) or call the front office. Then you will need to follow the opt in instructions below from that phone number.

**To opt-in:**  
**Text the word Alert to 22300**



## School Skating Party - 8/23

Join us for the first skating party fundraiser of the school year! Don't miss the fun on Tuesday, August 23 from 6-8pm at the Roller Cave. More details are [here](#).

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## School Picture Day - 8/29

School Picture Day is coming up next Monday, August 29 at GMA. Inter-State Studios will be onsite to photograph students and staff for our school yearbook. Families may order school photos online through Inter-State at [www.Inter-State.com/order](http://www.Inter-State.com/order) using the order code 69021BA.

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## FREE Family Event - Celebrate Science Indiana

Celebrate Science Indiana is a FREE family festival at The Indiana State Fairgrounds on Saturday, October 1. You can check out more information about this event [here](#); and you might just see some familiar GMA faces at this year's event on October 1!

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## Fall Parent-Teacher Conferences

Mark your calendars for GMA's Fall Parent-Teacher Conferences! Teachers will send out information about how you can sign up for your preferred conference time soon. Conferences will be held from 4-7pm on Wednesday, October 5 and from 12:30-5pm on Thursday, October 6.

Don't forget that Thursday, October 6 and Friday, October 7 will be Early Release Days for students due to conferences that week. *All Pre-K and Kindergarten students without older siblings will be dismissed at 11:30 and K-8th grade students will be dismissed at noon on Thursday, October 6 and Friday, October 7.*

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## 2022-2023 Materials Fees

As a reminder, all fees should be paid in full by the October 1 deadline. Families who wish to make payment arrangements may do so by emailing our Operations Manager, Ms. Stephanie, at [sedwards@gma.k12.in.us](mailto:sedwards@gma.k12.in.us).

### 2022-2023 Materials Fees

Pre-K: \$110

K-6th grades: \$230

7th & 8th grades: \$300 (\$230 Materials Fee + \$70 Technology Fee for Chromebook rental)

You can pay your family's fees through our online system [here](#).

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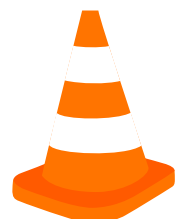


## Car Line Reminders

Please help us keep our car line running safely and as efficiently as possible. Our staff works hard to make sure that your children are safe at school from the moment they arrive on our campus until the moment they leave with you. Please be mindful of the fact that you are setting an example for them by making sure to follow all of the car line procedures and expectations with a positive attitude. Here are a few key reminders:

- Please pull all the way forward to allow as many cars in line as possible. This helps us make sure we are not backing up traffic on 900N.
- Cell phones should not be used during car line.
- Children are to remain seated until your vehicle is stopped and staff have signaled for your child(ren) to dismiss
- Do not change lanes during car line.
- Follow the designated traffic flow pattern. Do not skip through the serpentine pattern under any circumstance.
- Parents are to remain in the vehicle. Staff are present to help students in/out of vehicles as needed.
- Children should practice buckling and unbuckling their seatbelt, opening and closing car doors, and memorizing their car line number.
- Please be sure to have your car line number displayed in the windshield/window of your vehicle during car line.
- Do not release your child(ren) from the vehicle until staff signal it is safe to do so.
- Do not drive out of car line until staff have waved you on to the exit.

Thank you for helping us keep things running safely  
and smoothly for all of our students, staff, and  
families!





# Who Should I Contact?

As we begin a new year at GMA, it may be helpful to keep this contact list handy for future questions that you may have.

Reporting my child absent	Call the Attendance Line at 317.813.4626 and choose option 1
Specific questions about my child or the classroom routines	Email your child's teacher directly
Questions about special area classes	Mr. Brian, PE - <a href="mailto:bhole@gma.k12.in.us">bhole@gma.k12.in.us</a> Mr. Nick, Music - <a href="mailto:nweber@gma.k12.in.us">nweber@gma.k12.in.us</a> Ms. Taylor, Art - <a href="mailto:tspeer@gma.k12.in.us">tspeer@gma.k12.in.us</a>
Questions about PowerSchool	Mr. Patrick, Director of Technology - <a href="mailto:plove@gma.k12.in.us">plove@gma.k12.in.us</a>
Questions about paying fees, tuition, or how to make a tax-deductible donation	Ms. Stephanie, Operations Manager - <a href="mailto:sedwards@gma.k12.in.us">sedwards@gma.k12.in.us</a>
Questions about The Grove, our extended care program	Ms. Jessica, Extended Care Coordinator - <a href="mailto:jscholl@gma.k12.in.us">jscholl@gma.k12.in.us</a>
Questions about our PTO	Ms. Vicki, PTO Secretary - <a href="mailto:vkortz@gma.k12.in.us">vkortz@gma.k12.in.us</a>
General questions about GMA	Ms. Beth, Registrar - <a href="mailto:blarock@gma.k12.in.us">blarock@gma.k12.in.us</a>
Questions regarding Special Education	Ms. Jessica, SpEd Coordinator - <a href="mailto:jhickman@gma.k12.in.us">jhickman@gma.k12.in.us</a>
Questions for School Administration	Ms. Jen, Executive Director - <a href="mailto:jgosch@gma.k12.in.us">jgosch@gma.k12.in.us</a> Ms. Jamie, Assistant Executive Director - <a href="mailto:jrahmany@gma.k12.in.us">jrahmany@gma.k12.in.us</a>

## The Grove at Geist Montessori

Did you know that we now have our own extended care program available for families at GMA? The Grove is managed and staffed by our school staff, and is available for families needing before and/or after school care for their child(ren). You can learn more about The Grove [here](#), or you can reach out to Ms. Jessica directly at [jscholl@gma.k12.in.us](mailto:jscholl@gma.k12.in.us).

The Grove operates on school days beginning at 6:30am until 6:00pm. Care will also be available on a limited basis during early release days and on days that school is closed or delayed due to inclement weather, so long as it is reasonably safe to open. The Grove will not operate on scheduled eLearning Days or school breaks.

Feel free to reach out to Ms. Jessica with questions or to learn more!

