

WELCOME
PARENTS &
GUESTS!





Global Ambassadors Language Academy

Student & Family Orientation





Norms when we come together

- We Respect Each Other
- We Respect personal beliefs, even though we may not share in them
- We are on the same team-we have the SAME GOAL
 - Assume the best



Mission & Vision

PARENTS'
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Mission

To ensure each student achieves lifelong academic success, bilingualism, and appreciation for diversity, in an engaging and academically rigorous language immersion environment.

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Vision

To create a better world through education, elimination of language barriers, and preparation of global leaders for the future.

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GALA's Dual Language Immersion Model

GALA's Dual Language Immersion Model

Grade	Instruction time in Target Language (Mandarin or Spanish)	Instruction time in English
K-5	50% (2.5 hours) Subjects: Math, Science, Social Studies, Language Arts	50% (2.5 hours) Subjects: Social Studies, Language Arts, Specials (Art, Gym, Music)
6-8	50% (2.5 hours) Subjects: Science, Social Studies, Language Arts	50% (2.5 hours) Subjects: Math, Social Studies, Language Arts, Specials (Art, Gym, Music)

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History

Global Ambassadors Language Academy (GALA) was founded by Meran Rogers, a parent, educator, nonprofit administrator and community leader. In 2010, as an Executive Fellow of the Cleveland Leadership Center, Rogers began to lay the foundation for GALA by researching best practices, developing the initial plan, and garnering support in the community.

Rogers' passion to open GALA is fueled by a combination of her experience growing up in a multilingual household with immigrant parents, attending Cleveland and East Cleveland public schools, teaching third grade at a language immersion school in Taiwan, several years working in Cleveland public schools during her time at City Year and as Director of the Cleveland Campaign for Grade Level Reading, serving as Director of Community Affairs at Global Cleveland, and receiving her Masters in Nonprofit Management from Case Western Reserve University Weatherhead School of Management, and MBA and Principal License from The Ohio State University.

In 2012, the founding Board of Directors was formed. In December 2015, GALA submitted a charter school application (Academic, Operational and Financial Plan) for sponsorship to the Ohio Council for Community Schools (OCCS) and in May 2016 received Sponsorship to open in August 2016.

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Administration



Meran Rogers
Founder, Executive Director

Role:

- Capital Campaign
- Compliance
- External Relations
- Fundraising
- Governance
- Marketing
- New Facilities Project
- School Oversight
- Student Recruitment and Enrollment

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Administration



Bethany Wilson-Araujo- Principal

- Academic Leader
- Scheduling/Procedures
- Student Discipline
- Title IX Coordinator
- PFA Support

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Administration



Lauren Jasica- Assistant Principal

- Student Discipline
- Student Engagement
- Attendance
- Homeless Liaison
- Horizon Liaison
- Volunteer Management
- PFA Support

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Administration



Tim Gibbons- Director Of Finance and Operations

- Human Resources
- Finances
- Facilities
- Supply/ Inventory
- Compliance Support
- Operational Vendor Coordinator

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Administration



Anna Kearns- Operations & Enrollment Specialist

- Food Services
- Finance Support
- Human Resources Support

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Administration



Alishka Franceschi- Building Secretary

- Secretarial
- Attendance
- Record Keeping

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Administration



**Jing Votruba-K & 1st Grade ELA
Teacher & Instructional Specialist**

- ELA Teacher
- Instructional Coaching
- Teacher Support
- Curriculum

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Administration



Angel Anaky

Site Coordinator, Before
& After Care
Horizon Education
Centers

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Arrival & Dismissal

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Arrival

-Students may be dropped off as early as **8:00 AM**
(Students **cannot be dropped off earlier** than this time unless
they are enrolled in Horizon before school care)

-

- **Arrive Time: 8:00 AM- 8:30 AM**

- Gates will close at 8:30am, at that time students will enter
through the front door

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Arrival

-
- All students must enter from the **Arrival Door**. (East Church Parking Lot Door)
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- Families cannot park in East Church parking lot
- **Students are NOT to be dropped off at the Front Door Entrance from 8:00am-8:30am**

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Arrival

Instruction starts at 8:30 AM

- Students are expected to be in their classrooms at **8:30 AM.**
- Students who arrive **after 8:30 AM** will enter through the Front Door Entrance with a parent/guardian.
- The student will receive a late slip, and a parent/guardian **MUST sign them in.**

This helps prevent attendance errors and ensures student safety.

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Dismissal



Dismissal begins at 3:35 PM

- Students should be picked up **no later than 3:50 PM.**
- If a student does not attend Horizon, an off-campus daycare, or take the ODS Yellow bus, they will be dismissed from the cafeteria.

Dismissal Options:

- Walker Line
- Car Line

Car/Walker Tags Required: Please reach out to your students Homeroom teacher if you need one.



NAME: Bethany W-A

EXAMPLE

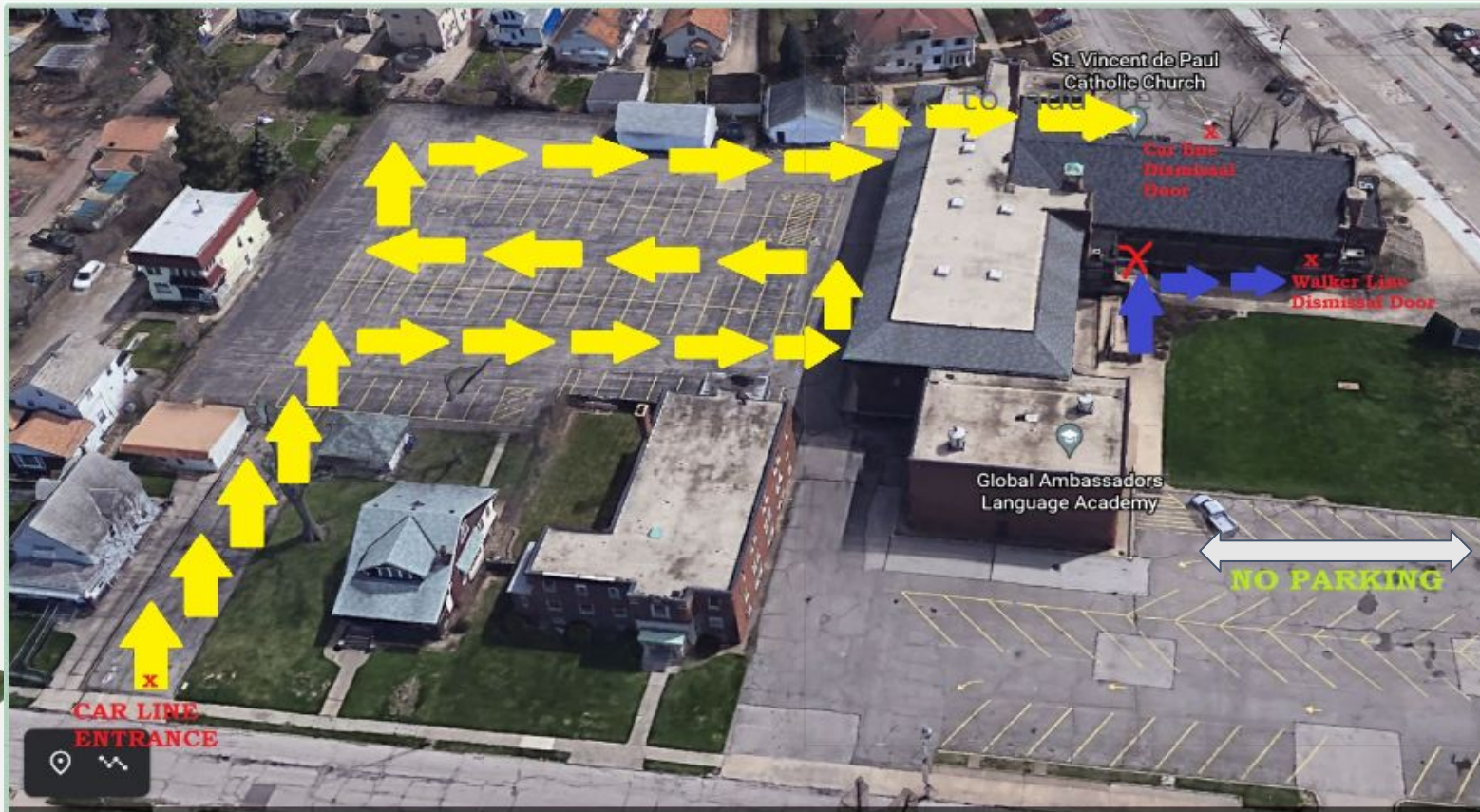
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Dismissal

- Students are encouraged and expected to stay the full academic day. (Unless for Medical/ Dental appointments)
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- **Instructional time ends at 3:30 PM**
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- **Parents/Guardians will be asked to wait in the Walker/Carline anytime after 2:45 PM .**
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- If you need to pick up your child earlier, **PLEASE call before 2:30 PM** so it is less disruptive.
- Walker/Carline: Please do not arrive prior to 3:00 PM

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Dismissal



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Dismissal

- **Late Pick Up: (After 3:50 PM)** An Authorized parent/guardian will have to be buzzed into the building and **sign out their child.**

(Late Pickups are not an option, this is situational, and only in emergency situations)

- This binder will be located by the Front Desk.

-GALA is here to support, GALA will assist in after care options if repetitive.

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ATTENDANCE

*Daily attendance is **essential** for **academic success and personal growth**. When students attend school regularly, they maximize their learning and build strong, lasting relationships.*

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ATTENDANCE Procedure

1. A parent/ guardian **must call the school by 9:00 AM** to inform the school that his/her child or children will be absent from school.
2. If a parent/guardian fails to call the school personnel will make at least one attempt within 120 minutes after the beginning of the school day in compliance with ORC 3321.141 (A)(2) to contact the parent/guardian. An automated phone call will be sent out.
3. In those cases where telephone communication could not be made, school personnel will initiate a written communication to the home of the legal guardian on the day of the student's absence.

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ATTENDANCE

All absences, whether “excused” or “unexcused,” are still considered absences. Any day your learner does not attend school is considered an absence.

Excused Absences (with documentation):

1. Personal physical illness. Absences longer than 2 days must be verified in writing by a doctor.
2. Death in the family.
3. Observance of religious holidays.
4. Court subpoena.
5. An emergency or set of circumstances that, in the school’s judgment, constitutes a good and sufficient cause for absence (Principal’s discretion).
6. Family vacations are **not** considered excused absences. (Educational excused absence is at the principal’s discretion and approval.)

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ATTENDANCE

Acknowledging and Addresses Absences Included in our attendance policy are consequences for absences, both positive and negative. They are outlined below:

1. **No Absences in a Trimester:** The child and family are congratulated and recognized for exceptional attendance and commitment to their education.
2. **Four Absences in a Trimester:** If a learner is absent four times in a Trimester, it is considered a serious issue. At this point, the parent/guardian will be called to the school to meet with the Attendance Intervention Team. At the meeting, the problem will be discussed and an attendance plan will be developed.
3. **Eight Absences in a Year:** If a learner is absent eight times in a year, it is considered a serious issue. At this point, the parent/guardian will be called to the school to meet with the Attendance Intervention Team. At the meeting, the problem will be discussed and an attendance plan will be developed.
4. **Ten Absences in a Year:** If a scholar is absent ten times in a year, it is considered a very serious issue. At this point, the student is at risk of not being promoted to the next grade. The parent/guardian will be called to the school to meet with the Attendance Intervention Team and the Executive Director. The Executive Director reserves the right to retain any student who misses more than ten days of school.

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Absenteeism Type	Consecutive Hours	Hours per School Month	Hours per School Year
Chronic Absenteeism	NA	NA	10% of total hours either <i>excused</i> or <i>unexcused</i>
Excessive Absences	NA	38 excused or unexcused hours absent <i>unless</i> the absence is medically excused	65 excused or unexcused hours absent <i>unless</i> the absence is medically excused
Habitual Truancy	30 hours <i>without</i> a legitimate excuse for the consecutive absences	42 hours <i>without</i> legitimate excuses for absences	72 hours <i>without</i> legitimate excuses for absences

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Communication

School Wide Communication Exceptions:

- Administration Expectations: Monthly Email
- Teachers Expectations: At least once a month
- Class DoJo: school wide stories, intermediate communication for upcoming events.
- Robo calls (automated phone calls): School & Horizon closures, bus delays
- Red Take Home Folders: homework, planning, schedules, school information, communication with teachers and families

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Visitors

Visitor Policy

- **All visitors must be pre-planned** (scheduled meeting, volunteers, tours, substitutes).
- Visitors **MUST** enter through the **Front Entrance**.
- Visitors **MUST** sign GALA's visitor sign-in sheet.
- Visitors **MUST** wear a **Visitor's Pass** while on campus.

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Dress Code: Part 1

Shirts/Tops

Solid: Light Blue, Navy Blue, or White

- Blouses with collars
- Button Dress shirts
- Polo shirts
- Turtlenecks

*All shirts have a collar

Sweaters:

Solid: Black, Navy Blue, or White

- Cardigans
- Vests
- Sweaters

****NO Hoodies****

***GALA spirit wear tops and GALA Hoodies may also be worn any time with dress code.**



The dress code is subject to change on designated school spirit days, scheduled dollar dress down days, or when specific permission is granted.

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Dress Code: Part 2

Bottoms / Pants:

Solid: Black, Navy Blue, Khaki Tan

- Pants, Slacks, or Capris
- Shorts (**knee-length**)
- Skirts or Skorts (**knee-length or longer**)
- Dress Jumpers (**knee-length or longer**)



***No jeans, no athletic shorts, denim, or sweatpants, leggings**

Shoes

- Gym shoes preferred, not required
- Shoes must cover the entire foot

***No open-toe shoes, no flip-flops, no sandals**

****If you need assistance with clothing, please contact Lauren Jasica (Ms. J)****

The dress code is subject to change on designated school spirit days, scheduled dollar dress down days, or when specific permission is granted.

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Family and Student Handbook Agreement



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Code Of Conduct Agreement



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GALA Student/Guardian Technology Contract



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PBIS

Positive Behavioral Interventions &
Support

[PBIS](#)

*Class DoJo Points

*Celebrations

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PFA

The purpose of the GALA PFA is to enhance and support the educational experience at GALA, to develop a closer connection between school and home by encouraging parental involvement, support extracurricular activities (field trips, field day, and schoolwide community events) and to improve the environment at GALA through volunteer and financial support.

The GALA **PFA meets monthly**, represents the school community, engages families in the operations of the school, provides feedback to guide school leadership, raises concerns to be addressed, contributes to the development of the school environment and culture, and organizes volunteers, educational enrichment programming, and school events.

Questions? Contact: PFA@GALACleveland.org

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Cell Phones, Smart Watches & Tech Accessories

***No Cell Phone** use during school hours 8:00 AM-3:50 PM

*Middle School: Put Lock box at the start of the day in with their Homeroom Teacher.

*Elementary: Remains in book bag during school hours.

*No Smart Watches

*No personal electronics

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Health Action Plans

If your child has a medical condition that requires the support of the School Nurse, or your child will need to take any medication during the school day, a Health Action Plan will need to be completed.

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Lunch

- Students may bring their own lunch from home or purchase a hot lunch.
 - Students are **not permitted** to use the microwave.
- Ordering food or having food delivered from outside vendors is NOT permitted.

LUNCHROOM BEHAVIOR

Students are expected to conduct themselves with courtesy and refinement while in the lunchroom. Failure to do so will result in losing the privilege of eating in the cafeteria.

Students are expected to clean up after themselves

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Additionally

***Gum Free campus**

**No Toys policy: please
keep all toys/ personal
items at home.**

(unless permission is granted)

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Horizon

Before and After School Care: Please contact
Angel Alanaky
Angelanaky@horizonohio.org

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We truly appreciate your time and attention to these important updates! We are excited to see what this school year holds and look forward to working together to make it a memorable and successful experience for all our students!

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