

# Girard Family Newsletter

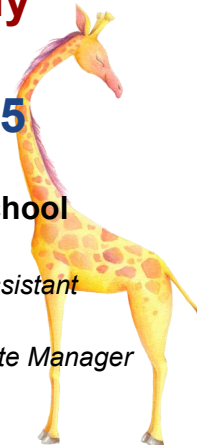
## January 2025

### Stephen Girard School

Liz Walls, Principal

Tamika Washington, Assistant Principal

Jerome McCalla, Climate Manager  
[girard.philasd.org](http://girard.philasd.org)



### Principal's Message

Greetings Families-

Greetings, Families! I can't believe that we are wrapping up the year 2024 already. We have so enjoyed the past month with your amazing children, and we are looking forward to an amazing year in 2025.

We are working on starting a media lab at Girard. Our Hat Day Dress Down on 1/10 will cost \$1 and will support our media lab project. You can view our [Donors Choose](#) for this project, also

We are encouraging all families to fill out the School Building Stakeholder Feedback Survey to advocate for our school and district's facilities needs [.bit.ly/sdp-facilitiesurvey](https://bit.ly/sdp-facilitiesurvey)

Kindergarten registration for the 25-26 school year opens January 21, 2025. Online registrations are preferred. For more information, please visit <https://www.philasd.org/student-placement/kindergarten-registration/>

We wish everyone a safe and joyful New Year! We look forward to seeing all of our students back on Monday, January 6.

Principal Walls

### School-wide News:

#### Notes from Nurse McCoy:

#### The Dentist is Visiting!



January 10th, January 17th, January 21st, January 22nd, January 23rd, January 24th, January 27th, and January 28th

Please [click here](#) to sign up!

#### MEDICATION PICK UP & DROP OFF

If your student will require medication administration this school year please bring the medication and the [MED-1 FORM](#) completed by the prescribing physician to the nurse. Medication must be inside a labeled "Prescription Box" when delivered to the School Nurse. An adult MUST do medication drop-off.

#### 2024-2025 School Year Calendar:

Click on the following link to see the District's calendar for the school year.

<https://www.philasd.org/calendar/#1675253918736-686a6997-ec5c>

January 2025	
6	Return from Winter Break!
10	\$1.00 Dress down HAT day
15	<i>Picture Retake Day</i>
17	School Tour for current and new families 8:30 AM
20	<b>SCHOOLS CLOSED MLK Jr</b>
21	Kindergarten Registration opens 25-26 School Year
22	Al Bustan Performance
29	<b>SCHOOLS CLOSED Lunar NY</b>
30	11:45 AM Dismissal Report Card Conferences
31	11:45 AM Dismissal Report Card Conferences



## Counseling Corner

We have winter coats available for students who may need one. Contact your child's teacher to request one.

In January, students will receive Safe Touch or Understanding Boundaries workshops in their classrooms.

You can preview the family letter about this [here](#).

## Important Reminders For All Families

Our school hours are from 8:15am - 2:45pm during regular days, and 8:15 am-11:45 am on half days (aka early dismissal days).

Students who arrive after 8:30 must enter through the main entrance on Dorrance Street and will receive a late slip at the welcome desk before being escorted to their class. Parents are not allowed to accompany their child to their classroom.

A reminder that we will not be calling students out of class during school hours for situations such as receiving a lunch from a parent. We are happy to deliver items and messages to students in their classrooms.

Breakfast is available at no charge every morning in the classroom at the start of the day. Lunch is also available at no charge.

There are no early dismissals granted after 2:15 pm. Dogs are not allowed on the schoolyard, playgrounds, and school garden at any time, with the exception of service animals for safety reasons.

Students are not permitted to remain in the schoolyard after school without adult supervision and must leave right away.

## Family Fun Ideas Looking For Fun Things to Do With the Kids?

Click on the following links for a list of fun things to do this season:

[Dilworth Park](#)  
[Philly Out and About](#)

## Stay Connected and Know What's Going On At Girard:

Website: [girard.philasd.org](http://girard.philasd.org)  
[Instagram](#) @sgirardes  
[Facebook](#) stephengirardes

## News From Our Specialist Staff...

### S.T.E.M.

Happy New Year and welcome to 2025! This January we will be completing the unit on the Solar System and starting our unit on ROCKS! We will study the different types of rock, where they are found, and hopefully, shine up some rocks we find outside! (Yes, I purchased a rock tumbler! 😊)

Please encourage your student to look for special or interesting rocks around the neighborhood to show me; however I'm only asking for 1! Check out this [website](#) to learn more!

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to reach out on ClassDojo or email me at [mcyanga@philasd.org](mailto:mcyanga@philasd.org).



### P.E.

Happy New Year! I hope everyone had a restful holiday break. Students will be learning about throwing/catching this month and will be playing different games to help them get better at these skills.

Always try your best!  
Mr. Bordner

### ART

#### Happy New Year!!

This month students will begin working on drawing portraits! We will focus on symmetry and proportion.

Connect to Girard School's Art Class by using Artsonia to receive important updates on your child's art classroom activity. You can order your child's artwork on t-shirts, keychains, etc., as gifts! You can browse [www.artsonia.com/parents](http://www.artsonia.com/parents) and enter this Parent Code 7SWNR3P7

Respectfully,  
Julieann Julia, Art Teacher

## Advocacy Alert!

Share your feedback directly with the School District on facilities conditions and renovations that are needed at Girard by taking the School Building Stakeholder Feedback Survey. This survey will only take 5 minutes and is available in 13 languages. Make your voice heard! We're not sure what the deadline is for responses so better to take the survey today!

[bit.ly/sdp-facilitiessurvey](http://bit.ly/sdp-facilitiessurvey)

## Students of the Month and Most Improved For December:

- 100- Sultan Mulk/Fanta Diomande
- 101- Aylane Djerdi/Luna Murray
- 200-Mohamed Koumiche/Chahd Benali
- 202- Ayan Bey/ Zane Makhtany
- 203- Abigail Dy/Rahgee Thomas-Davis
- 204- Eva Prak/Aarao Pace-Wingfield
- 206- Ziri Djerroud/Emmanuel Ceballos
- 210- Kamryn Massey/Wilbert Tan
- 300- Khi'lee Williams/Elena Hampton
- 302- Sabrina Campbell/Terrence Wells
- 303- Timothy Maoxomphu꜀/ Jaylie Nop
- 304- Almir Ali/Amelia Williams
- 305- Jennifer Truong/Benjamin Malena

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