

# GLOBAL COMPASS

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## GATOR TIME EXPLAINED

By Adriana Munoz

A major change to the Global Concepts High School schedule this year has students confused.

For the 2023-24 school year, the school has added two block-schedule days to the week, including a period in the middle of the day called “Gator Time.” In the beginning of the school year, students were not in the right place because they did not understand the initial scheduling.

Now, the administration is taking steps to make sure students get the most out of this new opportunity. Charles Clark, Community Outreach Coordinator and chair of the Gator Time Committee, believes that students will not only have friendships, but learn new things.

“Gator Time is a new place where

students not only build relationships but learn something different,” said Clark.

Jack Turner, the Principal of Curriculum and Instruction at Global Concepts, believes that the new change will have a positive impact on student engagement.

“Gator Time on a technical level is a period of time during the day in which all students and staff are generally available, flexible, and accomplishing the goals of the day... where students are provided academic support” said Turner.

In past school years, school days had eight or nine periods a day that were between 42 to 48 minutes long. This is still the case for every Monday, Tuesday, and Friday. However, the block days each have four periods that are 83 minutes long with 90 minutes in the middle of the day that make up a period called “Gator Time”

Tralina Middlebrooks, Principal of Global Concepts High School, believes that students developing and adapting to high school is important while the goals of Gator Time are twofold: the first half hour being for team building and Social Emotional learning, the second half hour allowing teachers to work more closely with students.

“[We want to] help students learn some of the coping skills, learn the experience of high school, learn skills in terms of how to interact with others [in the first half hour],” said Middlebrooks. “And then the second half of that hour is where if students are struggling, teachers can pull those students to have

more time to work with them on skills that they’re lacking... The 45- or the 47-minute time period does not give teachers enough teachable time to work with those students.”

Turner confirms the twofold idea.



“Besides the academic part, there is another part that those who are thinking about Social Emotional Learning and helping the kids while at school.”

According to Turner, Gator Time has a time set aside for assemblies and speakers or presentations, and it can be used as a guided time of inspiration.

Moving forward, the administration will continue to educate students about the block scheduling to clear up any misinterpretations of the new schedule.

**“Change begins at the end of your comfort zone”**  
~ Roy T. Bennett

## FOOTBALL KICKS OFF INAUGURAL SEASON



By Ronald Graves

Students at Global Concepts Charter High School have been asking for a football team for multiple years. Now, for the 2023 season, students finally have an opportunity to play.

This past offseason, Global Concepts merged with two other schools, Health Sciences and Buffalo Academy of Science, to form this year's Health Sciences Charter School Falcons, coached by a staff that has a history of winning championships. This year's team reached the New York State Sportswriters Association's ranking of No. 7 in the state in the month of September after starting the season 4-0.

"Being a part of this team feels special," said Global senior and varsity linebacker Francis Frimpong. "Like, I feel like this is our year to actually go all the way."

John Klein, athletic director at Global Concepts says this process started over two years ago.

"Knowing the size of our school's population," Klein said, "our school administrators... and the other charter schools thought it'd be better for us to try to merge with them... instead of creating our own."

Shawndale Lipscomb, a Global sophomore and junior varsity cornerback, said he is happy the schools merged. "If we weren't combined with any other school, we wouldn't have a football team because nobody here plays football," Lipscomb said. "I wanted to play football. I've been playing football my whole life... Football is one of the best sports out here."



Angel Valentin, a Global junior and varsity fullback, said the workouts are exhausting, but they definitely keep the team in shape.

"Our coaches are all football players from high school, college, and pros," Valentin said. "They work us hard. One practice, we ran like a 1000 yards at, back and forth and back and forth. It was tiring."

Freshman cornerback Dan Elvin sums practice up as "Going over

plays. Stretching. Conditioning... and more conditioning."

Because Global only has four players this year, two on varsity and two on junior varsity, Frimpong hopes for a better turnout in the future.

"I hope more people want to come and join that team," he said, "because that team's going to get better and better."

### UPCOMING...

#### October

18 Music is Art Jazz Festival  
20 Early Release  
24 CEO conference, staff only

#### November

03 Homecoming Dance 7-10pm  
09 K8 Veterans Day Ceremony  
10 Veterans Day  
17 Early Release  
22-24 Recess  
28 Early Release  
28 Parent Conferences 1-7 pm

### RECIPE OF THE MONTH Dessert Crepes Recipe

2 eggs  
1 cup milk  
1/2 teaspoon salt  
1 cup flour  
2 tablespoons butter, melted  
2 tablespoons granulated sugar  
1 teaspoon vanilla



In a mixing bowl whip eggs & milk until blended. Add salt & flour. Whisk until smooth. Finish with melted butter. Mix well. Using a small 8" Teflon skillet, pour a small amount of batter in the HOT skillet. Twirl the pan so batter covers the entire bottom. Brown one side for a minute. Shake, flip and repeat. Fold the crepe over and let it melt for one minute. ~Thank you Chef Krista