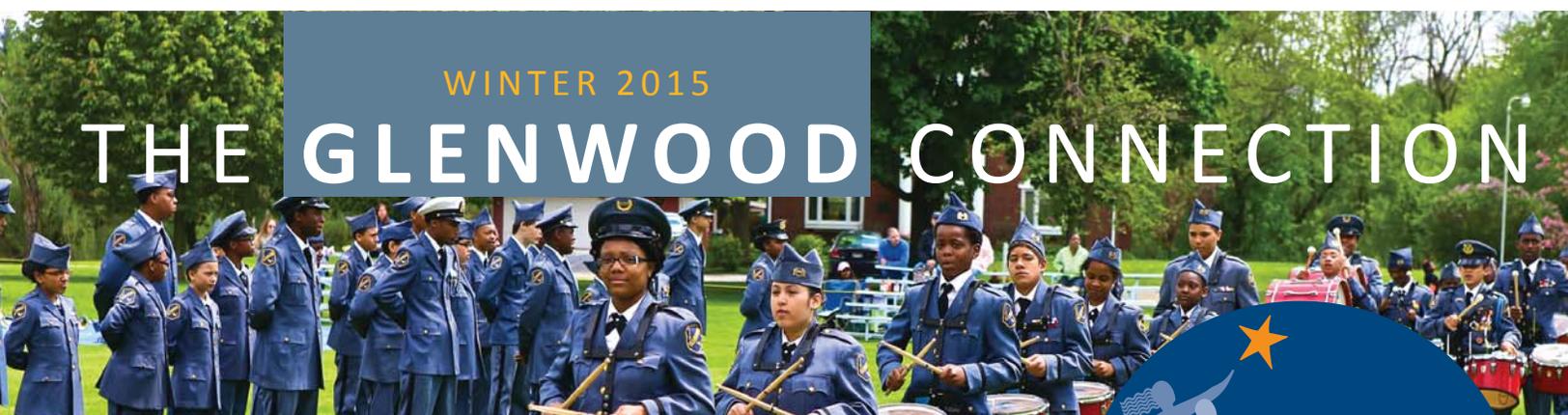


WINTER 2015

THE GLENWOOD CONNECTION



Glenwood Academy nurtures and educates at-risk children by inspiring excellence, building character and strengthening community.



LIVE LEARN SUCCEED

MESSAGE FROM PRINCIPAL CARTER

At Glenwood, we are driven by a passion to provide a quality comprehensive educational program to our students while meeting their individual needs both academically and social-emotionally. This passion guides our vision to fundamentally transform the way we approach teaching and learning.

As the new Vice President of Academic Affairs, I am excited about the 2014-2015 school year. We are working diligently to assess our students and build our instruction around our students' individual needs. Examples include Let's Go Learn, a diagnostic assessment given to all of our students to assess where the student is academically; NWEA, a national normative assessment that adapts to the students' responses which is taken twice a year; and our Resource Program which focusses on small group instruction to meet the learning needs of our students. Simultaneously, our high school students continue to succeed with exceedingly strong academic performance at both Bloom Township and Marian Catholic High School.

In addition, we have launched some smaller more frequent incentives to our students. We recognize Students of the Month, each month two students (one elementary and one junior high) are nominated by their teachers; Masterpiece of the Week, which recognizes and displays student art work, and our merit system which

rewards students daily for good behavior.

Glenwood Academy has recently received a National Junior Honors Society Chapter. This will allow Glenwood to recognize student leaders that are making significant differences at both Glenwood and in the communities.

Although the academic improvements and accomplishments are impressive, I am extremely proud of our commitment to building a welcoming school community where students can celebrate their growth. We are a school full of smiles and happy students. This is the ultimate joy of being a principal.

As we immerse ourselves in a new school year, we will continue to be reflective and explore new avenues to educate our students. In the same vein, we have set measurable goals that challenge us to be better educators. As a faculty, we are guided by the simple question: What can we do to better serve our students?

I invite you to view our website and learn more about our school. It is our hope that you find Glenwood Academy as an excellent school option and valuable community partner.

Warm regards,
Colleen M. Conlan-Carter, Ed. D.
Principal

NEW WEBSITE

Throughout the fall, the Glenwood Development Department has been working with Blackbaud to redesign our school's website. This redesign enables our team to:

- generate more excitement around what's going on at Glenwood.
- let people know what's happening on campus instantly.
- tell people about our upcoming events.
- boast about the accomplishments of our students
- proudly tell the stories of our graduates.
- let parents and potential students know about the wonderful community Glenwood has.
- allow donors to fully understand in an in-depth way what programs and projects they are supporting.

And, the new website will also feature a mobile component. No matter the size of your smartphone or tablet, the site will adjust to your screen size for easier reading.

We're very excited about this new endeavor, so be sure to check us out at www.glenwoodacademy.org. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Sheila Quinn at 708-756-5104 or via email at squinn@glenwoodacademy.org.

STUDENTS VISIT WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

Earlier this fall, a group of our high school students took a field trip to Western Michigan University in Kalamazoo, Michigan. This trip was enlightening to our students, and truly opened their eyes to the next adventure of their lives: college.

The students were greeted by two upperclassmen who gave them a tour of the campus. They were led by the tour guides through the main sections of campus, which was expansive and beautiful. Students were also shown two different dorm rooms, and they remarked on how small the rooms were.

The tour included a chat with Dr. John Dunn, the president of the university. Dr. Dunn remarked how the university has changed to reflect the changing times and students. In the 1960s, the philosophy was to point out that most students would not remain enrolled past their first year. However, they have changed that approach to enhance each individual student's goals.

"We do everything we can to help every student be successful," Dr.

Dunn explained.

Dr. Dunn mentioned tutoring centers which are available all day to support students, and how safety on campus is of utmost importance as well. The campus is broadly spread and there are buses that run throughout the day, taking students to their destinations.

Western Michigan is well known as a top-notch engineering school. The students learned that engineering is not simply building bridges, but also developing technology, packaging for products, designing systems and video games. The university has extensive labs, which the kids were able to tour as well as observe classes in session. They were also truly captivated by the two models of solar-powered cars that have been developed at WMU.

What was the thing that impressed our students the MOST? The cafeteria.

Everyone was blown away by the options that are available at any time, day or night. Apparently, pizza is still the most important thing to a 17 year old.

Our students were so impressed by what they saw, and how college can change their lives.



ANNUAL PLEDGE SERVICE



On Thursday, December 18, we celebrated the holiday season with our annual Pledge Service and Holiday Dinner. This event, which is the culmination of students raising money for charities, marks our student's commitment to community service. This year, students voted to support White Sox Charities.

A festive atmosphere greeted everyone in the Irwin Family Center. Maura West, and all Kidshop participants really went all out this year with the decorations. This also included a beautiful Christmas tree, generously donated by Peter and Heidi Higgins, a tradition Heidi continues in honor of her mother, Diane Getschow.

Almost 200 students, staff and guests enjoyed a scrumptious turkey dinner with all the trimmings. The dinner also included a performance by the Glenwood chorus, and a visit from Santa Claus and his reindeer!

During the Pledge Service in the chapel, students re-affirm their commitment to giving back to the community. Each cottage takes part in decorating the Christmas tree, and sings a Christmas carol.

The evening concluded with a festive gathering at the Smith House, hosted by our president, Mary Hollie, and her family.



The team from ComEd volunteered to build a KaBOOM playground at Glenwood in 2008. Not only has ComEd, and its employees, supported us with donations over the years, but they have given their time, too. We are truly grateful to continue to partner with ComEd.

PARTNER SPOTLIGHT: COMED GOES ABOVE AND BEYOND

Beginning in 1983, ComEd has been a generous supporter of Glenwood Academy. The relationship began slowly; simple letters from our Board Chairman Lee Getschow to Jim O'Connor, the president of Commonwealth Edison, inviting Jim to see our campus and meet some of our students. As this relationship grew, Lee would reach out to Jim every few months with simple letters, explaining the achievements of our students and how these young men were blossoming.

ComEd steadily remained involved with supporting Glenwood through multi-year grants. Even while ComEd was going through some financially difficult times in the early 1990s, their support of Glenwood remained.

Tom Maiman, a former executive with ComEd, attended our annual Thanksgiving Luncheon. It turned out that Tom

had a personal connection to Glenwood; his nephew was a student. Tom understood the necessity for Glenwood – we are here to help those students and families who find themselves going through a difficult time, who find themselves needing help in some way. Tom saw firsthand how his nephew began to develop as a man, and what a positive place Glenwood was for him.

Also in the early 1990s, ComEd began to support Glenwood's special events as well. The Glenwood Pro-Am and the Thanksgiving Luncheon have garnered support from ComEd for many years.

ComEd continued to support Glenwood through various multi-year grants over the years. Beginning in 2010, Charles (Chuck) Walls, Vice President of Customer Financial Ops, has been a member of our Board of Trustees. Chuck has taken a strong personal interest

in our students at Glenwood. He was raised on the south side of Chicago and greatly benefitted from various helping hands growing up. He chose to become involved with Glenwood because he believes in 'paying it forward'.

Chuck has been an integral part of the Thanksgiving Luncheon and we are truly grateful for his personal support as well. His valued expertise helps guide Glenwood to make the best decisions for our students.

ComEd focuses their community support in a number of areas, with education being a cornerstone of this support. Glenwood has benefitted greatly from ComEd's continuing support of our mission. They are truly a wonderful partner and we are very appreciative of the investment they have made in our students!

CORNERSTONE SOCIETY LUNCHEON



President Mary Hollie speaks at the Cornerstone Society Luncheon. Students, staff and society members celebrated their partnership.

On September 9, Glenwood Academy welcomed nearly 30 guests for the annual Cornerstone Society Luncheon. This annual event is an opportunity to honor Cornerstone Society members. Members of this important club include Glenwood in their estate giving plans. We also welcomed members of the Board of Trustees including Chairman Mark T. Wight as the event host. Other alumni, donors and constituents also attended. Mary Hollie, President and CEO, was the featured speaker and discussed her vision for Glenwood and passion for our children and their families.

The highlight of the event was hearing from 7th grader Elijah D. Elijah poignantly shared how Glenwood helped him to have a safe home away from the violent area he resides in with his great-grandmother. Guests were overwhelmed to hear how he feels Glenwood is more than a home; it's his family. Elijah did such a great job that he was asked to be a featured speaker at this year's 66th Annual Thanksgiving Luncheon. A big job for an extraordinary boy!

We are deeply grateful to the Cornerstone members who were in attendance. As a token of our gratitude, each member received a special Cornerstone pin to commemorate their membership. The real gift is for children like Elijah, who because of the legacy Cornerstone members make to Glenwood, he and hundreds of others can call Glenwood home for many years to come.

Over the last 10 years, approximately \$9 million in legacy gifts have been made to Glenwood. While many of these legacy gifts are made by members of the Board of Trustees and major donors, we receive several estate plans from donors who on average make annual gifts of less than \$500. In addition

to ensuring that Glenwood can continue to help at-risk children in our area, there are significant tax benefits for members. These are few ways estate gifts can be made to Glenwood:

- retirement assets
- securities
- real estate
- life insurance
- charitable gift annuities

Most of these assets have yet to be taxed before a person's death. *An individual's beneficiaries will owe the income tax, totaling up to 39.6 percent, which may be reason enough to consider giving to Glenwood while still providing for your loved ones.* If you have already made estate plans to benefit Glenwood or are interested in making an estate gift, please contact Allison Steinhauser, Director of Major and Planned Giving at 312-371-2418. We also have resources to help with complex charitable estate planning.

Thanks to Cornerstone Members who attended this year's luncheon!

Captain Jack Day, Gretchen Hannan, Blanche Hill, Harry and Marie Hostetler, Oscar Lewis, Lael and Char Mathis, Craig Stern, Mark T. Wight, Joyce Weckwert



ANNUAL THANKSGIVING LUNCHEON IS A GREAT SUCCESS



Students enjoying the day at the Thanksgiving Luncheon.

Our 66th Annual Thanksgiving Luncheon was held at the Chicago Marriott Downtown Magnificent Mile on Wednesday, November 19, 2014. Over 500 guests attended the event and helped surpass our goal to raise \$800,000!

Attendees were greeted by the Glenwood Jazz band and the student “paparazzi” cheering them in as they entered the ballroom. Once guests were seated, a student duo kicked off the event with a rendition of “Lean on Me.” Student speakers led the group in prayer before guests enjoyed a delicious lunch.

During the program, guests were updated on Vashawn S. through a video and got to see how far he has come since he started at Glenwood in 2010 and hear what the future holds for him. Guests were then introduced to Elijah D. At a very young age Elijah was legally adopted by his great-grandmother, Eula. This is after his mother was “lost to the streets” and his grandmother was in no condition to take care of him.



The Glenwood Turkey was created in KidShop!

Eula is in her late 70s and is quite strong of spirit. She lives on a fixed income and unfortunately there are times when she is without heat and her food budget can become very restricted. She turned to Glenwood for help in raising Elijah. As he said in his speech, “Glenwood is more than a school and teachers, more than a cottage of students and house parents, beautiful grounds and wonderful people; above all else Glenwood is family.”

The luncheon also featured a live auction and a paddle raise. This year, guests were able to bid on four fantastic packages including an “Instant Wine Cellar” that included over 100 bottles of wine to start or enhance anyone’s collection; a celebrity golf trip for three with Jay Haas that included private airfare to Sage Valley Golf Club in South Carolina; a fabulous trip for 6 to a private villa in Puerto Vallarta, Mexico; and a Bahamas Private Yacht trip including private airfare. The live auction contributed \$95,000 to Glenwood.

After the live auction, the paddle raise, which is an opportunity for attendees to make direct donations to Glenwood, raised \$220,000! We are so grateful to our generous supporters.

Auctioneer David Goodman, once again engaged the crowd in a game of heads or tails to win an iPad. As the game came to its conclusion, only students were standing. In the end, our generous trustees kindly donated iPads to all the remaining students in the game making a fantastic lead into the Paddle raise.

Special thanks to our dedicated Thanksgiving Luncheon Committee - Chairman Boris Elisman, Norman Wesley, Mark Wight and Peter McDonald. Your dedication truly helped make this event remarkable.

Thank you to everyone who joined us! This event was such a success because of your continuing support. We look forward to seeing you next year!



Glenwood Trustee Norm Wesley and friend attend the luncheon.

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ONE OF GLENWOOD'S OLDEST ALUMNUS PASSES

On September 27, 2014, Glenwood Alumni Clarence "Press" Pressgrove passed away in Lake Worth, Florida, at the age of 91.

Originally from a small town in southern Illinois, Press's life began to unravel at a young age. When he was 6 years old, his father died, and a few years later, his mother ended up in a mental institution. While Press did have many aunts and uncles, no one was willing to take him in and care for him. He eventually became a ward of Kane County. A Kane County case worker reached out to W. A. Michael, Glenwood's superintendent. Press was accepted as a student and enrolled at Glenwood in 1935 at the age of 12. He was a fine student and showed interest in running the Bible study class. Press was a student until his eighth grade graduation in 1938.

At the time, Glenwood Academy was actually named Glenwood Manual Training School. Once Clarence graduated, he entered the U.S. Army Air Forces. He remarked later in life that Glenwood's military training prepared him well for the Air Force and that his marching skills were so top-notch that other men would ask for his assistance. He truly gained their respect for this skill.

After initially going through ordnance school, Press decided to become a gunner. He became a right gunner on a B-29 dubbed The Peacemaker. The Peacemaker completed several mis-

sions before encountering imminent danger.

On March 28, 1945, the plane's number-three engine was hit by a Japanese flak boat. A fire broke out and headed toward the B-29's gas tank. The pilot gave the signal to bail out.

The men landed on Kyushu Island, and were captured. For five months, he endured interrogations, beatings, a severely restricted diet of rice, and solitary confinement in cells 6 feet long and 3 feet wide. On Aug. 29, 1945 - three weeks after his 22nd birthday - Press was freed.

About a year later, he was discharged and began to reestablish his life outside of the military. Press was first a purchasing agent and then eventually, an insurance salesman. Press' first marriage resulted in two children, and he and his wife adopted a third. But the marriage eventually ended in divorce. He later met and wed the woman he describes as the love of his life. After 32 years of marriage, his wife, Patricia, died in her sleep from a massive heart attack in 1999.

In 2003, Press was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross for his heroism in 1945.

When Press spoke of Glenwood, he often mentioned how this school truly made him a man. While it was hard at first, eventually, he came to love the school, the other boys and his house-

parents. Glenwood truly became a family for him.

Press was an active alumni, creating videos for students and also contributing to the Alumni Association for more than 20 years.

"Press was a fabulous human being. He got the best results out of the worst circumstances," his friend, Ross Rowli-son remembers.

Press still had tons of energy toward the end of his life. When he passed at the age of 91, he was still mentally as sharp as a tack, but sadly, physically, he was not doing that well.

What an honor it is to have Press as a Glenwood Alumni. He will be truly missed.



VOLUNTEERS BEAUTIFY CAMPUS

For the third consecutive year, Isaac Ebewya of the Maintenance Department, has coordinated and lead a group of volunteers to beautify our campus. These volunteers donate a day to rake leaves around the school buildings and spread mulch in the playground.

This annual event is made possible through the cooperation of LSCC church's "Faith In Action" Sunday program throughout the month of October.

A special thanks is extended to Tony Talarico, Maintenance Director, for not only making this happen, but for also being the 43rd hardworking volunteer.

THANK YOU!

Thank you to all of our generous foundation and individual supporters! Without you, our mission would not be realized and our students would not receive a great education, structure and support system that they deserve.

Abra Prentice Foundation, Inc., George A. Bates Memorial Foundation,
The Berner Charitable and Scholarship Fund, Cole-Crone Family Foundation,
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The Estate of Mrs. Diane Getschow,
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Mr. Louis J. Weber, Weinberg Annual Golf Outing for Glenwood

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Save the Date!

LIVE LEARN SUCCEED



The Kids Carnival includes face painting, video games and carnival games!

Join Glenwood Academy on Friday, April 17, 2015 for our annual Community Celebration!

This festive event will feature delicious treats from local restaurants, breweries and cafes, along with a Kids Carnival and a silent auction for the adults. It's a fun night for the whole family!

Tickets are \$65 for an adult ticket (\$75 at the door) and \$10 for kids. For more information, please contact Director of Special Events, Jessica Schulte at 708-756-6633 or jschulte@glenwoodacademy.org.

Thanksgiving Luncheon

Cornerstone Society Luncheon

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