



## **Gator Time**

In our pursuit of excellence in student achievement, Global Concepts Charter (GCC) High School and the Safe & Civil school committee, has established a revised school schedule. The new schedule includes two days of extended learning, often called block scheduling by other school districts. The Safe & Civil committee visited area school districts, namely, West Seneca and Orchard Park school districts, to assess the logistics and the benefits of block scheduling and determined it is the direction we will take at GCC High School two days of the week.

On Wednesdays students will attend the first four periods of their schedule. These four periods will be extended from the usual 45 minutes to 90 minutes. Following the same manner, on Thursdays, students will attend the last four periods of their normal school schedule. On each of these extended learning days, students will experience Gator Time in the middle of the day. Gator Time is the name GCC is giving to the time in the middle of the day on the Wednesdays and Thursdays extended learning schedule.

Gator Time includes two half hour periods. Gator Time is a period of time during the school day when students receive supplementary instruction without disrupting the core curriculum subject areas. Gator Time is a way to bridge student achievement gaps. It is a flex time that works outside of the typical classroom structure.

- Takes place on Wednesdays and Thursdays opposite lunch, in the middle of the day
- Gator Time is a multi-purpose time that allows for the school to attend to:
  - Community Building / Some Assemblies / Class Meetings
  - Safe and Civil Activities
  - Aspects of Project Based Learning (PBL) such as working with experts
  - Student advisement
  - Encourage student literacy in reading and writing
- All students and instructional staff take part in Gator Time.
- All students and instructional staff are assigned to a group in a classroom.

GCC is committed to expanding student learning and achievement in our determination to help students be career and college ready. The extended learning (90 minute classes) on Wednesdays and Thursdays give teachers time to help students learn more deeply, and apply their learning in practical applications. This allows more time for students to internalize and develop their metacognitive learning which results in the promotion of collaborative learning, stronger focus, and individualized learning. Teachers can better differentiate their lessons by working with individual students as needed. The Gator Time hour in the middle of the day is designed to give all students the extra support they need to be successful.