ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT
What is one major lesson Great Oaks Legacy has taught you after graduating high school?
A major lesson that Great Oaks taught me is to never give up and that it’s okay to ask for help. Throughout my GOL years, teachers and tutors would push me beyond my limits. Even when I did not believe I could surpass their high expectations, I was able to. They allowed me to feel confident in school. If I needed help they would help me, no questions asked. At GOL, my teachers never made me feel like a burden when I asked for help. Now if I need help in college or in life, I feel comfortable asking for help.

What is one memory you have during your time at Great Oaks Legacy?
A memory I have from Great Oaks Legacy is when I was part of the basketball team. I would have long days at school and right after would get on the bus for the games. The games would sometimes be 1 hour away. Those bus rides were the best! Those games were the best! On my way back, I would try to do my homework on the bus before I got home and would end up falling asleep on the bus.

What advice would you give to the 8th grade you?
The advice that I would give my 8th-grade self is to work hard! Even if you feel like you cannot do something or like you will never be able to get into college, keep working hard and stay motivated. GOL prepares you for college and they are with you until the end. I am good enough to go to college! I am smart enough to go to college. If you give up or keep thinking about how hard things are or are going to be in the future, then you will miss out on your High School memories. Just enjoy yourself and keep pushing!

What are your future aspirations?
In the future, I want to start up my own music company and open up a few clubs around the world. I want to work for myself and be a businessman.

CURRICULUM HIGHLIGHTS
9th Grade Biology with Ms Ahmed
The Biology course offered at Great Oaks Legacy Charter High School offers a hands-on approach to learning science. Students participate in engaging labs and are able to test their hypotheses using the scientific method. This week, students are designing an experiment to compare the rate of osmosis of different solutions. Additionally, students are developing integral life-long skills such as the analysis of data, effective note taking, problem solving, and much more! Students are pushed to support their claims and ideas by providing evidence and reasoning. Through this approach, students are developing a biological lens through which they can view their surroundings.
1. **Change your Mindset** - Leave all of the baggage that you have carried with you from kindergarten to eighth grade at your eighth grade graduation. When you come to high school, the figurative white board in your mind is wiped clean. The drama, gossip, and bad interactions with adults or peers are in the past!

2. **Be Humble** - Always ask for help. Statistics show that students who ask for help are more likely to succeed. This is because the student is confident in knowing that receiving help does not imply that they are not smart, but that they are resourceful. Be resourceful, respectfully speak up for yourself and get the help that you deserve.

3. **First impressions matter!** - The person who writes your recommendation letter for college remembers the first time they met you. There are some adults that you will be closer to than others, but you must always be mindful of how you carry yourself, and that should be with respect and professionalism.

4. **“Birds of a feather flock together”** - Be an eagle! You are the company you keep and this is true not only in high school, but college. Surround yourself with friends who have personal and academic goals for their future.

5. **Always respect and love yourself** - Saying doubtful and hurtful things about yourself only brings down your self confidence. Remember that self love can make even the shyest people feel unstoppable.

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**Sports & Enrichment**

At GOLCHS, we offer a variety of different enrichments and sports. This newsletter highlights two select groups each issue.

**Girls Volleyball**

GOLCHS was proud to finish their inaugural girls volleyball season with a win against People’s Prep. The match was point for point, but ultimately the Eagles secured the victory! The volleyball coaches were impressed with the team’s spirit and commitment to get better. Head Coach Lombana, predicts an even stronger season next year.

**Musical Theater Club**

Musical Theater Club has provided a new creative outlet to GOLCHS students this year. From carolling during the winter holidays to preparing to see West Side Story on Broadway, these young creatives study music and hone their talents every week. The Club looks forward to performing at this years talent showcase in May.

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**DID YOU KNOW**

- Some of our seniors have been given the opportunity to enroll in Rutgers University courses. They travel to the campus after school and take courses with college students!
- The high school students are gearing up for AP exams in May. Passing these exams earns college credit before you even step foot on a campus!
- Senior Signing Day happens in May! Seniors announce their college choices in front of the entire school in a big celebration.
- Our Freshman class will be taking an exciting end of year trip to Baltimore, MD. They will be staying in the Inner Harbor section of the city and touring historical sights and colleges.
- Senior Week happens in June! Seniors partake in a fun week of activities gearing up to graduation such as Prom, Dorney Park, and Senior Awards Dinner.