



*Oxford English Dictionary defines **senioritis** as “a supposed affliction of students in their final year of high school or college, characterized by a decline in motivation or performance.”*

Dear Seniors & Families of Great River School Seniors,

To counter senioritis, Great River School will provide an experiential learning program to engage our senior class in meaningful experiences. The program is called **Experiential Learning in May**, or **ELM**. It will run May 22 through May 31st. Students will be participating in a variety of scheduled daily activities, including a self defense class, sailing, health & wellness toolkits and running Field Day. **Participation is required.** Students performing in the musicianship concert or IB One Act should see Zack and/ or Caroline for their practice schedule.

**To be eligible for ELM, students must be in good standing: have class work completed & turned in** by May 20th to participate. If students are not eligible for ELM they will be expected to complete their missing work at school and attend classes. While most of our activities are within walking distance, some are not. **Students are responsible for their own transportation.** We encourage public transportation & students/families to organize carpools. Please let Teresa know if you need a bus card.

Waivers are attached and there is a donation suggested of \$30 for each student. No student will be turned away for lack of funds. I have included information about Friends of the Mississippi River Event & if a student is 18 or older they may sign their own waiver.

I am really excited to spend the last few weeks of school with this amazing class. You truly have been the highlight of my year and I feel grateful to know each one of you. Please free to email me at [thichensolson@greatriverschool.org](mailto:thichensolson@greatriverschool.org) with any questions you may have. Charlie Zieke will be the contact person on May 30 & 31st while I'm at Smith College. Please note that June 3rd is the start of Spring Intensives for Seniors. Our ELM calendar is below.

Sincerely,

Teresa Hichens-Olson



May 22nd, Wednesday	
9:30 - 11:20am	IB EXAM for Spanish (some seniors attending, but not all)
9:30-10:30	Intro to what is ELM. Teresa will explain the rules, regulations, purpose and goals of the ELM experience. Students will be given a schedule of events and will turn in necessary waivers. Student questions will be addressed at this point.
10:30-11:30	Financial Planner-Kristi Adams- meets with all Seniors not taking the IB exam (Rm 270)
11:30-12:30	Alumni Panel Q & A about the college experience & consent <a href="https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2018/05/10/style/sexual-consent-college-campus.html">https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2018/05/10/style/sexual-consent-college-campus.html</a>
12:30-3pm	Finish CAS Hours & upload final reflections and pieces of evidence on ManageBac. Dismissed at 1pm.

May 23rd, Thursday	
9am	Laurie Hamre Center for Health & Wellness 125 snelling ave south, Saint Paul (right by the athletic field) Macalester College (student needs to find transportation.)
9:30	Mental Health Workshops/ disability services
10:30 - 11:00 am	Tour of Mental Health Center
11:30	Lunch
12:30- 2:30	Meet back at GRS 11:30 Friends of the Mississippi Presentation (court yard) Storm Drain Painting / Clean Water Activism
2:30-3pm	Walk Back to School (Pick up at school)



May 24th, Friday Field Day for Elementary	
8:30 - 9:25	Meet at school at 9am
9:30 - 10:25am	Set up for Field Day *Field day will be canceled if raining. We will meet in Field Studies room*
10:00 - 11:00	1-3rd grade Lower Elementary Field Day *
11pm-12pm	3-5 grade Upper Elementary Field Day
12-3pm	Clean up, Senior Gift (plan breakfast)

### May 27th, Monday NO SCHOOL

May 28th, Tuesday	
8:30 - 9:25am	sleep-in
9:25	Leave for Lake Bde Maka Ska (student supplies transportation) (waivers must be turned in)
10am	Meet at Lake Bde Maka Ska (Lake Calhoun Sailing School, right by cafe)
10:00 - 12:30	Beach Clean Up/ Learn about sailboat repair
12:30 - 1:30pm	Lunch: bring bag or buy lunch at Cafe
1:30-3pm	Sailing in the afternoon/ pick up @ lake or drive home /check out with Teresa

May 29th, Wednesday	
8:30 - 9:25am	Sleep-in



9:30-10:20	Leave for Minneapolis Institute of Art (student needs to find transportation)
10:00	Meet at MIA at 10am
10:00 - 12:00 pm	10-11 studio help and conversations with MIA staff. 11-12 Studio intro to curators followed by a visit to the gallery- Mapping Black Identities
12:30	Meet at Gandhi Mahal for lunch (bring \$15 for lunch or a bag lunch)
2pm-3pm	Aquaponics tour @Gandhi Mahal meet with Ruhel Islam 3009 27th Ave S, Minneapolis (student needs to find transportation)
3pm	Pick up @Gandhi Mahal or carpool home

May 30th, Thursday (Teresa is gone, Charlie & Donovan in charge)	
8:30 - 9:25am	Practice for Musicianship
9:30	Leave for self defense class
10am-1pm	Self Defense Class- The Minnesota Kali Group, 4532 Chicago Ave, Minneapolis, MN 55407 Check out with Teresa
1:45-3:30pm	Graduation Practice at Concordia University Buetow Auditorium 1282 Concordia Ave, Saint Paul (student needs to find transportation to and from)

May 31st, Friday (Teresa is gone, Charlie & Donovan in charge)	
8:30 - 9:25am	Senior Gift
9:30 - 10:25am	Resumé Writing Workshop, Humanities Room
11 - 1:30	Senior Picnic Brunch @ Horton Park 1383 W Minnehaha Ave (bring a food to share) Giant Senior Class Water Balloon Fight (



**Great River** School



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Engaging intellect, shaping character, building community.

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