# **Gateway Elementary School**

"Success Begins Here!" Gateway Elementary School GREENVILLE COUNTY SCHOOLS



### Annual Report to the Community 2022

Dear Parents and Community Members,

It is such a privilege to share with you our annual Report to the Community for the 2021-22 school year. On behalf of our students, faculty and staff, I would like to express our sincere gratitude for your tremendous support as Gateway navigates our way back to a normal school year! Not only have we continued to receive overwhelming support for our students, you all also continue to support our faculty and staff by providing snacks in our PD room each month, positive emails and words of encouragement, and by logging in countless volunteer hours!

In addition to receiving ongoing support for our faculty and staff as mentioned above, our community stakeholders provided essential resources to strengthen the social and emotional growth of our Gators as well. For example, The Cliff's Valley and Cliff's Mountain Park outreach communities, The Bank of Travelers Rest and Trinity Presbyterian church among many others, continue to provide holiday assistance to needy families and kid-friendly food items each week to assure that our students are well fed over the weekends.

Gateway's PTA continued to flourish throughout the 2021-2022 school year! In addition to the shade sails that were purchased last year, we now have two new regulation sized basketball goals, new soccer goals and fun new picnic tables! Additionally, our PTA traditions are making their way back into our schedule as we look forward to our school dances this spring, and are thrilled to have our parents joining us for lunch, and volunteering throughout our building! Gateway continues to thrive because of your support of our PTA, and we are so grateful for our wonderful Travelers Rest community.

In addition to ensuring that our Gators are provided with an educational atmosphere that promotes social and emotional growth, the academic progress

of our Gators is equally important. The faculty and staff of Gateway Elementary School continue to attend monthly professional development sessions to improve our professional knowledge to assure academic growth for all students. This includes professional development presented by our own staff members! As a result, our staff continues to embed rich, learning experiences into weekly lessons for our students.

During the 2021-2022 school year, Gateway conducted a series of "Learning Walks" and Instructional Rounds" throughout our building to fully assess how our students were performing in the classroom. Each grade level visited several classrooms, and as a team we analyzed our findings and developed an action plan. While we are thrilled with the academic progress that our students have made, we will continue to focus on increasing student engagement and incorporating student to student conversations through the accountable talk model. Our team also discussed incorporating additional non tech teaching tools into our classroom delivery models in all settings.

In closing, I would like to again express our sincere appreciation for your support of Gateway Elementary School. This year has brought frequent reminders of how truly special it is to be a part of such a thriving and resilient community of stakeholders. Our school climate and academic goals that follow, did not change, as we continue to hold high expectations for our Gators. Together, with your continued support, we will surpass our expectations.

#### Academic Goals

Goal 1: The percentage of students scoring Meets Expectations and Exceeds Expectations on SC READY ELA will increase from 48.5% in 2016-17 to 55.7% in 2022-23.

Goal 2: The percentage of students scoring Meets Expectations and Exceeds Expectations on SC READY Math will increase from 59.1% in 2016-17 to 62.8% in 2022-23.

#### School Climate

Goal 4: Maintain at least 95.0% attendance rate for all students and all student sub groups from 2019 through 2023.

Objective: Continue to maintain at least 95.0% attendance rate for all students and all student subgroups for the 2019-2020 year.

#### Teacher and Administrator Quality

Goal 5: Maintain 100% of teachers as highly qualified from 2019-2023.

Objective: Continue to meet qualification criteria for 100% of teachers in all areas of certification.

The school renewal plan includes elements required by the Early Childhood Development and Academic Assistance Act of 1993 (Act 135) and the Education Accountability Act of 1998 (EAA). We revise, monitor progress and adjust our goals within the plan annually in collaboration with our school faculty and staff, and our SIC (School Improvement Council).

Lastly, I feel that it is only fitting to again share our core values and beliefs. Our values and beliefs are the core of who we are, what we do, and how we think and feel. Values and beliefs reflect what is important to us; they describe what we think about educating our children, while continuing the focus of remembering that the hearts and minds of our children are of equal importance. Each school year, our staff revisits these guiding principles to assure that they truly reflect our current beliefs. We examine and align our instruction, curriculum, and assessment initiatives to meet the expectations of 21st Century learners. We think that it is important to include our values and beliefs in our annual report as they set the tone for all that we do, and remind us of our purpose as educators.

#### We believe...

• We believe all students and staff should be valued and treated with respect and dignity.

We believe a safe environment is essential to the learning process.

• We believe all children and adults should be challenged to view life from different perspectives.

• We believe self-respect, discipline, and social skills should be modeled and reinforced at school.

• We believe family and community engagement in the learning process is an essential component for

student success.

We believe instruction should meet the needs of all students.

 We believe students should communicate ideas, collaborate productively, solve problems, think

critically and creatively while consistently reflecting on their own thinking and learning.

 We believe that an effective learning community empowers all educators to make informed decisions and provides experiences through data driven planning to ensure the success of

each student.

• We believe each member of our school community can be a successful, global citizen and 21<sup>st</sup>

century lifelong learner.

### Purpose

The purpose of Gateway Elementary School is to educate, prepare, and empower our students to become tomorrow's leaders. We, as the Gateway community, will lead and educate to the best of our ability and seek opportunities for personal and professional growth in our mission for continuous improvement. Our students will become effective communicators, developing appropriate social and decision-making skills by collaborating with others.

### Mission

The mission of Gateway Elementary School is to provide a diverse and individualized educational environment along with experiences that develop, guide, empower and mentor students to be confident, creative, collaborative problem solvers and responsible lifelong learners. We strive to provide our students with an atmosphere that models and teaches empathy, respect, and strategies for productive problem solving and developing a growth mindset. Our dedication to this mission will foster active, productive members of society and career ready leaders of tomorrow.

## Shared Vision

The focus for our vision at Gateway Elementary School emphasizes the ability to recognize strengths within ourselves and in others. We provide meaningful experiences that empower students to analyze data, track their learning progress and utilize critical thinking and technology as tools for learning.

Sincerely, Susan Stubley, Principal Jay Owens, SIC Chair