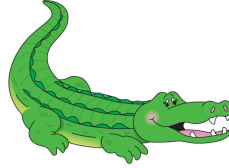


Gateway Elementary School

"Success Begins Here!"

Gateway Elementary School
GREENVILLE COUNTY SCHOOLS



Annual Report to the Community 2019

Dear Parents and Community Members,

It is such a privilege to share with you our annual Report to the Community for the 2018-19 school year. This 2018-2019 school year has been a banner year for implementing targeted, rigorous learning experiences for our teachers, support staff and students. Our learning community devoted countless hours to become well acquainted with opportunities to enhance our curriculum by truly engaging students and developing "out of the box" thinkers at each grade level. This initiative was possible through ongoing professional development sessions for our teachers and staff. A few examples include incorporating STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, Mathematics) lessons, as well as instructional technology integration through Google Classroom, Flip Grid and See Saw among many others. Our teachers and staff were able to continue to improve our practice and strengthen our core curriculum through academic initiatives offered by Greenville County Schools as well as by incorporating initiatives that are unique to Gateway Elementary School. We feel strongly that Gateway is rich in tradition and we embrace exemplar, rigorous instruction in our classrooms, however our quest for continuous improvement is paramount to our vision, mission and beliefs.

Again this year, this year we traveled with every teacher to various schools within our district and beyond, to observe best practices and gain new ideas in all grade levels! This included a trip to The Ron Clark Academy in Atlanta, Georgia for our 5th grade team! Our "House" initiative is one of the most successful programs to date and is an excellent way to assure that our Gators leave us with necessary soft skills and character traits needed to achieve long term career goals. Our teachers visited a number of other schools, and attended several hands-on, professional learning sessions with best practices in mind such as STEAM and Technology integration training with Jed Dearybury, Jessica Morton, and Stephanie Williams.

As you know, Gateway launched our school-wide one- to-one initiative in August of 2018. Our Gateway DLC (Discovery Learning Corp) teachers conducted in-house trainings, and opened their classrooms to model exceptional technology tools for us this year. Additionally, our staff participated in an "In-House Instructional Rounds" day, that allowed us to observe our very own teachers in various grade levels. We are very excited to continue this in-house training next year, as we bring the very best instruction to our Gators. None of our goals would become realities for our Gators if it were not for our fabulous community, PTA and SIC members!

Thanks to your support, we are the only school to date, offering one- to- one technology in 4K through 5th grades! This is a huge advantage for our Gators, and we are so proud of our continued partnership with our fantastic Travelers Rest community. Gateway thrives on our community support, and as a result of the volunteer efforts of our Cliff's Valley and Cliff's Mountain Park neighborhood communities, we now have dry erase desks and tables in most classrooms! These faithful volunteers have made a huge difference in the lives of our students! Additionally, our continued partnership with PEP (Public Education Partners) will allow our Gators to take home a package of 10 free self-selected books to add to their home libraries this summer! This partnership continues to be a huge success and fosters a true love of reading in our students.

In closing, I would like to again share our school climate goals. Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can clarify any of our goals with you. We will publish new goals and strategies in August of 2019.

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. This year, our staff revisited our core beliefs in the fall of 2018. We examined and aligned 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 21st 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 Stuble, Principal
Mike Geran, SIC Chair