

Gateway Gators

"Success Begins Here!"

Gateway Elementary School
GREENVILLE COUNTY SCHOOLS

Annual Report to the Community 2018

Dear Parents and Community Members,

It is with great enthusiasm that I again share with you our annual Report to the Community for the 2017-18 school year. The 2017-2018 school year has provided exceptional learning experiences for our teachers, support staff and students. Our teachers and staff were able to continue to improve our practice by strengthening our core curriculum as mandated by Greenville County Schools and 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 state 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! Our teachers visited a number of other schools, and attended several professional learning sessions such as the guided math series by Laney Sammons held by the Furman Consortium. Upon return, they shared their knowledge with our faculty during professional developments sessions.

As you know, Gateway is preparing for our one to one initiative that will occur in August of 2018. Our Gateway DLC (Discovery Learning Corp) teachers have attended in depth training on the very best instructional technology available and have conducted in-house trainings, and opened their classrooms to model exceptional technology tools for us this year. 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 have been able to assure that every student at gateway will have a personal Chromebook for the 2018-19 school year! You may recall that our Cliff's Neighborhood Outreach Program gifted every classroom with a Chromebook charging cart to further assist the ease of one to one technology implementation. We cannot find words to express enough sincere appreciation for their continued support of our Gators. Additionally, we are in the process of installing our very first climbing wall! This was a huge effort this year and every single stakeholder worked together to assure that our Gators would again receive an unbelievable gift. Our one to one initiative that will be afforded to *every student*, paired with the addition of our new climbing wall, are two features that few schools can claim. Gateway thrives on our community support, and as a result of the volunteer efforts of our local Professional Tool Products company, our Gators were the recipients of caring mentors, who made great lunch buddies, and provided a listening ear and great advice. These faithful volunteers have made a huge difference in the lives of our students! Our continued partnership with PEP (Public Education Partners) allowed our Gators to take home a package of self-selected books 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 2018.

School Climate

Goal 4: Maintain at least a 96.8% attendance rate for all students and all student sub groups from 2012 through 2018.

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Objective: Continue to maintain at least a 96.8% attendance rate for all students and all student subgroups for the 2016-2017 year.

Teacher and Administrator Quality

Goal 5: Maintain 100% of teachers as highly qualified from 2012-2018.

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 year, our staff revisits our core beliefs examining how our instruction, curriculum, and assessment will increase student achievement. 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 that all students should be valued and treated with respect and dignity.*
- ❖ *We believe a safe environment is essential to the learning process.*
- ❖ *We believe all children should be challenged to view life from different perspectives.*
- ❖ *We believe self-respect, discipline, and social skills should be reinforced at school.*
- ❖ *We believe family engagement in the learning process is an essential component for student success.*
- ❖ *We believe differentiated curriculum and instruction should accommodate individual learning styles to meet the needs of all students.*
- ❖ *We believe educational experiences should enable students to communicate ideas, solve problems, think critically and creatively and consistently reflect on their own thinking.*
- ❖ *We believe a community partnership is essential for school success.*

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- ❖ *We believe a PLC (Professional Learning Community) empowers all stakeholders 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 life-long learner.*

Sincerely,
Susan Stuble, Principal
Mike Geran, SIC Chair