



Gateway Lab School

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Board of Directors

August 26, 2019

Dear Members of the Gateway Community,

Welcome to the 2019-20 school year under new leadership. Last school year, the Board created the position of Head of School, in which Ms. Catherine Dolan now serves. Mr. Marlin White, who was acting Principal in SY 2019, is now serving as Principal. The Board commends the duo for their hard work last year and for the many hours spent this summer planning for an exciting and engaging school year. Our students will have a new Math curriculum as well as new multi-sensory furniture that is being rolled out in some elementary classrooms. To prepare our students with skills that are sought after by employers, a new Coding club has been created in partnership with C+ Social Good, a registered student organization at the University of Delaware. Yes, many new things are happening this fall which we believe your child(ren) will enjoy and appreciate being enrolled at Gateway.

Over the summer, the Board's executive strategic planning committee that consists of board members, the administration and a member from the local community worked diligently with a DANA consultant to draft a three-year strategic plan for the school. The plan will be reviewed by teachers/staff as well as by the Gateway Family and Friends (GFF) PTO before it is presented to the full board for approval. After the approval, the strategic plan will be placed on the GLS website.

The Board will continue to ensure that the school remains aligned to its mission which is to maximize every student's academic ability and social growth through innovative arts-based learning in a safe and nurturing environment. To do so, the Board will track progress of two major goals:

Goal # 1 To meet or exceed all of the standards set forth in the Alternative Academic Framework established by the State of Delaware

Goal #2 Become a "Best Place" school that attracts and retains high quality teachers and maximizes students potential

The Board of Directors is committed to supporting the school's greatest assets, our children and teachers, ensuring that students have adequate tools and resources to be successful with their learning experience at Gateway. In addition to its fiduciary oversight, the Board continues to monitor and develop policies and procedures to ensure our organizational framework remains strong.

Yes, the board and administration are excited about the school year and I hope that you share this excitement with us. My mantra is "Teamwork makes the Dream Work." We encourage you to become active in your child's learning by getting involved in Gateway's Family and Friends (GFF) parent/teacher organization, participating in school events or attending a monthly board meeting to learn more about what's ahead for Gateway as we face a charter renewal this year. We need you to help make Gateway great!

If you are interested in serving as a parent director on the Gateway Lab School Board, please contact me at joyce.henderson@gl.s.k12.de.us If you have any questions for the Board of Directors, I invite you to submit your questions and comments to our attention. As always, your Board of Directors appreciates your support.

Kind regards,

Joyce Dennis Henderson

President and Community Director

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