November/December 2019

Gateway Mission:
To guide all students in achieving their full potential in a safe and caring environment that promotes a community of fearless learners.

Our Vision:
We will soar empowered by our personalized experiential learning.

Upcoming Events:
December 23rd, 2019 through January 3rd, 2020
Winter Break – No School!!!
January 6th & 7th
Teacher Work Day – No School!!!

Check out our school web page for helpful forms, up to date events and the current school calendar.
https://gateway.d51schools.org

From the Principal’s Desk…
Greetings Gateway Families!
As fall semester comes to a close, we have so much to be thankful for! I’m very encouraged with the productive learning in all our classrooms. A major school wide goal this year is “Goal Setting”, students writing personal goals then reflecting with their teachers on how their goals were met or not met. Lots of teachable moments in this activity. Nice work!
There has been tremendous progress on the new Outdoor Leadership Lab (OWL) for D51, in preparation for district wide 6th graders coming for 11 weeks this spring. Please give a giant howl to the following people for their assistance on behalf of the OWL program. Mark Demille, Ray Moores and Mike Mazurek, we appreciate your help and assistance in moving this important work forward!
My sincere hope for this holiday season is for all of us to be with loved ones and friends! Merry Christmas!

Student Council
Student Council sponsored a trip to CoorsTek in Grand Junction to observe the creation of ceramic circuit boards used in technology and military. Following this trip the students then went to skate at the Glacier Ice Arena.

Counselor - Madison Kohls
Hello Gateway Families,
It has been a joy getting to know your students these last couple of months. I have started assisting in the elementary classroom where students are using the “Soar with Wings” curriculum. With this curriculum, students explore self-awareness and self-management social and emotional skills. In order to continue building rapport, I’ve started a lunch club every Monday and Wednesday as an opportunity for students to have lunch with the counselor. For elementary, we might discuss different emotions such as happy and sad then they draw a picture. Middle school students might investigate “Restorative Practices”, a social practice to improve and repair relationships between people and communities.

Student Council is currently pursuing leads on fund-raising activities for the second semester. Any suggestions can be provided to any student council member.
Secondary - Mr. Brown  
ELA & Social Studies

The intent of differentiated learning is to offer students, especially within a diverse classroom setting, a range of avenues for understanding. One differentiation tool employed in ELA is the self-assessment. Over the past two years we have been addressing individual grammar and idea development through self-assessments. Self-assessments help students make editing choices as well as to learn and use editing symbols. In general, students are becoming better peer and self editors. Sometimes the process is tedious, but students who embrace these activities are fine-tuning their written communication skills.

Secondary - Mr. Kiefer  
Math & Science

On November 14th, Gateway Secondary Students assisted the Dolores River Restoration Project in planting native plants along the river’s edge.

Elementary - Mrs. Dormaier  
3rd through 5th Grade

This is an exciting time of year for our young learners. As we prepare for the annual Christmas Program, the students have been earnestly practicing their parts of the mini-musical.

In writing, our students have learned how to write persuasive essays and are beginning to develop skills to start debating topics.

Our class also enjoyed our novel study The City of Ember. We explored various aspects of the book over the past few months.

We researched different historical people of Colorado and presented to the class our findings.

We were able to grow bacteria in petri dishes swabbing various places around the school. We learned that not all bacteria is bad and can have many uses in our world.

Elementary - Mr. Griffiths  
Kindergarten through 2nd Grade

Students have been working hard to solve equations in math as they improve adding with numbers to the sum of 20.

In Science, they have been learning about animal groups and sorting them by certain characteristics. A short observation of their collected bacteria growths around the classroom revealed some very interesting results and they drew these results from their petri dishes.

In Literacy, they are working toward more stamina in reading using the phonics learning to guide them as better readers and writers. Non-fiction writing was the focus as they completed teaching books. The focus going into the break will be to read with purpose, retell and to write opinion reviews supported by reasons to convince others.

In a final note, all elementary students have been working so hard to present our annual Christmas program. I think many will enjoy and cherish the work they have done!