



IN THIS ISSUE

Principal's Message	1
QTR 3 Dates	2
Gateway Info	3
Counselor Corner	5
Advance Programs	7
Senior Info	9

VOLUME 4, Quarter 3

GATEWAY HIGH NEWS

Principal's Message

Greetings Gateway Family, we are in the most important quarter of the year – 3rd quarter. Report cards have been finalized from 1st semester and GPA's have been recalculated. Now is the time to make the necessary adjustments to finish the school year strong. I urge our scholars to make the most of the opportunities that this quarter presents. Stay engaged, ask questions, and attend school each day.

Here are a few celebrations from 1st Semester:

- Gateway's Literary Magazine, *Beaked*, received a Superior rating from the National Council of Teacher of English.
- Carpentry Academy scholars were recognized for building life jacket loaner stations for local beaches that were destroyed by the hurricane.
- AVID Seniors received \$1.3 million in scholarship offers (1st semester only).
- Senior Xavier Banos was accepted to MIT and received the largest scholarship offer in Lee County history, \$330,000.

Second semester will be even more exciting! We are gearing up for the graduation of our original scholars, the Class of 2024. Graduation will be held Sunday, May 19th at 2:30 at Hertz Arena. Seniors & senior parents, please remember that cap and gowns must be purchased by February 15th. Please review other important dates for seniors in this newsletter.

Parents and guardians, as always, your support and partnership are invaluable. Your involvement in your child's education significantly contributes to their achievements. Thank you for entrusting us with the education and development of your scholar. I would love to see and hear from you. Please join us for our monthly SAC meetings. Do not hesitate to contact me for any reason, I am an email, phone call or visit away. I hope you have an amazing day!

Sincerely,
Neketa Watson, Proud Principal

Principal

Neketa Watson

Administration

Kari Hardman, Curriculum
Trevon Davis, 9th Grade
Andrew Biggar, 10th Grade
April Thompson, 11th Grade
Kathy Padilla, 12th Grade

School Counselors

Jennifer Whalen (A-Li)
Kala Howard (LI-Z)

Cambridge Coordinator

Darla Whitlow

Mission

To prepare scholars for college, career and life by providing a high-quality student-centered learning experience.

Vision

To develop world-class scholars prepared for success after high school.

School Phone

239-303-7480

School Website

ghs.leeschools.net



IT'S A NEW YEAR FOR A...

MONDAY | JAN 22

NEW STYLE
DRESS UP IN YOUR FAVORITE FASHION TREND

TUESDAY | JAN 23

NEW CAREER
DRESS UP AS YOUR FUTURE CAREER

WEDNESDAY | JAN 24

NEW ROLE MODEL
DRESS UP AS YOUR FAVORITE CELEBRITY
OR CHARACTER

THURSDAY | JAN 25

NEW GATEWAY
DRESS UP IN YOUR CLASS COLORS

FRIDAY | JAN 26

NEW FRIEND
DRESS UP WITH YOUR FRIENDS IN
OUTFITS THAT RHYME WITH EACH
OTHER (EX: ICE SPICE & BLIND MICE)

Yearbooks

Purchase your 2023-24 Gateway High School yearbook today! This year's book is sure to be magical!!
[Click here](#) ----->
or purchase during lunch for \$85. Cash only.



QTR 3 Dates

January 22-25

Winter Spirit Week

January 24

Wellness Wednesday

January 25

Winter Sport Pep Rally

January 31

SORA Reading

February 16

No School

February 19

President's Day No School

February 28

Early Dismissal

Wellness Wednesday

March 14

Last Day of QTR 3

March 18-22

Spring Break

ATTENDANCE AND STUDENT SUCCESS

At Gateway High School we take attendance seriously. Scholars need to be in school every day to have the best opportunity to succeed and earn their diploma. We often hold attendance challenges to encourage scholars to attend school daily. In the month of January, we will be holding a school-wide competition with the goal of 94% average daily attendance. If our scholars meet this goal, we will hold a school-wide incentive.

Attendance reminders:

- We do have a process for parents signing students out early if they are student drivers. Parents must visit our school website at ghs.leeschools.net. Under the “Our Students” tab there is a link to the “Sign Out Form”. Parents must complete this form prior to 10am.
- Students who are dual enrolled or have OJT have permission to leave school early; however, all students must sign out through the front office before they leave campus.
- Parents can now upload excuse notes directly to Focus. If you need an absence excused, please be sure to upload the appropriate documentation in the Focus Parent Portal.

All Meetings Start at 6:00 P.M.

[Previous Agenda and Minutes](#)



February 13	Collaboration Room
March 12	Zoom
April 9	Zoom
May 14	Collaboration Room

The poster for the January Attendance Competition has a dark background with gold and white text. At the top, the word 'January' is written in a large, elegant, gold cursive font. Below it, the words 'ATTENDANCE' and 'COMPETITION' are written in large, bold, white, all-caps sans-serif font. Underneath, the text 'School-wide goal of 94% daily attendance average.' is written in a smaller white font. At the bottom left, it says 'REWARD IF GOAL MET: KARAOKE CAFE!!!' in white. On the bottom right, there is a white silhouette of an eagle with its wings spread, perched on a large, stylized letter 'G'.

Gateway Spring 2024 Testing Schedule

Testing Dates	Test/Subject
WIDA Testing	
January 22 - March 7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● WIDA Testing (<i>Students enrolled in the ESOL program</i>)
FSA Spring Retake Window	
Tue, Feb 20: Grade 12 Writing Wed, Feb 21: Grade 12 Reading Day 1 Thu, Feb 22: Grade 12 Reading Day 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● FSA ELA Retakes <i>12th Grade students who have not met grad requirements</i>
Mon, Feb 26: 11th/12th ALG EOC Day 1 Tue, Feb 27: 11th/12th ALG EOC Day 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● FSA Alg 1 Retakes <i>11th/12th Students who took ALG prior to 22-23 school year & have not met grad requirement</i>
National Testing Dates	
March 5 (Digital)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● SAT (In-School) Non-reportable for 12th Grade for graduation credit only
March 26 - March 28	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● ACT (In-School) Non-reportable for 11th/12th Grade Graduation Credit ONLY <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 11th/12th Who need Math or English Sections Only - Tuesday, March 26 ○ 11th/12th English Section & Math Section - Wednesday, March 27 ○ 11th/12th Reading Section - Thursday, March 28
April 8 - 12 (Digital Window)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● SAT (In-School) College Reportable for 11th Grade ONLY <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Students will need to sign up via google form if they'd like to take the SAT in-school FOR FREE. Sign ups will be posted at the end of January.
NEW B.E.S.T. Standards Writing Test	
Thursday, April 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● B.E.S.T. Writing - ALL 9th and 10th Grade Students <i>Students will test in their same testing rooms used for FAST PMs</i>
Spring Benchmark Readiness Exams	
April (TBD by District)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● STAR MATH Benchmark Readiness Check <i>Students enrolled in Algebra or Geometry only</i>
April (TBD by District)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Biology Benchmark Readiness Check <i>Students enrolled in Biology, Honors Biology, Pre-AICE Biology</i> ● US History Benchmark Readiness Check <i>Students enrolled in US Hist, Honors US Hist, AICE US History</i>
Spring State Testing Dates	
Tuesday, April 23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Florida Civil Literacy Exam (FCLE) <i>Students enrolled in US Government or completed a college/dual enrollment course equivalent</i>
Tuesday, May 14	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Algebra and Geometry EOCs <i>Students who are currently enrolled in Algebra 1 or Geometry</i>
Thursday, May 16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Biology and US History EOCs <i>Students enrolled in Biology/Pre-AICE Biology or US History/AICE History</i>
Tuesday, May 21	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● FAST ELA PM 3 <i>ALL 9th and 10th grade students AND any 11th graders needing the passing score for grad.</i>

TEACHERS OUT OF FIELD

Florida State Statute 1012.42 recognizes that teachers at times must be assigned duties in a class outside the field in which the teacher is certified. The following teachers are certified, but may be assigned one or more classes outside their areas of certification and are required to take appropriate steps to comply with the statutory regulation:

Rachel Ferrera, Kelly Howiszak, John Kuhn, Brittany Laccetti, Greg Martinez, Sonya Paige-Hall, Faith Parker, Jillian Reyes, William Richardson, Stevie Sheppard, Ebony Williams, Ashley Zimmerman



Spring Break Plans March 18-22?

Spring Break is the PERFECT time to tour colleges! College classes are in session during our Spring Break so you will experience a real-life college day. The college vibe can't be felt on a virtual tour or even in the summer when classes are limited or not in session. You need to plan now! The tour slots are already filling up fast! You can google the college and "campus tours" and it will give you the website to register for the campus tour.

Here are some example sites to book your live, in person campus tour:

UF: <https://admissions.ufl.edu/visit-and-events/>

FSU: <https://pc.fsu.edu/admissions/visit>

UCF: <https://futureknight.apply.ucf.edu/portal/campustour>

USF: <https://www.usf.edu/admissions/freshmen/visit-campus/visit-tampa/in-person-campus->



Are you interested in dual enrollment through FSW?

Do you have a 3.5 GPA (9th and 10th grade)/3.0 GPA (11th grade)?

The Accuplacer is a placement test for those interested in taking an FSW class while in high school.

We will be offering placement testing at Gateway High School on February 13, 2024.

Join the Google classroom code adrt156

Creating a FSW Application:

- 1) Visit fsw.edu and click on the link "[Apply](#)".
- 2) Then click "[Apply Now](#)".
- 3) Then click on "[Create Account](#)".
- 4) For the box "Start Date/Entry Term" please select **Fall 2024**.
- 5) For "Student Type" please select "Dual Enrollment/Early Admission".

THERE IS NO COST TO APPLY. IF YOU ARE ASKED TO PAY YOU HAVE DONE THE INCORRECT APPLICATION.

Stay Connected! Google Classrooms



Students of Gateway	zw2g4vo
Class of 2024	64iv3dj
Class of 2025	ktbvjmz
Class of 2026	qdp2hhd
Class of 2027	vesylp2
Cambridge Student	7mbuzrv
FSW Dual Enrollment	adrtl56
Collegiate Academy	wnpjr5v
College, Scholarships, Careers	5lpn7sg

SATURDAY STUDY SESSIONS SAT/ACT

REGISTRATION REQUIRED

Looking to meet a **concordant score?**
We can help!

The School District of Lee County will be hosting in-person, **SATURDAY** (8:30-12:30) Study Sessions for the SAT & ACT which will include practice for MATH and READING.

SAVE THE DATES

FEBRUARY 3
MARCH 2
APRIL 6
APRIL 27

FREE

REGISTER NOW!

Space is limited. Students must **PRE-REGISTER** at <https://sites.google.com/leeschools.net/connectwithlee>

Back on Track Credit Recovery

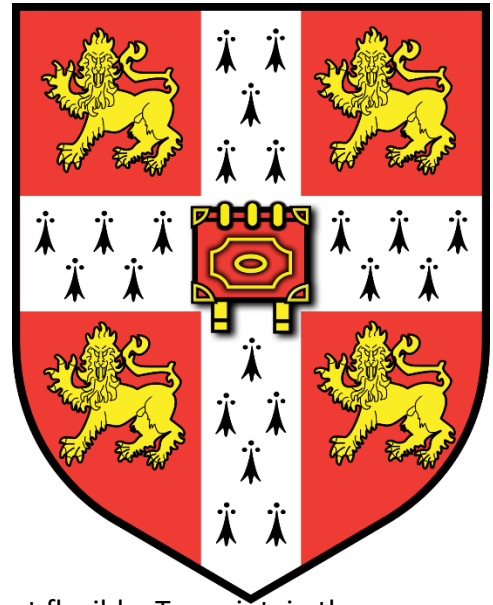
Monday, Tuesday and Thursdays from 2-6 PM for students behind in credits. Students meet right after school in the cafeteria. Join Google Class na3lbbu for details.



Online Tutoring Available
Monday-Thursday
3:30-8:00 PM via Zoom
Students can access via Launchpad

Connect with LEE!

Cambridge scholars will finish the curriculum for their courses in the 3rd quarter, and preparation for the spring testing session will begin. We will offer study tables 3 Thursdays a month starting January 18th, from 1:45-3:00. There are no **study tables** on the 2nd Thursday of the month when we have a faculty meeting. Students must sign up each week by Tuesday afternoon so teachers are prepared for the number of students they will have and specifics on what they want extra help on. The signup form is in the Google Classroom. Study tables will end at 3:00, and students must have a ride home at that time. There are other tutoring options available through Connect with Lee. This free online service for all students is available through Launchpad. Connect with Lee is staffed by Lee County educators who are experts on the curriculum.



not flexible. To maintain the integrity of the exams, everyone must complete the exam at the same time. Students who miss the exam must pay to retake it in the fall. The current fee is \$110 per course, but those prices are subject to change after the beginning of the year.

Attendance remains an imperative factor in the success of Cambridge courses. Data shows that students who miss more than 20 days of school will not be successful on final exams. Please ensure your scholar gets to school every day and arrives on time.

Finally, remember how essential **reading** is to student success. Cambridge students should read at least an hour a day outside of school.

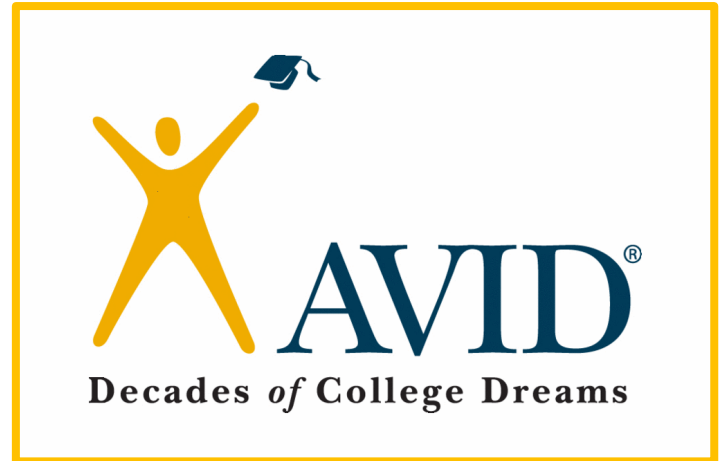
Collegiate Academy Application Night

Join your GHS Collegiate Academy Administrator and FGCU Representative for an information night to learn about the application requirements and process for acceptance into Gateway's Collegiate Academy in Partnership with FGCU.

Tuesday March 27 at 6:00 PM
Collaboration Room



AVID Class of 2024 has earned 1.3 million dollars in academic merit scholarships so far and we are continuing to receive new updates daily. Our goal was one million dollars and we have now set a new goal to earn 1 million dollars per semester for AVID Seniors. Currently students have received college acceptances from 24 colleges & universities. We are still waiting for acceptances from other universities, and enrollment to open for technical colleges.



AVID Class of 2025 is working to prepare their digital college and career folders, signing up for the SAT and ACT and continuing career exploration.

AVID Class of 2026 and 2027 are continuing to work on organization, critical reading and note-taking. Class of 2026 is beginning to explore options for dual enrollment and analyzing their PSAT Test results.

AVID hosted our third annual winter wreath trimming celebration, which encouraged all clubs, sports, and programs to have a wreath or winter themed item decorated to represent their club.

If you are in 9th grade and are interested in joining AVID for sophomore year, please visit the website or click on the link for the [AVID application](#).



Key Club is actively volunteering at Gateway High School and at local elementary schools. Save Promise Club, which is an extension of our Key Club sent several members and our co-sponsor Mrs. Bizzarro to leadership training at the district quarter 2. At the training they collaborated with peers from other high schools to discuss ideas to foster inclusion on campus. We are always looking for new members joining us, all that is needed is a signed permission slip. The Google Classroom code for Key Club is [2oaxtam](#) all of our meeting dates and volunteer opportunities are shared in the Google Classroom.

SENIOR INFORMATION

Need Assistance with FAFSA?

- ✓ Attend FAFSA Parent Night
- ✓ Subscribe to Federal Student Aide on [YouTube](#) for a wealth of informational videos

Scholarship Information

- ✓ Join Google Classroom 5lpn7sg
- ✓ [Florida Student Scholarship Programs](#)
- ✓ [Scholarships](#) shared by FSW

Click below to access the NEW 24-25 FAFSA Form!



Senior Exam Exemption

Seniors who meet the following criteria may be exempt from final exams:

- Student must have an A or B average in the class for second semester.
- Student must not be at risk of losing credit for the class for which the exam is being exempted.
- Student must have no external suspensions during semester 2.
- AICE, Dual Enrollment, PERT, and EOC exams must be administered. No exemptions can be given for these exams.
- When an exam is waived, the two nine-week grades for second semester will be averaged to obtain a semester average for the course.
- Only those seniors who meet the criteria as stated above will be exempt from exams at the end of second semester.

GATEWAY HIGH SCHOOL



CLASS OF
2024

Senior Year Important Dates

January 24

Senior Black Out

February 24

Senior Brunch

March 1-8

Final Gradbash Payments

due

April 6

Prom

April 13

Grad Bash

May 6-10

Senior Farewell Dress week

April 24

Slushies for Seniors

May 7

Senior Awards

May 10 Senior Sunset

May 17

Mandatory Graduation

Practice and Senior

Breakfast

May 19

Graduation



Class of 2024
Cap and Gown Reminders

A black graduation cap with a gold tassel is shown against a background of a school building.

Students must register on grad pro inc website before ordering cap and gown.

Please do not use lee schools email when registering on website. Use a personal email address.

Feb. 15th is the last day cap and gowns can be ordered. No exceptions.

If a student does not order a cap and gown they will not be able to participate in the graduation ceremony.

Website to order:
WWW.GRADPROINC.COM