

April 21, 2017

Dear _____,

Once again, welcome to Gateway! We are thrilled that you will be joining us next year in our freshman class of 2021. This mailing includes some important instructions and materials to complete your enrollment at Gateway High School. Here are some next steps for your enrollment:

- 1. Submit your Assessment Scheduling Form.** The Assessment Scheduling Form is due back to Gateway High School ASAP as tests are beginning next week. You can also submit the Assessment Scheduling Form online at: <https://goo.gl/forms/Ob6XvllH02GYZd6z2>. **Due: ASAP**
- 2. Elective Preference Form.** Please submit these forms back to Gateway High School. **Due: May 5, 2017**
- 3. Submit your Spring Academic Release Form.** Please submit the enclosed final transcript request form to your school registrar or main office. Your school will send your final grades to Gateway. **Submit to your current school**
- 4. Read our GHS Frequently Asked Questions.** We have included information that we believe is important for you to know in the upcoming months. Please be sure to read this page carefully.
- 5. Write a Letter To Your Advisor.** In a few months, you will get a chance to meet your academic advisor who you will be working with during your next four years at Gateway. Your advisor would like to know a little more about you. Enclosed, you will find instructions for writing a letter to your advisor. **Due: First day of school**
- 6. Complete your Humanities Summer Reading & Supply List.** The humanities department has enclosed your summer reading assignments and supply list. **Due: First day of school**
- 7. Submit Your School Photo (Optional).** Please submit your most recent **school picture** for the school's photo board (wallet size) or another similarly sized photo. Please be sure to include your first and last name on the back of the photo and submit to Gateway High School. **Due: May 5, 2017**

We ask that you pay close attention to the deadlines and if you have questions, please contact us.

Best,



Michael Fuller
Principal



Assessment Scheduling Form

Student name _____

All students are required to attend an assessment session to determine the appropriate academic schedule for their 9th grade year. There are three assessments:

- **Scholastic Reading Inventory (Required):** This is a reading comprehension assessment and is required of all students.
- **Spanish (Optional):** Students with prior experience should consider taking the Spanish language assessment to begin freshman year in Spanish 2 or Heritage Spanish classes.
- **Algebra 1 (Optional):** Students may elect to take an assessment to determine whether they are prepared to bypass Algebra 1 and begin Geometry in 9th grade.
- **Video (Optional):** Students interested in Video as an elective will take a 10-minute assessment.

Please check ALL the following test dates you could potentially attend. Gateway's Enrollment Director will follow-up with a confirmed day, time, and location for your test(s):

____ Thursday, April 27 (3:30 – 6:00PM)* ____ Tuesday, May 2 (3:30 – 6:00PM)*
____ Monday, May 22 (3:30 – 6:00PM)* ____ Wednesday, May 24 (3:30 – 6:00PM)*

* Please note the times for each assessment: Spanish - 3:30, Reading - 4:15, Math – 5:00.

STUDENT ASSESSMENT: PRELIMINARY INFORMATION

Please complete this form to the best of your knowledge.

Current School _____

Current Math Class Course Name _____

Current Grade _____

Current English Class Course Name _____

Current Grade _____

Spanish Assessment

Spanish will be offered to students who may eligible to take Heritage Spanish or Spanish 2. Please select one of the statements below:

- Spanish 1: I have little to no previous experience with the Spanish language.
- Other Spanish Options: I have some experience with the Spanish language. (Check all that apply.)
 - Learned Spanish in an immersion program
 - Spanish is a part of my home life
 - My family speaks to me in Spanish and I respond in Spanish.
 - Took Spanish in middle school
 - My family speaks to me in Spanish and I respond in English and/or "Spanglish."

Math Assessment

Students who have a strong interest in math and would like to see if their algebra skills are sufficient to begin in Geometry can take the math assessment

- I would like to take the Algebra Assessment to determine whether I'm ready for Geometry.

Video Assessment

Students who have an interest in Video as an elective will need to complete a short assessment.

- I would like to take the Video assessment and am interested in Video as my elective.

***You can also submit the Assessment Scheduling Form online at:**

<https://goo.gl/forms/Ob6XvllH02GYZd6z2>



Elective Preference Form

Student name _____

Directions: Please number up to four choices in order of preference (1-4):

___ **Computer Science:** This survey course offers students a hands-on introduction to computer science. In addition to learning to program, we'll focus on some of the "big ideas" in computing, such as abstraction, design, recursion, concurrency, simulation, and the limits of computations. We'll show some beautiful applications of computing that have changed the world, as well as talk about the history of computing and where it may go in the future.

___ **Creative Writing:** This course includes opportunities for students to experiment with poetry, spoken word performance, short stories, and other forms of creative expression. Utilizing a workshop format, students will hone their skills, develop polished pieces, and critique their own and each other's work. Students will also explore the process of publishing their work through a variety of avenues.

___ **Drama:** This course provides students a complete and meaningful theater experience. From the theory behind dramatic performances to hands-on experience creating performance pieces, students will master important conceptual and practical aspects of theater while also exploring the larger cultural impact that drama can have on society.

___ **Gardening:** In this course, students will learn how to grow and cook healthy food, learn about sustainable systems utilizing wind and solar power, and build structures for the garden. In addition to earning elective credits for this course, students will also have the opportunity to earn community service hours.

___ **Guitar:** This course is for beginning guitarists with little or no experience on the instrument. Students will learn a variety of playing techniques and styles, including flatpicking and fingerpicking, open chords, power chords, moveable chords, and simple single-note melody-playing and improvising. Playing popular songs from the 1960s to the present will be the main focus of the course; however, each student will also have the chance to learn music of their choice. (Subject to availability)

___ **Physical Education:** In this course students will earn five PE credits (20 credits are required for graduation) while learning about health and nutrition. Activities include team and individual sports, as well as fitness activities like yoga.

___ **Video:** This course introduces students to experimental methods of video production defined in three categories: personal, appropriated and abstracted. Activities include combining video with found imagery, recording their performances or relating personal experience, and creating non-linear experiences through the use of montage. As the course continues, especially if students continue into the second semester, students will focus more on independent inquiry and critical analysis.

___ **Visual Arts:** This course provides students with an introduction to the various forms of visual art, as well as the theory and history of these forms. Mediums taught include printmaking, sculpture, and painting; project include work with color theory, perspective drawing, and lettering.

PLEASE SUBMIT TO THE GATEWAY ENROLLMENT OFFICE BY MAY 5, 2017:

1430 Scott Street, San Francisco, CA 94115 * FAX: 415-749-2716 * enrollment@gatewayhigh.org



GATEWAY HIGH SCHOOL

Spring Academic Record Release Form

TO THE STUDENT

Please complete the first part of this form with your parent or guardian and then give the form to your current school's office.

Student Name (Last, First) _____

Current School _____ Current Grade: _____

TO THE PARENT OR GUARDIAN

Please read and sign the statement below.

I authorize _____ (current school) to release school records, including official transcripts, standardized testing results, attendance and IEP if applicable, on file.

Parent / Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

TO THE SCHOOL

The student listed above has been accepted to and will enroll at Gateway High School. To aid our enrollment process, please send this student's official school records at the end of the school year, including transcript, standardized testing results, attendance records, cumulative file and IEP, if applicable. Thank you for your assistance.

Please send this information (including this form) to:

Gateway High School
Attn: Enrollment Office
1430 Scott Street, San Francisco, CA 94115
Phone: (415) 749-3600 x 4457
Fax: (415) 749-2716

GHS FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

The following information will help you prepare for enrollment and success at Gateway High School!

Q: What does it mean that Gateway High School is a “college-prep” school?

A: It is our goal at Gateway that all of our students attend college after graduating from high school. By choosing to attend Gateway, you are committing to this goal as well. In your time at Gateway, we will help you prepare for success in college, and we will expect you to do your part as well. This means doing your homework every day; it means coming to school ready to learn and paying attention in class; it means seeking help (asking questions, going to tutoring, etc.) when you need it; it means meeting all behavioral and attendance expectations of our school.

Q: When does school start?

A: Our 9th graders first day will be on August 18, 2017 which will be an orientation and field trip to a local college. You will receive further information about this field trip in the main in early August. Attendance is mandatory.

Q: How do we notify San Francisco Unified School District that we are registering for Gateway High School?

A: We will use the SFUSD Charter School Enrollment Form that you submitted with your enrollment response form to inform SFUSD that you will be attending Gateway. There is no need for you to contact SFUSD directly.

Q: If I don't live in San Francisco, how do I apply for an Interdistrict Transfer?

A: In order to enroll in the San Francisco Unified District, you must visit your home district office and apply to transfer. Once you do so, your home district will forward information to the San Francisco Unified School District. Any student who has been admitted to Gateway will be approved by the SFUSD for an Interdistrict Transfer.

Q: What does Gateway High School expect of new students before the first day of school and should we expect more information in the mail?

A: We expect all students to complete their summer reading/writing assignments and letter to advisor. Over the summer, you will also receive a packet of forms required to attend Gateway. These forms include emergency/medical information. Please note: *Students who plan to participate on a Gateway athletic team must have a physical exam before the first day of School.*

Q: How can I get the latest updates about Gateway High School?

A: Check out our website at www.gatewayhigh.org!



WRITE A LETTER TO YOUR ADVISOR

Dear Incoming Gateway 9th Grader,

WELCOME TO GATEWAY! Upon arriving at Gateway, you will be introduced to your advisor (a teacher or administrator) who you will meet with along with other students in your advisory twice a week throughout your four years at Gateway. Your advisory will be made up of approximately 13-17 students from all grades. Your advisor will help you get comfortable at Gateway both academically and socially.

Assignment: In order to help your advisor get to know you, we are asking you to write a letter to your advisor. Please prepare a letter (one-page minimum) to your advisor that answers the following questions:

1. What do you want your advisor to know about you as a person?
2. What do you want your advisor to know about your family?
3. What do you want your advisor to know about your middle school?
4. What do you like to do for fun?
5. Are you involved in any clubs/church groups/other extracurricular activities?
6. What did you do this summer?
7. What are you looking forward to in high school?
8. Do you know anyone at Gateway?
9. What are you anxious about for your 1st year of high school?
10. Is there anything else you would like to add?

You can address your letter "Dear Advisor," and we encourage you to be creative and to tell your advisor as much about yourself as you are willing. We hope you are having a great summer and we look forward to seeing you soon!

Sincerely,

Gateway High School



Dear Class of 2021,

Welcome to Gateway! We are so excited to meet you in August for orientation and the beginning of our journey together in Humanities 9. To keep your mind active and your reading skills sharp, we ask that you do a bit of summer reading. The best way to become a better reader and to develop a larger vocabulary is to read!

Book Number One

Please select **one** book from the following list:

The Afterlife by Gary Soto (176 Pages, Lexile 810)

Chuy is a normal teenage guy, making his way in the barrios of Fresno, California, and hoping to impress a pretty girl. Carefully combing his hair in the restroom at Club Estrella, he only has a few moments to consider his "loverboy" strategy before his young life is (literally) cut short by a knife-wielding stranger who misinterprets a compliment.

Soon Chuy is floating above his bleeding body, embarking on a journey of personal exploration. As he drifts through his hometown (tightening his stomach muscles so as not to get blown off course) he manages to achieve many of the things he didn't when he was alive-recognizing how much he is loved by family and friends, saving a life, punishing a thug, and even falling in love (with a ghost-girl who has committed suicide).

Bee Season by Myla Goldberg (288 Pages, Lexile 1050)

In Myla Goldberg's outstanding first novel, a family is shaken apart by a small but unexpected shift in the prospects of one of its members. When 9-year-old Eliza Naumann, an otherwise indifferent student, takes first prize in her school spelling bee, it is as if rays of light have begun to emanate from her head. Teachers regard her with a new fondness; the studious girls begin to save a place for her at lunch. Even Eliza can sense herself changing. She had "often felt that her outsides were too dull for her insides, that deep within her there was something better than what everyone else could see."

Boy Meets Boy by David Levithan (192 Pages, Lexile 730)

When Paul meets Noah, he thinks he's found the one his heart is made for. Until he blows it. The school bookie says the odds are 12-to-1 against him getting Noah back, but Paul's not giving up without playing his love really loud. His best friend Joni might be drifting away, his other best friend Tony might be dealing with ultra-religious parents, and his ex-boyfriend Kyle might not be going away anytime soon, but sometimes everything needs to fall apart before it can really fit together right.

This is a happy-meaningful romantic comedy about finding love, losing love, and doing what it takes to get love back in a crazy-wonderful world.

Buddha Boy by Kathe Koja (128 Pages, Lexile 1090)

How to survive being good Like a flashback memory, he's there in my mind: skimming up the stairs at school, his sloppy old T-shirt big as a sail, red tie-dyed dragon T-shirt, who wears stuff like that? No one. Jinsen. The kids at Edward Rucher High School call Jinsen "Buddha Boy" and condemn him as a freak. With his shaved head and perpetual smile, Jinsen certainly doesn't help matters when he starts begging for lunch money in the cafeteria. So when Justin is paired with Jinsen for a class project, he plans to get done with it as soon as possible, and climb right back into his safe social niche. Then Justin discovers Jinsen's incredible artistic talent and becomes curious about his beliefs. But being friends with Buddha Boy isn't simple, and Justin is forced into a cruel contest with the jocks who just can't seem to leave Jinsen, or his artwork, alone. Kathe Koja introduces an unforgettable young man who will remind readers of the true meaning of friendship and demonstrate how to draw strength from the little gods inside each of them.

Caucasia by Danzy Senna (432 Pages)

In *Caucasia*—Danzy Senna's extraordinary debut novel and national bestseller—Birdie and Cole are the daughters of a black father and a white mother, intellectuals and activists in the Civil Rights Movement in 1970s Boston. The sisters are so close that they have created a private language, yet to the outside world they can't be sisters: Birdie appears to be white, while Cole is dark enough to fit in with the other kids at the Afrocentric school they attend. For Birdie, Cole is the mirror in which she can see her own blackness

China Boy by Gus Lee (336 Pages, Lexile 880)

A young, American-born child of an aristocratic Mandarin family that has fled China struggles to assimilate in 1950s San Francisco in a novel from "an incredibly rich and new voice." (Amy Tan).

The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time by Mark Haddon (240 Pages, Lexile 1180)

The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time takes place in the year 1998 in and around the town of Swindon, England. The fifteen-year-old narrator of the story, Christopher John Francis Boone, discovers the slain body of his neighbor's poodle, Wellington, on the neighbor's front lawn one evening and sets out to uncover the murderer. His investigation is at times aided, and at other times hampered, by the mild form of autism he lives with. After Christopher hits a policeman in a misunderstanding at the scene of the crime, the police take Christopher into custody. They release Christopher with only a stern warning, under the condition that he promises to them and to his father not to look into the murder any further. (Sparknotes)

The Earth, My Butt, and Other Big Round Things by Carolyn Mackler (256 Pages, Lexile 790)

An overweight teen is sure that she's the weakest link in her high-powered family - until her handsome, athletic, star-student brother has a shocking fall from grace. Fifteen-year-old Virginia Shreves has a larger-than-average body and a plus-size inferiority complex. She lives on the Web, snarfs junk food, and follows the "Fat Girl Code of Conduct." Her stuttering best friend has just moved to Walla Walla (of all places). Her new companion, Froggy Welsh the Fourth (real name), has just succeeded in getting his hand up her shirt, and she lives in fear that he'll look underneath. Then there are the other Shreves: Mom, the successful

psychologist and exercise fiend; Dad, a top executive who ogles thin women on TV; and older siblings Anais and rugby god Byron, both of them slim and brilliant. Delete Virginia, and the Shreves would be a picture-perfect family. Or so she's convinced. And then a shocking phone call changes everything. With irreverent humor, insight, and surprising gravity, Carolyn Mackler creates an endearingly blunt heroine whose story will speak to every teen who struggles with family expectations - and serve as a welcome reminder that the most impressive achievement is to be true to yourself. From the Hardcover edition. (Lexile)

The First Part Last by Angela Johnson (131 Pages, Lexile 790)

Bobby did not exactly plan on being a single dad at the age of sixteen. Nor did he expect his girlfriend to die and leave him alone with his new daughter, Feather. Torn between the often-harsh reality of New York City life and his steadfast love for his new daughter, Bobby struggles through the draining first few months as a single, sixteen-year-old, school-going dad. Through sleep deprivation, family drama and a few run ins with the law, Bobby finally understands that he'll have to make some big changes in order to give Feather the life he knows she deserves. (wordpress)

Keesha's House by Helen Frost (116 Pages)

Keesha has found a safe place to live, and other kids gravitate to her house when they just can't make it on their own. They are Stephie – pregnant, trying to make the right decisions for herself and those she cares about; Jason – Stephie's boyfriend, torn between his responsibility to Stephie and the baby.

Pattern Recognition by William Gibson (367 Pages)

Cayce Pollard is a self employed cool hunter. She makes her living by contracting out her unique ability to determine ahead of time which logos, products and advertising campaigns will work and which won't. Hubertus Bigend runs a multinational company called Blue Ant and hires Cayce's services, requiring her to go to London - a place she refers to as mirror world. This contract will keep her from her New York apartment for some time since it will lead to an investigation of an entirely different nature. Bigend wants Cayce to find the author and creator of the 'footage' that is rapidly gaining a cult like following on line. With 135 postings so far, the footage is unique, insightful and provocative. None of the segments have audio, and yet each seems to contain a lifetime of emotion, desire, and hope. There are no discernible features, landmarks or trademarks that can be seen in any of them, and they are as likely to have been taken in 1914 as in 1980.

Secret Life of Bees by Sue Monk Kidd (320 Pages, Lexile 840)

Lily Owens has shaped her life around one devastating, blurred, memory-the afternoon her mother was killed, when Lily was four. Since then, her only real companion on the peach farm of her harsh, unyielding father has been a fierce-hearted black woman, Rosaleen, her "stand-in mother." When Rosaleen insults three of the deepest racists in town, Lily knows it is time to spring them both free. She and Rosaleen take off for a town called Tiburon, South Carolina, a name she found on the back of a picture amid the few possessions left by her mother. They are taken in by three black, bee-keeping sisters. Lily enters their mesmerizing secret world of bees and honey, and of the Black Madonna who presides over this

household of strong, wise women—a place where ultimately she can find the single thing her heart longs for most.

Shattering Glass by Gail Giles (224 Pages, Lexile 590)

Fat, clumsy Simon Glass is a nerd, a loser who occupies the lowest rung on the high school social ladder. Everyone picks on him -- until Rob Haynes shows up. Rob, a transfer student with charisma to spare, immediately becomes the undisputed leader of the senior class. And he has plans for Simon. Rob enlists the help of his crew -- wealthy, intellectual Young, ladies' man Bob, and sweet, athletic Coop -- in a mission: Turn sniveling Simon from total freak to would-be prom king. But as Simon rises to the top of the social ranks, he shows a new confidence and a devious side that power-hungry Rob did not anticipate. And when Simon uncovers a dangerous secret, events darken. The result is disquieting, bone-chilling...and brutal. When Rob, the charismatic leader of the senior class, turns the school nerd into Prince Charming, his actions lead to unexpected violence.

Weetzie Bat by Francesca Lia Block (96 Pages, Lexile 960)

Weetzie Bat is a bleach-blonde punk pixie, a true original. The child of a screenwriter and a B-movie actress, Weetzie loves L.A.--Weetzie *is* L.A. In high school, she meets a slinkster-cool boy named Dirk. They become best friends and spend their days surfing at Venice Beach and their nights going clubbing on the Sunset Strip. They both are searching for love, but can't seem to find Mr. Right. One day Dirk's Grandma Fifi gives Weetzie what turns out to be a genie's lamp. The genie grants her three wishes: to find a boyfriend for Dirk, to find a boyfriend for herself, and to have a home where they can all live happily. Grandma Fifi dies, leaving them her Hollywood bungalow, and Dirk and Weetzie both meet their true loves. Weetzie becomes friends with a Jamaican/Chinese family of fashion designers. Together, this kooky cast of characters learns that all you need is love.

The Bonesetter's Daughter by Amy Tan (416 Pages, Lexile 800)

The Bonesetter's Daughter dramatically chronicles the tortured, devoted relationship between LuLing Young and her daughter Ruth. . . . A strong novel, filled with idiosyncratic, sympathetic characters, haunting images, historical complexity, significant contemporary themes, and suspenseful mystery." Los Angeles Times "TAN AT HER BEST . . . Rich and hauntingly forlorn . . . The writing is so exacting and unique in its detail." San Francisco Chronicle "For Tan, the true keeper of memory is language, and so the novel is layered with stories that have been written down by mothers for their daughters, passing along secrets that cannot be said out loud but must not be forgotten."

Book Number Two

You may either select a second book from the list above or read your own free choice book. The only rules are that it is a book you have not read before (in class or out), that it is at least 150 pages, and you can show it to your parent or guardian.

How Should I Choose My Books?

Read the book descriptions and pick 4-5 that interest you. Then go somewhere you can read the first few pages (a library, bookstore, or Amazon.com). After a few pages, think about: are you interested in the characters and the plot? Does the reading level feel right to you? A book is your reading level if it has about 3 words per page that you don't know. You can also go to lexile.com and

find your reading level by typing in a book you've already read that was the right challenge level for you, find out what level that book was, and then check with the Lexlie levels on this list.

Once a book seems like a good one for you, read the rest of the chapter – and if you still like it, you've got your book!

What Will I Need To Do With My Book In August?

You do not need to do any writing before school begins; however, you need to be ready to discuss and write about Book Number One (from the list) when you return to school in August. So, you might want to read this book later in July so it is fresh in your mind. You will be asked to show that you understand the plot, character development, and themes that emerge.

Of course, you can read more than two books! Again, the best way to become a better reader is to read.

What Supplies Will I Need For My Humanities Class?

1. A three-ring binder (about 1.5 inches) for Humanities class only
2. 4 tabbed dividers
3. College-ruled paper (100 sheets)
4. Blue/black pens (10-20)
5. Pencils and erasers (10-20)
6. Post-it notes for marking texts (small)
7. Highlighters (3-5)
8. A spiral notebook

We look forward to meeting all of you in August to discuss the books we have read this summer and to read many more together as a class. Until then, have a safe and happy summer vacation!

The Gateway High School Humanities 9 Team