

GATEWAY LAB SCHOOL

Charter School Renewal Report

This report summarizes the charter school’s performance to date as measured by the Performance Framework through 2012-2013. 2013-2014 data will be available prior to the charter school’s submission of a charter renewal application and Annual Report (both due September 30) and will inform the charter renewal process. Current law (14 Del. C. §514A(c)) requires that the renewal report be based, among other things, on the charter contract. However, the requirement that the Department of Education present a charter contract to an applicant upon approval of a charter school application was not in existence at the time this charter was approved. If the charter renewal application is approved, a charter contract will be presented to the applicant for the renewal period.

Academic Performance Framework: (Exceeds Standard, Meets Standard, Does Not Meet Standard, or Falls Far Below Standard):

2010-2011	2011-2012	2012-2013
N/A	Falls Far Below Standard	Falls Far Below Standard

Gateway Lab School received an overall rating of “Falls Far Below Standard” in both the 2011-2012 and 2012-2013 school years, with underlying scores of 26 points and 34 points respectively. While the school is trending in a positive direction with regard to overall academic performance, this trend does not put the school close to receiving a Meets Standard rating with a minimum of 63 points, which is the expectation of performance as stated in the school’s Performance Agreement. When comparing student growth in 2011-2012 to growth in 2012-2013, more students met their growth targets in ELA, more of the lowest-performing students in the school met their ELA growth targets, and more students are on track to be proficient in three years in ELA. However, growth in these three areas is still well below what is considered a “Meets Standard” of performance, with the school earning a “Does Not Meet Standard” rating in ELA for Indicators 1a, 1b and 1c of the Academic Framework. With regard to growth in Mathematics, the percentage of students making enough growth to be on track to proficiency in three years regressed in Math between 2011-2012 and 2012-2013. Gateway has not met AYP for the past two years.

With regard to proficiency, the percentage of students proficient in Math and ELA in 2012-2013 falls far below the State’s 20th percentile. This trend is consistent for 2011-2012 as well with the exception of Students with Disabilities’ performance in ELA in 2011-2012 in which students performed below the State’s average, but above the 20th percentile. Low Socioeconomic Status (SES) students, Students with Disabilities, African-American students and White students are all performing far below the State average in both Math and ELA and falling far below the State’s Annual Measurable Objectives for each of these subgroups. Student proficiency in each of these subgroups also indicates regression in Math when comparing proficiency in 2011-2012 to proficiency in 2012-2013. Finally, when compared to student performance in the district in which Gateway Lab School is located (Red Clay Consolidated

School District), students at Gateway are performing significantly below Red Clay Consolidated School District’s students in Math and ELA.

Financial Performance (Meets Standard, Does Not Meet Standard, or Falls Far Below Standard):

2010-2011	2011-2012	2012-2013
N/A	Meets Standard	Meets Standard

Gateway received an overall rating of “Meets Standard” on the Financial Framework in both the 2011-2012 and 2012-2013 school years. The school earned “Meets Standard” ratings on all of the individual indicators. Additionally, the trends across measures show improving financial viability, as evidenced by rises in the current ratio, unrestricted days cash and enrollment variance ratios, along with a decreasing debt to asset ratio.

Organizational Performance (Meets Standard or Does Not Meet Standard):

2010-2011	2011-2012	2012-2013
Not calculated this year	Does Not Meet Standard	Does Not Meet Standard

Gateway received an overall rating of “Does Not Meet Standard” on the Organizational Framework in for the 2011-2012 school year, based on “Does Not Meet Standard” ratings on two indicators. Gateway was noted as being out of compliance with governance requirements, having submitted its annual report late, not having an identified parent representative on its Board of Directors, and not having its bylaws posted on its website. With respect to student attendance, the average daily attendance rate was 94.4%, just short of the required 95% requirement. All other areas were in compliance.

Gateway also received an overall rating of “Does Not Meet Standard” on the Organizational Framework in for the 2012-2013 school year, based on “Does Not Meet Standard” ratings on two indicators. For the 2012-2013 school year, Gateway also fell short of the required 95% average daily attendance rate, with 92.4%. With respect to financial management, Gateway was noted to have had several issues, including a Fiscal Year (FY) 12 Audit with material weaknesses and significant deficiencies, outstanding monthly reconciliations not submitted in a timely manner to the Division of Accounting, and outstanding Internal Vouchers not submitted to the Statewide Benefits Office in a timely manner. All other areas were in compliance. Gateway received a FY13 financial audit that again showed material weaknesses and significant deficiencies, some of which were problems identified in the FY12 and had not yet been corrected.

The Charter School Office has not yet concluded the process of gathering information about compliance for the 2013-14 school year. There may be additional compliance issues that have yet to be brought to the attention of the Charter School Office by other DOE workgroups.