

To ensure that we have an optimal learning environment, we teach, model, and expect L.E.A.R.N. and H.A.L.L.S. behavior in and around our building at all times.

L.E.A.R.N.

- Lead
- Empower
- Achieve
- Respect
- Nurture

H.A.L.L.S.

Students moving from one location to another in the building are expected to demonstrate H.A.L.L.S. behavior at all times. Individual students leaving the classroom will have a pass that specifies their destination.

- Hands to self
- All eyes forward
- Low speed
- Lips zipped
- Single file on the right

To support our culture where respect and courtesy are of paramount importance, you can expect to see and hear the following:

- ☺ Everyone using words and phrases like “please,” “thank you,” “excuse me.”
- ☺ Staff members visible before and after school and during transitions to model positive behavior and to provide a supportive presence.
- ☺ Teachers delivering and picking up their students from recess, lunch and specials and ensuring H.A.L.L.S. behavior.
- ☺ The principal visible in the hallways (whenever possible) positively acknowledging and supporting students.

Student Dress Expectations

School dress can greatly influence a positive learning environment. Wearing appropriate clothes that do not distract from learning is most helpful. We ask that you adhere to the following expectations:

1. No flip flops
2. Age appropriate dress for elementary school
3. No make-up or colored lip gloss/lipstick. If your child comes to school wearing make-up, she will be kindly asked to wash it off.

Colorado’s weather is known for its unpredictable nature. Snowstorms and cold weather are possible any day of the school year and are often unforeseen. Proper dress is essential for your child’s safety and comfort during recess and the trip to and from school.

Playground Expectations

Students at Gateway are respectful of adults, peers, and their school facility. They interact positively with each other, follow the directions of the staff, treat trees and other grounds assets with respect. Students make safe choices for themselves and others. They:

- Stay within the boundaries of our playground and/or those specified by adults
- Use equipment for its designated purpose only
- Leave at home potentially harmful equipment (metal or wood bats, hard balls, etc.)
- Leave all toys, stuffed animals, trading cards, etc., at home or in the classroom. Toys are not allowed on the playground.

- Leave rocks, sticks, and snowballs on the ground
- Use swings appropriately—seated, one at a time, without jumping out
- Use slides appropriately—seated, facing forward, hands and feet inside
- Use 2 finger touch in all games and avoid tackling.

Bicycles (and other wheeled items)

Bicycles must be parked in the racks provided and are not to be in the parking lot at any time during school hours. Once bikes are in the racks, they are not to be removed until the student is ready to go home. Each student is responsible for locking his/her bike. For safety and liability reasons, skateboards, scooters, shoes with wheels, and in line/roller skates are not allowed at Gateway.

Student Valuables

Students should not bring large amounts of money or electronic devices to school. If phones are brought to school, they must remain in the student's backpack or risk confiscation. At all times, students are responsible for their personal property. The classroom teachers and the school are not responsible for lost or stolen items.

Lost and Found

Lost and found is located just past the front office in the wooden benches. All clothing items, including coats, hats, gloves, should be labeled with the student's first and last name. Items left in the lost and found will be given to a service organization on the last afternoon before breaks and/or as needed for space.

New and Returning Student Class Assignment

Gateway Elementary uses a two (2) week waiting period for all students at the beginning of the school year before a final class assignment is made. If during the first two weeks of school, we find your child's needs can't be met in the assigned class, you will be notified that we are considering a move to another classroom. If a change is necessary, we will make this change as soon as possible within the two-week period. Additionally, to ensure that we make the best class placement possible, Gateway will test new students using our STAR reading and math test prior to placing them in a class. We are doing this to allow children to be placed in the best learning environment possible. Our goal is for the best possible fit between your child and his/her classroom. We hope that this will assist your child in having a good year at Gateway Elementary.