

**CHARTER SCHOOL ACCOUNTABILITY  
COMMITTEE**

**DELAWARE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**



**Gateway Charter School  
Charter Renewal  
Final Report  
November 26, 2024**

On September 30, 2024, Gateway Charter School (Gateway) submitted an application to renew its charter for a five-year term. The purpose of the final meeting is for the Charter School Accountability Committee (CSAC) to review the renewal application in light of the relevant statutory criteria for renewal and vote on a recommendation to the Secretary of Education.

This report serves as a summary of the strengths, areas for follow-up, and/or concerns identified by members of the Charter School Accountability Committee (CSAC) during their review of the charter applicant's renewal application, performance review reports, annual reports and performance agreements, and during CSAC meetings.

The following individuals attended the final meeting of CSAC on November 20, 2024:

#### **Voting Committee Members**

- Kim Klein, Associate Secretary, Operations Support
- Aimee Beam, Education Associate, School Support
- Tiffany Green, Education Associate, Workforce Support
- Brook Hughes, Education Associate, Operations Support
- Joyce Leatherbury, Education Associate, Academic Support
- Ted Molin, Community Member
- Tierra Fair, Community Member
- Preston Shockley, Education Associate, Academic Support

#### **Ex-Officio Members (Non-voting)**

- Kendall Massett, Executive Director, Delaware Charter School Network
- Meredith Griffin, Delaware State Board of Education

#### **Staff to the Committee (Non-voting)**

- Alicia Balcerak, Administrative Assistant III-I, Charter School Office
- John Carwell Jr., Education Associate, Charter School Office
- Faye Schilling, Education Specialist, Charter School Office
- Leroy Travers, Director, Charter School Office

#### **Representatives of Gateway Charter School**

- Catherine Dolan, Head of School
- Gregory Jones, Board President
- Pam Draper, Chief Advancement Officer
- Dorcell Spence, Financial Consultant
- Marlin White, Principal

#### **Follow-up:**

Leroy Travers asked the school to continue working with members of the Curriculum, Instruction, and Professional Development Team until all areas of the curriculum meet standard.

Kendall Massett thanked the school for bringing joy to their students each day.

Gateway responded that they place a strong emphasis on community, growth, and empowerment. The school invites visitors to experience firsthand how it handles challenges and integrates the arts into education. Beyond student development, the school is dedicated to nurturing educators, staff, and interns, fostering a culture of growth for all involved. Leadership is grateful for the support of the Delaware Department of Education and hopes to share their best practices with the broader community in the future.

**Conclusion:**

Ms. Klein asked if there was a motion to recommend that Gateway has met the standard for charter operations under the charter school law and, therefore, its charter should be renewed for a five-year term beginning on July 1, 2025, with or without conditions. The motion was made, seconded, and approved unanimously to recommend renewal for a five-year term with the following condition:

1. All areas of the curriculum meet the standard.

**Next Steps:**

- On or before November 26, CSAC will issue a final report, which will include its recommendation on the renewal application.
- The public comment period will close on December 5.
- The Secretary of Education will announce his decision at the December 12 State Board of Education meeting and ask for the assent of the State Board.