

# GOOD THINGS

*"As we let our own light shine, we unconsciously give other people permission to do the same." ~ Nelson Mandela*

Gateway Community Charters  
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Visit [www.gcccharters.org](http://www.gcccharters.org) and follow us on Facebook!

## From the Superintendent:

### **(Engage) GOOD THINGS:**

The autumnal equinox (equal amounts of daylight and darkness) officially occurred this month on September 23, 2015, announcing our first day of fall. Even though the temperature is beginning to drop and days are getting shorter, the accomplishments at Gateway Community Charters keep growing! The 'harvest' in this case is the growth in the hearts and minds of our students: Our students and education programs prosper as proof of all your good work. Foundational to Gateway's success is how we all join together, create opportunity and build on ideas. Each staff member is a leader and is important to the success of all.

It was pointed out to me recently that the combined years of GCC principals working with our charter schools is now over 100 years. We are proud to say that five of our eight principals began as teachers in the GCC and grew into their current leadership roles.

All California schools, and particularly charter schools, are under pressure to create great educational outcomes. In the GCC, this journey to excellence is deeply ingrained. But the pressure to perform does not stop at the school sites, it also transfers to all staff in the superintendent's office, business services department and human resources. From our seasoned staff to each new staff member, you all have a unique role contributing to the daily success of GCC, and I would like to express my appreciation to each of you.

As the summer heat meets the fall chill, I'm grateful to be doing this great work with each of you and look forward to being on your sites in the coming months. I wish you all the season may bring - pumpkins, and falling leaves, apple cider and autumn breezes.

**- Dr. Cindy Petersen, Superintendent CEO**



*United States Congressman Ami Bera visiting the GCC*



*GCC Superintendent Dr. Cindy Petersen was recently recognized with a special award by California State Assembly member Jim Cooper. Congratulations to Dr. Petersen!!!*

### **(Explore)**

#### Join us for Wine, Cheese and Chocolates... and student art!

On November 2 from 5:30 to 7:00 pm, the GCC Foundation is sponsoring a fall fundraising event at McClellan Business Park Headquarters (behind) 3140 Peacekeeper Way (in courtyard), McClellan, CA. You will be able to sample award winning wines from some of our greatest local vineyards paired with a delectable selection of cheeses and chocolates. The event will allow us to show off how GCC is capturing the hearts of kids, even as they capture our hearts with their art. Note that the art is not for sale. Tickets to the event are a minimum donation of \$20 unless you volunteer for the event. Tickets can be purchased in advance through PayPal. Go to [www.gcccharters.org](http://www.gcccharters.org) under "News" to "Wine, Cheese and Chocolate Event."

#### News from Aaron Thornsberry, Chief Business Official:

The GCC Business Department has been very busy. We recently prepared the Unaudited Actuals for each one of the GCC charters for the fiscal year 2014-15 and presented them at the Board Meeting on September 15.

We also added a much needed position, Budget Coordinator. The Budget Coordinator will provide budget support and analysis to the sites and prepare and maintain budgets throughout the year (most districts manage 1 budget in 1 system; GCC has 7 budgets in 2 county systems). Jeff Clanton moved into the new Budget Coordinator position. Brooke Porteous has entered into the Accounting Coordinator position that Jeff vacated. If you are ever in the Business Department, please take a moment to welcome her to the GCC.

The Business Department is also working with the Ray Morgan Company to begin implementation of a software and workflow system called Laserfiche. Laserfiche will allow us to make our forms electronic on the web. In addition to electronic filing, it will allow electronic approvals of these forms. This will provide a more streamlined approval and filing process for requests and data throughout the organization.

Cathy Kirkwood recently presented a workshop on Associated Student Body transactions. Candy Santos, Yvonne Graser and Nicole Crownover recently presented a workshop on how to complete purchase requisitions, direct payment requests, travel conference forms, field trips and other requests. If you have any questions about these forms please contact them for assistance.

### **(Communicate)**

#### **News from Anna Serin, Administrator of Data and Compliance:**

This year GCC has implemented a different Aeries program for all teachers district-wide. It is called Aeries.net. Although we had many challenges in the beginning of the year, we are slowly but surely moving towards excellence by using the new program. All teachers have access to "Aeries.net" (previously we used ABL); however, clerical staff can use both new and old Aeries Data systems.

Please, feel free to contact Anna Serin if you have any questions regarding either program.

#### **News from Adrienne Herbst, GCC Athletic Director:**

Futures High School Boys Soccer team returned to action against a hungry Our Lady of Guadalupe team. The Futures High School Knights completed their second shutout of the season. In addition to Boys Soccer, the Lady Knights Volleyball Team continue to improve and build on last school year.



Congratulations to both teams for their continued hard work and success on the field. Thank you all for your continued support. Go Knights!

### **(Empower)**

#### **Teachers – Fund your projects – Apply NOW:**

<http://www.donorschoose.org>

<http://www.amazon.com/gp/school-lists>

#### **News from Patches Kolb, H.R. Coordinator:**

Did you know that GCC has an Employee Assistance Program (EAP)?

Life can pull you in many directions. When you have questions, concerns or emotional issues surrounding either your personal or work life, there are resources that can help you. Your well-being, productiveness and happiness depend on balancing your life at home and your life at work. It can be difficult at times. GCC's Employee Assistance Program (EAP), gives you unlimited access to consultants by telephone, resources and tools online and up to three face-to-face visits with counselors to help you. Please visit the GCC Employee page <http://www.gcccharters.org/gcc-employees-page/> for more information on the GCC EAP.

#### **RESOURCE FOR TEACHERS!**



Looking for creative ideas to "spark" a passion for learning in your students? Visit RAFT and see what's new!!!  
3136 Howard Street  
McClellan, CA 95652.

Visit [www.raftsac.org](http://www.raftsac.org) for hours and days open.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

#### **Upcoming Events and Dates:**

**Oct 12, 9:00 am**

Superintendent Fall Presentation to COA

**Oct 13 & 14**

Leadership Blueprint Training, GCC office

**Oct 20, 4:45 pm**

GCC Board Meeting, GCC Office

**Oct 22, 2-4:00 pm**

GCC Leadership Meeting, GCC Office

**Oct 23, 2:30 pm**

Superintendent Fall Presentation to GIS

**Nov 2, 5:30 pm**

GCC Foundation Fall Fundraising Event, McClellan Business Park

**Nov 3, 4 & 5, All Day**

Process Champions Training, GCC Office

**Nov 10, 6:30 pm**

Public Hearing GIS renewal, SJUSD

**Dec 8, 6:30 pm**

Vote on GIS renewal, SJUSD

**May 6, 2016, 8:30 am**

GCC Golf Tournament, Teal Bend

### **(Launch)**



"I've learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel."  
~ Maya Angelou