

What House are You?!?



Respect
Loyalty
Responsibility
Honesty



Friendship
Caring
Compassion
Self-Control



Creativity
Courage
Ambition
Strength



Service
Valor
Community
Wisdom

excited to introduce these four houses of character to our school community. This is a school inspired by the nationally recognized and awarded Ron Clark Academy.

What are "Houses"?

This year all students, staff and faculty members will belong to a "house". Each house represents character traits that all Gateway family members are encouraged to embrace and embody. Students will be assigned a house at the beginning of the year. Students will work together with their house families (students and teachers from all grades) to create bonds, mentor and support one another. This is not about competition but about supporting everyone. The house members will participate in team building activities like creating cheers, special handshakes, and songs. Students will also have monthly "house" meetings with their grade levels and quarterly all house members will participate in spirit days and pep rallies. The houses are listed below, **each house is represented by a color and an animal. On spirit days we encourage students to wear their house color.**

Integrity House- color: Yellow animal: Lion

Peace House- color: Green animal: Bear

Perseverance House- color: Purple animal: Panther

Leadership House- color: Orange animal: Eagle

Why do we have Houses and how can students earn points?

While our main goal is to encourage and teach character traits of good citizens, we also will have fun activities like earning house points. Students will be able to earn house points from any staff or faculty member at Gateway for actions like compassion, integrity, leadership, honesty, and perseverance. Students can earn points during all times of the day and the points awarded go towards the House Point Totals. For every point earned, one house token will be placed in the house jar of that student. The house jars are located at the front of the school for all to see. The goal is to teach students that even the smallest act can have an impact and together many small acts combined make our school and world a wonderful place.

How is our classroom behavior chart translated into house points?

In our classroom we use a clip chart system. Students begin the day on green and can move up or down the clip chart based on their choices and behavior for the day. Students who go above and beyond on the clip chart can move up. Students who end the day on blue or green will earn 1 house point, students who end the day on purple or pink will earn 2 house points. Students who end the day on yellow or orange will lose 1 house point from their weekly total. Going home on red will result in a student losing 2 house points from their weekly total. While losing points is something we don't want to focus on, we are teaching students that part of being responsible is there are consequences for your actions. Just because you have a bad day or make a bad choice doesn't mean you can't turn it around and make better choices. At the end of the week, we will use math skills to total up each child's points and they will get to add that many tokens to their house jar.

What is done with house points?

Periodically (every quarter or semester) the house points for the whole school will be totaled and the house with the most points will get to participate in fun extra activities like dance parties! All students will get to participate in events like pep rallies and spirit days. We are so excited to show students how hard work and dedication helps to build a better school community.

How can parents help?

Talk to your child! Encourage them when they have set backs and congratulate them on their success. Talk about character traits with them and what those traits look like in your home (helping with chores, using words when you're upset, etc.)