



GATES High School

813 132nd Street S.

Tacoma, WA 98444

253-298-4000

Mrs. Valinda Jones, Principal

School Mission Statement

The Franklin Pierce School District's Alternative Programs offer a school of opportunity and choice where students strive for high academic achievement and prepare for successful, independent adult lives.

Principles that Guide our Culture

We...

Value every day as a new day

Believe diversity is strength to be embraced with open-mindedness, compassion, and empathy

Act with integrity and treat everyone with respect

Communicate honestly and openly under all circumstances

Show care, kindness and generosity towards each other

Are reflective learners who collaborate and support each other in continuous learning

Foster joy, laughter and celebration

Build sincere relationships with students

Advocate for student and family empowerment

View conflict as an opportunity to communicate in an open, timely and healthy manner which results in resolution

Believe our relationships with the community are vital and mutually beneficial

Make every moment meaningful

We chose to trust each other and be held accountable for this code of conduct

A Message from the Principal

On behalf of the GATES High School team, I am very pleased to welcome all students, parents and guardians to the 2020 school year. It is often thought that educators take the summer off. I can tell you that while we may enjoy a little vacation time, most of us continue working by continuing our own professional growth through reading, workshops, and attending classes and conferences. This year, we have retained 100% of our instructional team and have some new additions to our support and administrative team. I would like to welcome our new intervention case manager, Ms. Ari Peters, who works in our Regulate and Restore room, as well as our credit recovery lab. We also have a new part-time para, Ms. Nichole Graham, who will support our English Language Learners. On the administrative side of the house, we welcome Dr. Brian Olsen as our new assistant principal, and Ms. Angela Quiram (“Q”), as our new dean of students. GATES has added a new position, and we welcome Ms. Kristina Levendoski as our Family Engagement Coordinator. Each of us is here to serve the needs of our students and families, as we recognize that learning does not begin and end in the classroom. It is a community event and we are all committed to the success of every student.

I am proud to share that the class of 2019 was our most successful class in the history of GATES High School. We increased our on-time graduation rate to an all-time high of 78.7%. We have set a goal to increase this again for our class of 2020 and hope to exceed 80%! This kind of success only happens when we work together as a team. The number one indicator of student success at GATES is regular attendance. Students who fail, or drop out, share one thing in common...low attendance. We fully understand that many of our students and families are living in difficult situations that can make regular attendance a challenge. That said, please communicate with us if there are challenges, and allow us the opportunity to work with you to build support and assist when possible. We offer many on campus supports that may be of benefit, please just let us know.

It is an honor to work with a team that is highly professional and takes its work very seriously. It is our goal to facilitate academic growth as well as social emotional growth for all students. After a successful pilot last year, we have adopted a new Social Emotional Learning (SEL) curriculum called School Connect which will be taught as a two-term class to all incoming Gators. Through hands on learning, this course focuses on responsible decision making through self-awareness, social awareness, self-management and relationship skills. As always, thank you for trusting us with the education of your children. We commit to ensure that they receive a high quality and rigorous education and are prepared for life beyond high school.

2018-2019 School Information



106

Students Enrolled



10.0% **50.0%**

Met Math Standards Met ELA Standards



71.4%

Graduated in 4 Years



36.5%

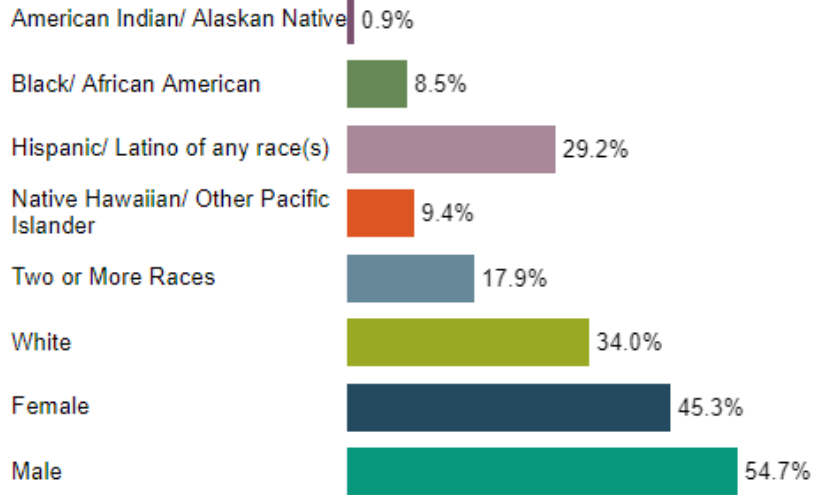
Students Regularly Attend



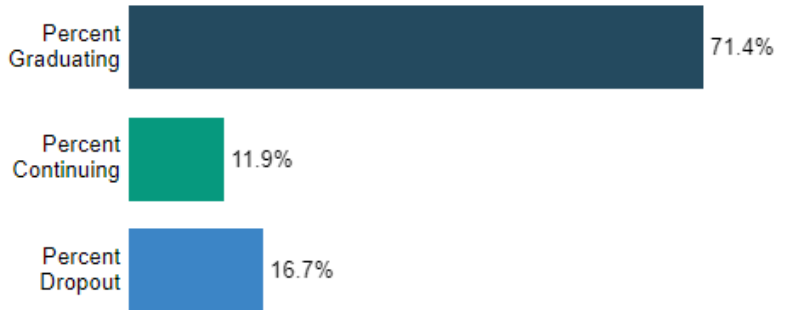
\$24,740

Per-pupil Expenditure

Enrollment by Student Demographics



Graduation



To view the complete report visit:

<https://washingtonstatereportcard.ospi.k12.wa.us/ReportCard/ViewSchoolOrDistrict/102281>

GATES High School Facility Information



Welcome to GATES High School. GATES stands for Greater Alternatives to Educating Students. We are a small school with a staff that is highly trained and highly committed to the success of all students. We take pride in our school and the fact that we are a diverse learning community. We are a Safe and Civil school where students are provided every opportunity to be valued in a learning environment that is highly personalized based on individual student needs and circumstances. At GATES, we want to keep students in school where they can continue to progress in their learning, and we prefer to teach appropriate school behaviors rather than punish inappropriate school behaviors. This is accomplished by building strong and trusting relationships with students, staff, parents, guardians, and the community at large. Students are held to high standards for attendance and academic progress and have multiple opportunities to demonstrate progress in a non-traditional, competency-based learning environment.

At GATES, we understand that life happens. Many of our students have experienced life circumstances that have created barriers to school success. We work closely with students and parents/guardians to provide support through outside community resources, a strong comprehensive guidance program, and on-site case management services.

GATES students are successful students who graduate with a strong post-secondary plan. We commit over 60 minutes per week for students to work on their High School and Beyond Plan with an assigned teacher/mentor. This time is called Check and Connect and is as important as any other academic course a student takes. Whether a student wants to go to a four-year university, attend a technical college, or enter directly into the workplace, we will work with every student to ensure that all have a viable post-secondary plan that will lead them towards financial security and being a contributing member of their community.

Parent/Community Feedback Summary

Every year, we survey our parent community to determine whether we are providing a safe learning environment that facilitates success for all students. Below are the results from our spring student led conference parent survey data.

- 98% of our parents believe that their child feels safe at school.
- 100% of our parents believe that students treat one another respectfully.
- 100% of our parents believe that staff members treat students respectfully.
- 100% of our parents said that if they had concerns about their student or the school, they would feel comfortable discussing the situation with a teacher, counselor or administrator.

We are very pleased with these results and will do all that we can to continue to maintain the trust and respect of our parents and community.

Plans for Learning Improvement

Our plans for learning improvement are embedded into our daily structure and are non-traditional approaches with a heavy emphasis on graduation. GATES High School offers multiple opportunities for students to succeed. Our unique 8-term schedule is designed to be a competency-based model for students to accelerate their credit earning potential. In order to do this, we offer a 5-period day, with classes lasting 68 minutes each. Every early release Wednesday, we allow students an hour of self-directed learning time which is needed to demonstrate competency in any content area. The final day of term is set aside for all students to work independently with teachers or collaborative study groups to ensure they are passing all classes prior to starting a new term. Our Gator Done Graduation Center is open every Monday from 2pm-4pm and is another opportunity for students to work specifically on Math, English Language Arts, and college and career readiness.

GATES state assessment data for 10th graders is historically low. We find that many of our students are more successful at meeting their state assessment requirements through alternative assessments. We offer a flexible approach to building our master schedule so that it is truly student-centered, and all course placement is based on meeting the district and state graduation requirements.

Here at GATES, we pride ourselves on our low suspension rates. Using a restorative approach to discipline, we work to build relationships which encourage our students to do the right thing, because it is the right thing to do. This is intentionally taught during our mandatory GATES Success Academy, which every student must attend in order to be enrolled. Our advisory model allows all students to meet with their school-based graduation coach daily to monitor progress towards learning.

We continue to focus on improving daily attendance and make phone calls home anytime a student is absent. After three absences, our Family Engagement Coordinator will contact the home directly either by phone or by making a home visit. We know that poor attendance has caused several of our students to fall behind, hence their attendance in the alternative high school. By providing smaller class sizes, access to teachers, weekly progress reports to students, and by engaging in positive learning relationships, we believe that attendance will continue to improve.

Franklin Pierce Schools District Statements

District Vision

Every student graduates from high school prepared to succeed in post-secondary education.

District Core Business

Engage all students in rigorous, relevant, high-quality work.

District Mission

To provide students an engaging educational environment, built upon proven academics and high standards, resulting in successful and contributing citizens.

District Goals

- Increase academic achievement of all students.
- Prepare students for success beyond high school.
- Maintain safe and caring schools.
- Promote family and community involvement in our schools.

2018-2019 FPS District Budget

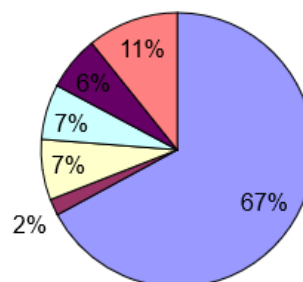
District Fund Balance	
18-19 Beginning Fund Balance	\$18,208,020
Income	\$121,213,531
Expenses	-\$127,907,104
18-19 Ending Fund Balance	\$11,514,447

General Fund / Income	
Tax Base (Local Property Tax)	\$16,560,665
State Support	\$95,352,446
Federal Support	\$9,298,420
Other Sources	\$2,000
Total	\$121,213,531

Expenditures Per Student	
Teaching Activities	\$50.61
Teaching Support	\$11.03
Food Service	\$2.91
Transportation	\$3.00
Building Administration	\$5.99
Building Operation	\$9.92
Central Administration	\$6.57
Other Support Services	\$1.78
Total Cost Per Day	\$91.81

2018-2019 FPS District Expenditures

Schools and Instruction	67.14%
Other Services	1.94%
Central Administration	7.15%
Supervision of Instruction	6.53%
Food Service & Transportation	6.43%
Maintenance & Utilities	10.81%
Total	100.00%



■ Schools and Instruction
■ Other Services
■ Central Administration
■ Supervision of Instruction
■ Food Service & Transportation
■ Maintenance & Utilities

Volunteer Engagement

Education is truly a cooperative effort among parents, students, staff, and the community. Your support and help are needed and appreciated. We invite you to attend our many public programs, including sports competitions, plays, concerts, and other special events.

If your business is interested in establishing a school/business partnership, please contact the Superintendent's Office at 253-298-3000.

If you are interested in volunteering at GATES High School, please contact the office manager at 253-298-4000 to learn about what opportunities are available. Volunteer applications must be completed online at www.fpschools.org. All individuals assisting with student activities are required to complete the online volunteer application and be cleared by the Washington State Patrol. Examples of volunteer activities are helping teachers in their classrooms, cleaning up buildings and around the campus, and helping with student portfolios. Volunteer applications are good for the current school year only and must be updated after July 31st each year in order to remain an active volunteer.

Non-Discrimination Statement

Franklin Pierce Schools does not discriminate on the basis of sex, race, creed, religion, color, national origin, age, honorably discharged veteran or military status, sexual orientation including gender expression or identity, the presence of any sensory, mental, or physical disability, or the use of a trained dog guide or service animal by a person with a disability in its programs and activities and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups.

Questions and complaints of alleged discrimination should be directed to Mr. James Hester, Compliance Coordinator for State and Civil Rights Laws; Wendy Malich, Title IX Officer; or John Sander, 504/ADA Coordinator at 315 129th St S, Tacoma, WA 98444-5099 or at 253-298-3000.