



GEORGE STEVENS ACADEMY
Gateway to Campus Renewal
PHASE ONE

It started with a gift from George.

In 1852, Bluehill shipbuilder George Stevens willed his home and resources to the care of five trustees charged with starting an academy “for purposes of education forever.” In 1891, following Mary Ann Stevens’ death, the trustees incorporated George Stevens Academy and oversaw construction of the Academy Building in 1898.

Thus, GSA’s campus was born.

Over the years, GSA added facilities to serve students from towns across the peninsula: science labs, language classrooms, a library, industrial arts shop, a gymnasium, music rooms, special education spaces, a cafeteria, and more. To borrow from Mary Ellen Chase, GSA’s campus is “A Goodly Heritage,” but today it sorely needs our attention.

GSA’s Facilities Committee, working with Stahnke + Kitagawa Architects, developed an ambitious plan for campus renewal, to be carried out in phases.

We know that realizing this vision will take years. We believe the time to start is now.

Our Mission

GSA provides a comprehensive and challenging education for all students. Our many academic and experiential programs foster a love of knowledge, inspire creativity, instill self-confidence, encourage good character, and prepare each graduate for a purposeful life in a changing world.

Phase One: Gateway to Campus Renewal

Phase One is a gateway in two senses. It is a literal re-purposing of campus space to make a safer, more welcoming entrance for students and community members. It is also the initial stage of a many-faceted campus renewal plan.

The structure behind the Academy Building that houses the gymnasium and cafeteria was completed in 1973. The wing on the west side of the building, facing High Street, began to deteriorate almost at once due to water damage, and finally, this past year had to be closed.

The west wing of the building will be demolished and the metal walls removed. Insulated panels will be installed with light-gauge metal framing behind the panels and over the concrete block to increase the structural integrity of that wall of the gym, effectively creating a new and durable “building envelope.”

Because removal of the west wing will open an additional 40’ between High Street and the building’s outer wall, we will be able to use this recovered space for a dedicated bus lane, a weather-protective canopy, and a single, welcoming “front entrance” or gateway for students arriving to school.

The GATEWAY PROJECT is the exciting first step towards a re-envisioned GSA campus. All future phases of the campus plan—a Community Performing Arts center, Gymnasium, Industrial Arts & Technology Complex, and new classrooms—will, by design, align and integrate with each other to avoid costly and wasteful undoing and redoing of construction projects.

An Entrance House

A welcoming entrance house will replace the “back alley” corridor that students have used to enter school. Exterior materials will be brick, insulated metal panels, and an aluminum and glass wall at the entrance. The interior materials will be local granite tile flooring, a wood ceiling, and durable plastic laminate wall covering. In a future phase of the campus plan, another entrance house will be added to the east side directly opposite this one, and together the two entrances will define a central circulation pathway throughout the campus, linking most of the campus buildings.

A Bus Lane

A bus lane set 40 feet back from High Street will accommodate three school buses. Car traffic will be separated from the bus lane, making for safer, more navigable roadways. The pick-up and drop-off areas will be ADA accessible.

A Canopy

A 138-foot canopy will provide cover from rain and snow during pick-up and drop-off times. It will also accommodate additional downspouts and gutters to help direct water away from the building and prevent the sort of water damage that has historically plagued this building.

Benefits at a Glance

- Safer access for GSA and Consolidated School students and vehicles
 - A welcoming entrance for students and the community
 - Increased building insulation and energy efficiency
 - Better, more durable building materials
 - Improved stormwater management
 - Improved ADA accessibility to gym and campus
 - Alignment with all future phases of the campus plan
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It started with a gift from George.
Now it's our turn.

\$3 million The Gateway Project
\$375,000 Growing Philanthropy:
The 2025 Annual Fund

\$3.375 million



HEAD OF SCHOOL
Dan Welch

Construction will begin once we have raised \$2.4 million in gifts and \$600k in pledges.

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