



Gate City Charter School for the Arts

**5 Year Strategic Plan
2024 to 2029**

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Gate City Charter School for the Arts Mission:

"The mission of the Gate City Charter School for the Arts is to use an arts-integrated curriculum to educate all interested students in grades K-8, to produce graduates who excel in both academics and the arts and have the knowledge, creativity and inquisitive nature that foster a life-long love of learning."

Gate City Charter School for the Arts Vision:

The vision of Gate City Charter School is to create innovative learners who are able to utilize the resources around them to problem solve, think critically, and positively impact the world around them.

Motto:

Create, Connect, Inspire, Enrich, and Empower

Overview:

To maintain our mission while achieving this vision, GCCSA will use 8 Key Factors:

- Student Learning and Assessment
- Social Emotional Development
- Excellence in Educators
- Community Integration
- Culture of Growth
- Resource Expansion
- Facilities and Operations
- Board Development.

Background

Gate City Charter School for the Arts opened to students in September of 2014. The vision of the school was to become a transformative leader in the education of students who will be prepared to successfully advance into the complex economy of the 21st century. The school began with multi-grade classrooms for 100 students grades K-6. In its 2nd year, it expanded to 160 students K-7. In its 3rd year 180 students K-8 with a single classroom for each grade level.

GCCSA was rechartered in March of 2020 for another 5 years by the NH Board of Education.

In 2023, GCCSA continues to be a small arts-integrated charter school. Our current enrollment is 170 students across grades K-8.

Student Learning & Assessment

Goal:

Develop an arts-integrated curriculum with well-defined learning outcomes and a focus on depth of understanding and critical thinking across all grades and content areas.

3yr

Objective 1

Continued Development of a dynamic and clearly articulated K-8 curriculum with a focus on vertical alignment and arts integration.

Objective 2

Use competency based assessments along with project based learning to measure progress toward grade level expectations

Objective 3

Utilize a multifaceted, arts-integrated, approach to align students strengths & needs with curriculum.

5yr

- Continued growth in title programs
- portfolios that follow each child through their career (objective 2)
- project based learning (objective 2)
- Digital art development (objective 2)
- student directed experience for middle school (objective 1)
- art exhibits (objective 2)
- artists in residence (objective 2)
- maker space (objective 2)
- opportunities for gifted students (objective 2)
- evolution of arts integrated curriculum (objective 1)

Objective 1

Fully formed and consistent arts integrated curriculum across grades that allows for student directed experience for middle schoolers.

Objective 2

Continue to grow the art experience for students through development of portfolios, art exhibits, artists in residence, maker space, digital art development, project based learning and opportunities for accelerated students.

Objective 3

Social Emotional Development

Goal:

GCCSA will support effective, researched-based practices that promote a healthy school climate. It will build an understanding of social, emotional, and physical health factors affecting learning, and work collaboratively with families and community services.

3yr

Objective 1

Identify effective, research-based practices that promote student health and develop a system of support.

Objective 2

Educate all staff regarding student social, emotional, and physical elements that impact learning.

Objective 3

Enlist local support agencies to provide wrap-around services and access to community resources

Objective 4

Educate parents and the community regarding social, emotional and physical elements that impact learning through the use of developmentally appropriate dialogue.

5yr

- Community closet
- More community partnerships for outreach
- Expand upon Choose Love
- School wide Responsive Classroom

Excellence in Educators

Goal:

Recruit, train and retain highly innovative, creative, collaborative and compassionate teachers dedicated to the mission and culture of GCCSA.

3yr

Objective 1

Offer Professional development including high-quality, job-embedded training aligned with school and educator goals that are centered around student success.

Objective 2

Employ multi-tiered approach to staff evaluation to assess educational outcomes.

Objective 3

Continued work toward certification for all teachers

Objective 4

GCCSA teachers will build dynamic relationships with students and families that will help to engage students to become creative problem solvers and critical thinkers.

5yr

- Offer assistance and resources for continued education

Community Integration

Goal:

Engage families and the community in a partnership to increase the school's reach in the local community.

3yr

Objective 1

-Enlist local support agencies to provide wrap-around support.

E68

YMCA

Utilize the United Way

Objective 2

-The school will be more involved with the community at large

-Artists in residency

Volunteer programs

Objective 3

-Collaboration among grade levels

-Grades will work together on projects and social engagement through K-5 and middle school collaboratives. Documentation of multi-grade interaction will be kept, including initiatives such as Reading Buddies, community meetings, student council, collaborative music and dance, shared science, math, and ELA projects, among others.

Objective 4

5yr

-Community partnerships

Culture of Growth

Goal:

GCCSA will continue to grow and foster a culture that enhances its mission of teaching through art while fostering a community of kindness and love

3yr

Objective 1

Objective 2

Objective 3

Objective 4

5yr

Resource Expansion

Goal:

GCCSA will establish a framework for fundraising that will expand funding sources and provide a larger network of resources.

3yr

Objective 1

Develop upon our **hallmark** yearly fundraiser, the art festival

Objective 2

Expand funding through grants

Objective 3

Develop a donor outreach strategy that seeks, engages and **rewards/recognizes** donors

Objective 4

Establish a reserved fund to weather funding changes.

5yr

Facilities and Operations

Goal:

GCCSA will develop a plan for ongoing facility and technology improvement to enhance learning and longevity(long term sustainability)

3yr

Objective 1

New building

Objective 2

Technology upgrades

Objective 3

Objective 4

5yr

Purchase a building

Board Development

At the conclusion of each school year, the GCCSA Board of Trustees shall conduct a Board self-evaluation. The Board self-evaluation shall review the Board's performance in its key functions, including, vision, structure, accountability and advocacy. The results of the self-evaluation shall be used in setting goals for the subsequent school year, including Board development activities where needed.

Goal:

GCCSA will continue to develop a Board of Trustees with diverse backgrounds that can support resource development, community integration and school growth.

3yr

Objective 1

Develop strategies to obtain, train and retain Board members

Objective 2

Develop a committee for ongoing board training and development

Objective 3

Establish a process for evaluating the board

Objective 4

5yr

<https://www.education.nh.gov/sites/g/files/ehbemt326/files/inline-documents/sonh/gate-city-academy-of-the-arts-chartered-public-school.pdf>

<https://www.macsnh.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/MACS-STRATEGIC-PLAN.pdf>

<https://www.artsacademynh.org/five-year-strategic-plan.html>