

Cognito Pro Vita
"Learning for Life"

Gateway Learning Community

Mission

Help our students experience classroom success, recover academic credit, raise grade point averages, improve study and social skills, and transition successfully into a traditional classroom setting.



In Gateway, we believe every student has the capacity to succeed. As educators, we believe it is our job to ensure that success by providing a challenging and engaging curriculum, offering both academic and behavioral support systems, and creating a safe and supportive learning environment.

Need More Information?

Gateway Faculty

Lead Teacher/English—Christi Silano

696-3573
csilano@bentonville.k12.ar.us



Math Teacher—Deborah Schooley

696-3530
dschooley@bentonville.k12.ar.us



Social Studies Teacher—James Boyster

696-3531
jboyster@bentonville.k12.ar.us



Science Teacher—Cal Culver

696-3456
cculver@bentonville.k12.ar.us



GED Program/PE Teacher—Robert Jones

696-5134
rjones@bentonville.k12.ar.us



Attendance and Counseling

Pattie Heitzman—Counselor

696-3399
pheitzman@bentonville.k12.ar.us



Kristen Jones—Attendance Secretary

254-5112
krjones@bentonville.k12.ar.us



9th Grade/ Gateway Assistant Principal

Jason Jedamski

254-5100
jjedamski@bentonville.k12.ar.us



Gateway



Learning Community

Alternative Learning Environment



Bentonville High School
1801 SE J Street
Bentonville, AR 72712

(479) 254-5100

Gateway Learning Community

Question: What is an alternative learning environment?

Answer: The state of Arkansas Department of Education defines an Alternative Learning Environment (ALE) as:

“A public elementary/secondary school that addresses the needs of students that typically cannot be met in a regular school, provides nontraditional education, serves as an adjunct to a regular school, or falls outside the categories for regular, special education, or vocational education.”



Question: How are students chosen for placement in Gateway?

Answer: 9th -12th graders who are not on track for graduation with their class are referred by a counselor or administrator.

Question: What are the goals of the program?

Answer: Our primary goal is to work with students to catch up on their credits and academic skills. Our secondary goal is to help students develop skills, both academic and behavioral, so they can return and be successful in the regular school program.

Question: Will students stay in Gateway until they graduate?

Answer: No. Our goal is that students will return to regular classrooms when they are back on track and prepared for success.



Question: What courses are offered in Gateway?

Answer: The emphasis in Gateway is upon successful completion of core courses required for graduation. Few electives are offered.



Question: What are the differences between Gateway and regular classes?

Answer: Arkansas alternative schools are required to meet all of the same standards as a regular public school, including having certified teachers and following regular curriculum. However, many additional benefits are offered, including:

- Staff training in working with at-risk students
- Smaller class sizes (half the normal class size)
- Extra counselor time
- Field trips, guest speakers, and social skills curriculum
- Computer-based credit retrieval classes

Question: Are Gateway class schedules the same as a typical Bentonville High School class schedule?

Answer: No. The actual daily class schedule is arranged to provide an opportunity for Gateway students to earn more credits than the typical BHS class schedule. However, Gateway classes begin at 8:35 AM and end at 3:35 PM just like a typical Bentonville High School class schedule.

Bentonville High School
1801 SE J Street
Bentonville, AR 72712