



Gower School District 62  
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## Superintendent's Report Board of Education Meeting – October 15, 2013 – 7:00 p.m.

**Ambitious Instruction** – *Classes are academically demanding and engage students by emphasizing the application of knowledge.*

- The Outdoor Education Program at Gower Middle School has been redesigned to optimize student participation and alignment across grade levels 6-8 ([Appendix A](#))
- Gower West and Gower Middle Staff are utilizing Beginning of Year student performance data (MAP) to align instructional strategies to student learning needs (*Just Right Learning* continues)
- Review of 2012-13 academic performance led to the development of academic performance goals at both campuses that shift the focus from absolute performance (summative) to individual student growth (formative) – Annual Student Performance (Data) Presentation ([Appendix B](#))

**Supportive Environment** – *The school environment is safe, clean and conducive to student learning. Teachers have high expectations for students. Students have the support of their teachers as well as their peers.*

- Year to Date attendance rate is 97.6% for the 854 students enrolled in the District and 97.8% for the 137 staff employed by the District. Yearly Student Attendance Goal = 96%+; District Staff Goal = 97%+
- Quest Food Services will provide an “Overview of Current Services” presentation during the Board Meeting (10/15/13) and host a brief question/answer session for Board Members ([Appendix C](#))
- Plans for continued expansion of the District’s Registered Nursing Services is in development (position to be posted) in direct response to our students’ needs (formal recommendation forthcoming)
- Construction Project (Referendum 2012) Updates: The project is two weeks from completion. As of 9/30/13, 97.3% of the budgeted \$8.4 million has been spent on the project. 2.5% is pending costs.

**Involved Families and Community** – *Strong relationships are built across the community to support learning.*

- Common Core Parent Night is scheduled for October 24, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. at Gower Middle School
- Community Open House/Project Dedication is scheduled for October 25, 2013 to showcase the results of the 2012 Referendum beginning at 5:30 p.m. Guided and self-guided tours will run until 7:00 p.m.
- School and District Administrators attended the Annual Burr Ridge Village and School Administrators meeting held on 10/10/13 to provide local updates and align community resources
- “Involved Families” updated to a more inclusive category of “Involved Families and Community”

**Collaborative Teachers and Staff** – *The staff is committed to the school, receives strong professional development, and works together to improve the school.*

- Home Language Survey Data indicates the need to review and possibly expand the current design of the District’s Transitional Program of Instruction (TPI) and associated supports for our English Language Learners (ELL) – An 0.5 ELL Teacher position has been posted to initiate a potential candidate pool
- Staff development on Oct. 11, 2013 focused on “Innovation” in the classroom and included Administrator participation and demonstration of various learning tools/curriculum enhancements
- Teacher Professional Development on Oct. 15<sup>th</sup> included a focus on Curriculum Mapping, Grade-Level planning and INNOVATE 62 pilot opportunities for teachers to continue to enhance our curriculum

**Effective Leaders** – *School leaders work with staff to implement a clear and strategic vision for school success.*

- Technology-based curriculum/instruction enhancements recommended for pilot adoption in the 2013-14 school year ([Appendix D](#))-(Pilot Program Curriculum Recommendation)
- The District is finalizing plans for students and teachers in 4<sup>th</sup> grade to participate in an online ISAT pilot assessment, students and teachers in 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade to participate in a pilot assessment for the PARCC assessment (Partnership for Assessments of Readiness for College and Careers)
- The District’s Illinois State Board of Education required, 3-Year Technology Plan (due 2/28/14) is in development and has initiated a full-scale review of our current state (recommendation is forthcoming)