



Gower School District 62
7700 Clarendon Hills Rd., Willowbrook, IL 60527
(P) 630-986-5383 (F) 630-323-3074
www.gower62.com



Superintendent's Report

Board of Education Meeting – October 21, 2014 – 7:00 p.m.

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

- Hapara is a software management tool that has been deployed to allow teachers and students to transition to a more digital learning environment (iNOVATE 62-led demonstration during Board meeting)
- K-8 NWEA/MAP Beginning of Year student performance data demonstrates growth in both reading and math from the previous school year. ISAT scores show a decline in final year of assessment ([Appendix A](#))
- The ISAT will no longer be administered for Reading and Math. Student performance will be measured by the Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC)
- GW has been selected to participate in the Kindergarten Individual Development Survey (KIDS) as part of a statewide effort to monitor student learning for some of our youngest learners (www.isbe.net/KIDS)
- Gower's first formal "College and Career Spirit Day" is planned for Oct. 24 and will be held district-wide

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 rates: 97.8% for our 829 students enrolled; 97.5% for the 72 Teaching staff and 97.4% for the 64 Educational Support Personnel. Student/Staff Attendance Goal = 97%+
- Student medical compliance reached 94.0% at GW and 97.9% at GM prior to the Oct. 15th deadline. No students have been excluded to date and our nurses continue to work toward our static goal of 97%+
- Required staff trainings (Anaphylactic Shock & Allergies, Diabetes and Student Chronic Health Conditions) continue to be held during faculty meetings at respective schools and led by our own registered nurses
- Facilities Update: Our district architect (Green Associates) continues to work on the GW chiller replacement project with a target date of Dec 16th for BOE action on bids received

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

- "Bring Your Parents to School Day" is scheduled for Nov. 18 at Gower West and Nov. 20 at Gower Middle. Details are forthcoming and have been shaped by feedback collected from last year's event.
- GM's new Teen Leadership class hosted former Chicago Bear and Hall of Fame member Dan Hampton for a live podcast discussion on character and success on Oct. 16th with schools from California and Maryland
- GW's "Camp Out" Family Reading Night held on Oct. 9th was attended by over 200 of our GW families
- Parent Teacher Conferences are being held on two evenings this fall (Nov 6 & 13), details forthcoming

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

- Principals and School Leadership Teams have reviewed parent feedback collected with the 2013-14 5-Essentials Survey as part of their school improvement planning process ([Appendix B](#))
- K-5 Math, K-8 Science, Academically Talented, and iNOVATE 62 Committees have all met this month to continue their efforts toward related curriculum, instruction, and professional development goals
- The PE Department at GM is working on their 2nd consecutive Blue Ribbon Award Application through IAHPERD (Illinois Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance)
- The Gower Education Association (GEA) and our Board of Education worked collaboratively to draft an anticipated timeline for our upcoming collective bargaining process ([Appendix C](#))

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

- Gower has received an English Language Learner (Title III) Grant in the amount of \$27,154 from the Illinois State Board of Education to be used across grades K-8 in support of our diverse learners
- GM has been selected to present at the annual Raising Student Achievement Conference hosted by the IL Association of Regional Superintendents (Dec. 8th) to highlight our efforts of building an intentional culture
- The Principal Evaluation Model for 2014-2015 has been initiated and is based on 50% Professional Practice and 50% Student Growth ([Appendix D](#))

Children at their best!