



Superintendent's Report
Board of Education Meeting – May 19, 2015 – 7:00 p.m.

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

- Registration for our Summer School Programs for students across grade levels (K-7) will remain open until May 29th. Visit our district website at www.gower62.com for more information
- Plans to adopt a new K-5 mathematics curriculum are complete and include an increased alignment with our recently adopted 6-8 grade curriculum as well as an increase in the application of knowledge (Appendix A)
- Efforts continue to enhance our GM Industrial Tech curriculum by adding STEM concepts which include the computer coding, circuitry, sensors, robotics, and 3-D printing (teacher demonstration for the BOE)

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: 95.7% for our 843 students enrolled; 96.1% for the 72 Teaching staff and 96.6% for the 65 Educational Support Personnel. Student/Staff Attendance Goal = 97%+
- Results from the Capturing Kids' Hearts (CKH) teacher survey (5/12) were positive and indicate that the district-wide initiative continues to play a role in the improvement of school culture/climate. Data is being shared with school leadership teams and CKH Process Coaches for ongoing planning efforts
- Training related to concussion awareness and treatment is being added to our list of required staff trainings beginning in 2015-2016 as part of the district's recommendation to continue the football program at GM
- Facilities Update: The GM Locker replacement project is scheduled with a completion date set for Aug. 5th

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

- Kindergarten Parent Orientation Night was held on 5/12 at GW for our incoming Class of 2024 to provide an overview of our new, full-day program and to invite parent questions and feedback
- Registration for returning students in 2015-2016 is underway. Complete your packet today!
- 21 students from Gower Middle were acknowledged at the annual WSCAE awards ceremony (May 6th) for their exceptional performance on the (optional) ACT and/or SAT tests administered this past winter
- Our Board of Education is in the process of filling the lone vacancy on the Board. Please visit the district website at www.gower62.com, and the Board of Education/Elections tab found [here](#) for more information

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

- Professional development for our second year of the i³ learning initiative will begin this summer with a theme of "I'm Lovin' It" and a focus on Google Apps, Schoology, Hapara, and a "My i³ Classroom" course
- Our CKH Process Coaches met on May 4th and discussed plans for our third year of implementation with a focus on building student leadership opportunities around the "Be What You Want to See" theme
- The Board of Education and the Gower Education Association met on May 13th for their 10th bargaining session. Although progress has been made in several areas, the bargaining process is currently "off-track" in terms of the [Collective Bargaining Timeline](#) established in October (Appendix B)

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

- The preliminary FY16 Education budget has been presented to the BOE to begin the official review process
- The district has applied for an ICE grant (Illinois Clean Energy) valued over \$10,000 in an effort to upgrade older and less efficient interior and exterior lighting at Gower West and Gower Middle
- Recommendations for hire have been made for to the BOE for each of the 7 vacancies expected in 2015-16
- District staff have completed a [Future Ready](#) Technology Assessment in preparation for the upcoming Future Ready Regional Summit being held in June 15-16 aimed at strengthening our local technology plan
- School and District leaders continue to review the potential impact of pursuing participation in the National School Lunch Program at GW and/or GM (www.fns.usda.gov/nslp/national-school-lunch-program-nslp)