



Superintendent's Report - Board of Education Meeting – June 21, 2016 – 7:00 p.m.

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

- Our End-of-Year (EOY) student performance data on NWEA/MAP indicates exceptional achievement and growth. PARCC assessment data has not been received by school districts at this time ([Appendix A](#))
- Our 6th – 8th grade I.T. (Industrial Technology) course curriculum review is complete. Recommendation for updates/support material adoption have been provided to the Board ([Appendix B](#))
- After our first year of Full-Day Kindergarten, informal parent feedback has been overwhelmingly positive, and appreciative – Now a regular part of our program, Full Day K will expand to a 4th classroom in 2016-17
- Our 2016 summer programs are off and running with over 200 of our students participating across a variety of learning opportunities and experiences. A more detailed report will be available in August.

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 (*Previous Year*): 96.0% (95.4%) for our 885 (841) students; 96.5% (96.2%) for our 80 (72) Certified Staff and 96.7% (96.7%) for our 67 (65) Non-Certified Staff. Goal = 97%+
- 4th Qtr. discipline reports show a decrease in the number of infractions recorded district-wide ([Appendix C](#))
- The Capturing Kids' Hearts process will be reviewed based on observation and survey data collected to determine level of effectiveness and to make specific recommendations regarding continued implementation
- Facilities Update: The GM Courtyard Renovation Project is underway and the GW Door Replacement Project will be scheduled pending Board acceptance of recommended bid received

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

- Kindergarten Registration for the 2016-2017 continues (up to 77 new Gladiators have registered to date☺)
- Parent feedback collected from the annual 5-Essentials Survey is based on a 46% participation rate at GW and 26% at GM (state avg. of 16.3%) and is being review as part of our improvement planning process
- The District Parent-Student Handbook Committee met on April 28th to review the current handbook and develop a 2016-2017 draft for Board review. The final version will be posted online in Aug. ([Appendix D](#))
- Save the date for the annual Village of Willowbrook/Gower PTO Back to School Bash at Borse Park and Gower School District's Open House & Meet and Greet scheduled for Aug. 17th (details forthcoming)
- Save the dates for our 2016-17 Curriculum Nights at 7:00 p.m. on Aug. 23rd at GW and Aug 25th at GM
- Gower has been invited by Indian Prairie Library to participate in the "Giving Back Night" event scheduled at the library on July 14th at 6:30 p.m. to feature civic action and service learning projects from GW and GM

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

- After-school committee meetings continue and most recently included PERA, Industrial Technology, K-8 Music, Technology, Sumer School in support of our improvement efforts
- The District Professional Development Committee developed the following list of items for focus throughout the 2016-2017 school year based on teacher survey data: Digging deeper into differentiation strategies, infusing technology with a focus on impact/efficiency, and NWEA/MAP data reporting/analysis
- The PERA Committee met on May 23rd to review our 2015-16 pilot data and to finalize our local plan for full implementation next year in compliance with the Performance Evaluation Reform Act
- On-site PD (NGSS June 17) 4 Cs in July Choose Your Own Adventure... Aug 8 training for new mentors

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

- Gower administrators met 6/16 to initiate the improvement planning process for the 2016-17 school year
- Gower School Leadership Teams will meet this summer to review 2015-16 data (NWEA/MAP, 5-Essentials Survey, CKH Survey) to initiate the 2016-17 goal-setting process.
- Gower administrators have conducted a district 'financial analysis' to consider budget scenarios given the uncertainty in state, and potentially federal funding for the 2016-17 school year ([Appendix E](#))