



Superintendent's Report - Board of Education Meeting – Oct. 18, 2016 – 7:00 p.m.

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

- K-8 NWEA/MAP Beginning of Year student performance data include grade level national percentile rankings that indicate our students continue to excel in reading and math – Individual student reports were sent home with students on Oct. 7th along with individual 2015-16 PARCC reports ([Appendix A](#))
- The Illinois State Board of Education is expected to release final 2015-16 [PARCC](#) assessment data on 10/18. Individual district/school reports will be available as part of the [IL School Report Card](#) on Oct. 31st
- Student/parent access to the newly implemented [FitnessGram](#) program expected by Oct. 28th - Log-in will allow viewing of 'fitness scores' and 'progress monitoring'. This is aligned to the [Enhanced PE Standards](#).
- Using assessment data to evaluate our instructional program is only 'one part of the equation'. Parent Teacher Conferences and Bring Your Parent to School Day may help build a more complete picture of teaching and learning in Gower. *It's about so much MORE than a SCORE...*

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*): 97.0% (97.1%) for our 872 (872) students; % (97.1%) for our 83 (80) Certified Staff and % (96.3%) for our 63 (62) Non-Certified Staff. Goal = 97%+
- Student medical compliance was 97.0% (97.0%) at GW and 97.0% (99.3%) at GM by the Oct. 15th deadline. No students have been excluded to date & our nurses continue to work to maintain our static goal of 97%+
- Required staff trainings (Anaphylactic Shock & Allergies, Diabetes and Student Chronic Health Conditions) are scheduled for Oct. faculty meetings at respective schools and led by Gower registered nurses
- Our GW and GM campuses have been prepared for our annual Regional Office of Education safety inspection (Nov. 2) since the start of the school year and we expect to be in full compliance
- Facilities Update: The GW Door Replacement project is near completion (see new cafeteria doors), and the GW Drainage/GM Boiler Projects are being scheduled for 2017 – bid process is being prepared

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

- Family Reading Night was held on 10/13 at GW and was well-attended by our families & staff (~200+)
- Parent-Teacher conferences are scheduled for Oct. 27-28. Keep an eye out for more information next week
- The PTO/GM Book Fair is scheduled for Oct. 25-27. Contact GM to volunteer or for more information
- "Bring Your Parents to School Day" is scheduled for Nov. 15th at Gower West and Nov. 18th at Gower Middle. Details are forthcoming and have been shaped by feedback collected from last year's event.
- Parents of students from PK-8 grade will be invited to join the YWCA on Oct. 24th at Gower West for an opportunity to learn more about Erin's Law and its impact on school curriculum (www.erinlawillinois.org)
- Our 5th grade parents and students attended a Health Presentation at GM on Oct. 13th led by [Robert Crown](#)

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

- Teachers used a portion of the 10/11 Institute Day to analyze Beginning-of-Year student performance data and develop differentiation strategies related to individual student attainment and growth/progress
- Teachers have submitted their individual Student Learning Objectives (SLO) to principals as part of our annual and ongoing teacher performance evaluation process ([PERA](#))
- District Committees work is well underway including recent meetings held by our Technology, Mentor, CKH Process Coaches, K-8 Social Studies, Innovate 62, K-8 P.E., and English Learners Committees

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

- Gower expects to receive the following grant allotments (federal/state) to supplement our educational programs: [Title I](#) (\$75,657, federal), [Title II](#) (\$16,987, federal), and [Title III](#) (\$22,940, state)
- Gower will be represented at the annual meeting of school officials hosted by the Village of Burr Ridge (11/9) to discuss potential economic impacts on area districts and pertinent updates/changes
- The Principal Evaluation Model for 2016-2017 has been initiated and is based on 50% Professional Practice and 50% Student Growth ([Appendix B](#))