



Superintendent's Report - Board of Education Meeting - Feb. 21, 2017 - 7:00 p.m.

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

- MOY (Middle of Year) NWEA/MAP testing in Reading and Math is complete for students in grades K-8 and mid-year growth data indicates high levels of attainment and growth in both subject areas ([Appendix A](#))
- Registration for our 2017 Camp Invention summer program for K-5 is now open. Visit this [link](#) to register
- The Science Showcase was held on Feb. 9 at GM with two of our students heading to Regionals (3/18)
- Invites for our Summer Step Up program are being sent this week (targeted support in Reading/Math K-7)
- The administrative review process of the district's curriculum design & overall organization of instruction (means/methods) continues and involves the GM Foreign Language Program ([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 rates (*Previous Year*): 95.6% (96.3%) for our 874 (881) students; 96.4% (96.5%) for our 83 (80) Certified Staff and 97.0% (97.0%) for our 72 (67) Non-Certified Staff. Goal = 97%+
- Required staff trainings (PARCC testing schedule and accompanying protocols) were held during Jan. faculty meetings at respective schools and led by Gower staff members
- The Calendar Committee will meet 3/9 to review the 2017-18 and propose an 18-19 calendar ([Appendix C](#))
- Facilities Update: The GW Boiler project bid process is underway for work being scheduled at the end of the school year and coordinated with GM Boiler project. GW Drainage project likely to move to 2019

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

- The annual 5-Essentials Survey closed on Jan 31st and we appreciate the parent involvement and feedback. You helped us achieve our standing goal of 35% parent participation. Thank You! Report to follow.
- Gower has organized and will participate along with 12 local school districts in the 3rd Annual WSCAE Brookfield Zoo Science Fair (2/23)
- The STEM Challenge (K-8) and Science Showcase (gr. 4-8) on Feb. 9 at Gower Middle was a success and involved nearly 200 of our budding scientists and engineers!
- Gower 62 will host a district-wide Multicultural Extravaganza on March 3 at GM from 6:30-8:30 pm to celebrate our diversity. We currently have 16 different cultures represented.
- The GM Band played in the Jazz Concert at Hinsdale South High School (2/15)
- The PTO Fun Fair is scheduled for March 10th (5:30 – 8:30) at GM – Please join us for some fun!

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

- Gower 62, the DuPage Regional Office of Education, and Indian Prairie Library are partnering to host an exSTEMganza on June 15 for middle school students and parents from area schools - more details to come
- Gower staff led a program overview and health training for new staff members (Sp. Ed. Aides) 2/15
- Gower staff will present at the upcoming conference at ICE (Illinois Computing Educators) and will attend a RtI (Response to Intervention) seminar led by the author of our recent book study
- Our after-school committee meetings continue and most recently included RtI, A.T., K-8 Science, INNOVATE 62, P.D. and Mentoring in support of our 2016-17 school/district improvement efforts

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

- A preliminary staffing plan was presented to the Board for 2017-18 certified teaching needs ([Appendix D](#))
- The 2016-17 Principal Evaluation Cycle has been completed ahead of the March 1st deadline
- Data from the 2nd Annual "Freshman Readiness Survey" administered in collaboration with D86 and feeder districts is being reviewed (80% overall participation rate; 78% for Gower graduates – 26%/24% last year)
- Collaboration efforts with D86 continue as the "Freshman Readiness Survey" was launched at Hinsdale South on Jan 11th and is expected to be launched at Hinsdale Central on Jan 17th
- The district's 5-year bus lease program will move into Year 4 (2017-18) ahead of proposed savings schedule
- Gower remains in the highest category of financial strength (3.65/4.0) on the 2016 [ISBE Financial Profile](#)