



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

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

- The IL State Board of Ed approved the [IL Arts Learning Standards](#) to begin with the 2018-19 school year
- The K-8 Music Curriculum Committee recommends Quaver Music for adoption for 2017-18 ([Appendix A](#))
- District administrators have developed an alternative plan to preserve the middle school elective, increase student choice and phase-in the restructuring of the GM Foreign Language Program ([Appendix B](#))
- Registration for our 2017 Camp Invention summer program for K-5 is now open. Visit this [link](#) to register
- [PARCC](#) testing will begin on April 10th for students in grades 3-8 in English Language Arts and Math

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*): 95.5% (96.2%) for our 885 (889) students; 96.1% (96.5%) for our 83 (80) Certified Staff and 96.6% (97.0%) for our 72 (67) Non-Certified Staff. Goal = 97%+
- 3rd Qtr. Discipline Reports indicate that our schools remain on pace to reduce the total number of student referrals from the previous school year ([Appendix C](#))
- Culture/Climate surveys will be administered to students in grades 2-8 to evaluate [CKH](#) implementation
- Required staff trainings (Behavior Intervention for Students with Disabilities and ADD/ADHD) were held during Feb. faculty meetings at respective schools and led by Gower staff members
- Facilities Update: The GW Boiler project bid is complete with recommendation to Board ([Appendix D](#))

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

- Gower 62 is working with the Indian Prairie Public Library to develop a menu of summer class offerings led by Gower staff (more information to be shared in the IPPL spring newsletter)
- The Multicultural Extravaganza (3/3) and the PTO Fun Fair (3/10) were both well-attended events and received positive feedback from the Gower Community
- Gower will participate in the [WSCAE](#) Student Art Expo on April 29 at the Chaney Mansion in Oak Park
- Gower Middle was represented at the [IESA State Tournament in Wrestling](#) (3/11) in DeKalb and will be represented at the [IJAS South Suburban Regional Science Fair Competition](#) in Aurora (3/18)
- Kindergarten Registration for the 2017-2018 school year was held on 4/15 at Gower West (40+ students)
- Additional ways to interact with Gower on social media include the Gower App (available now: search 'Gower 62'), #ThisIsGower or #Gower62 on Twitter and #Gower62 Teaching and Learning on Instagram
- Legislative Update: District administrators continue to monitor the work of the General Assembly in Springfield related to the school budget formula and await a decision regarding property tax rates

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

- The Calendar Committee met (3/9) and recommends adoption of the revised 2017-18 & proposed 2018-19 school calendar - note revisions to 2016-17 Winter Break schedule ([Appendix E](#))
- The [PERA](#) Joint Committee is scheduled to meet (4/10) to review district's [PERA Model](#)
- Committee meetings continue and most recently included the RtI, Tech Team, Process Coaches, Summer Step Up, K-8 Art, K-8 Music, & K-8 Science in support of our 2016-17 school/district improvement efforts
- The Teacher Institute Day scheduled for March 24 includes guest speaker, Maggie Essig from the [Illinois Resource Center](#), who specializes in technology integration and English language development

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

- The 2017-18 registration process for returning students will begin after spring break and a recommendation has been made for no increase to student fees (fees have not increased since 2014)
- The 2016-17 Non-Tenured Teacher Evaluation Cycle is complete and met the March 1st state deadline
- The ROE Compliance visit (Jan. 19) report included a recommendation for Full Recognition ([Appendix F](#))
- Final adjustments to the 2016 tax levy which will fund the 2017-18 school year will be filed with the [DuPage County Clerk's](#) Office prior to the March 29 deadline (final EAV values are expected by March 20)