



Superintendent's Report - Board of Education Meeting – May 16, 2017 - 7:00 p.m.

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

- The P.E. Dept. has submitted student fitness data related to Enhanced P.E. requirements ([Appendix A](#))
- The K-8 Social Studies Committee recommends the development of local curriculum development for 2017-18 to supplement that existing text in K-4 and recommends additional material for 5-8 ([Appendix B](#))
- District/school admin. recommend purchase of Middlebury Interactive Language to accommodate course selections made by current 5th-8th gr. students in the restructured class/elective schedule ([Appendix C](#))
- End of Year (EOY) NWEA/MAP testing is complete for grades K-8. District and school level data for the 2016-17 school year will be reported in June
- GW & GM will host summer contests for their students through [Stride Academy](#). Students will be able to earn “badges” for a chance to win prizes. Details will be sent home through our school offices (5/26)

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*): 95.4% (96.1%) for our 891 (885) students; 95.8% (96.4%) for our 83 (80) Certified Staff and 96.5% (96.8%) for our 70 (67) Non-Certified Staff. Goal = 97%+
- Required staff trainings (Review of School Crisis Plan/Safety Drills) were held during April faculty meetings at respective schools and led by Gower staff members
- Our annual CKH student and teacher survey was launched and results will be analyzed this summer
- Gower participated in a D86 feeder-school summit (5/3) to discuss Social/Emotional Learning strategies
- Facilities Update: Gower is working with the IL Dept. of Public Health to ensure that local water sampling and testing for lead meet requirements of [Public Act 099-0922](#) (results to be sent home/posted in summer)

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

- 2017-18 kindergarten registration school year continues with 69 new Gladiators ready to go (May 16' = 73)
- Our Annual Spring Musical (4/27-28) and the Annual Band Concert (5/4) were well-attended and demonstrated the high value placed on our music/band program
- The PTO Celebration of the Arts (4/26) and the [WSCAE Art Show](#) (4/29) displayed the variety of interests and talents held by our students and the importance of a well-rounded educational experience
- Gower was represented at the State Science Fair (5/6 at NIU) with one of our students earning “Gold”
- A Team of our 3rd-5th graders competed in the Elementary Science Olympiad on (5/6) and placed (5th or better) in 8 of the 12 events held. This was Gower's second year in the competition
- Kindergarten Orientation is scheduled for 5/18 (7-8 p.m. @ GW) to welcome the Class of 2026

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 & most recently included Professional Development, RIF, A.T., Mentoring, K-4 Social Studies, Innovate 62, Handbook, and Tech in support of our improvement efforts
- The 2017-18 Parent Student Handbook draft is expected as part of the June 20 Board meeting
- The theme for our Summer Professional Development Program is “*Oh, the Things you can Think!*” and will be led by Gower staff and include a variety of technology integration as well as a path to [Google](#) Certification
- Our [PERA Committee](#) will meet 5/23 to review first year data and review process for 2017-2018

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

- Review of 5-Essential Survey data indicates district-wide improvement across measures ([Appendix D](#))
- The Board received a Personnel/Staffing update including a review of our current budget; recent budget trends including a review of our “structured deficit”; and review of our Pupil to Admin Ratio ([Appendix E](#))
- The preliminary FY18 Education Fund budget has been presented to the BOE for review
- “Freshman Readiness” data collected from our graduates indicate learning to apply technology to support learning as a strength & learning to identify/resolve stress factors as an area of development (report in June)
- The selection process to fill our six (6) anticipated teacher vacancies in 2017-18 is well underway with final recommendations for new candidates expected ahead of our July 1st target date