



Superintendent's Report - Board of Education Meeting – February 19, 2019 - 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](#))
- The 2019 Caudill Challenge at Gower Middle included students (and staff) reading a total of 903 books from the list, and 14 of our students finished all 20 of the nominated titles.
- Science Showcase participants in grades 5-8 will compete in the [WSCAE Brookfield Zoo Science Fair](#) on 2/21. Parents and guests are welcome to attend the fair from 11:30-12:15 pm in the Discovery Center.
- Summer Step Up and ESY Programs for targeted Gower Middle and Gower West students are being planned for June 3-27. Parents will receive a letter and registration information in the next few weeks.
- 6th gr. students completed Robert Crown's "[Life Begins](#)" program (2/15) as part of the Health Curriculum

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): 95.9% (95.3%) for our 873 (898) students; 96.6% (96.5%) for our 80 (81) Certified Staff and 97.0% (96.3%) for our 60 (68) Non-Certified Staff. Goal = 97%+
- Required staff trainings held on Feb. 12 were focused on State Testing Protocols/schedules (the new [Illinois Assessment of Readiness - IAR](#), CogAT) and led by building principals
- Gower will host a LADSE professional development session on Adaptive PE for the Gower Physical Education Teachers and other guest teachers on March 22nd to form a collaborative network
- Facilities - GM LED Lighting Project will begin this month. As reported in Nov., the \$16,000 Nicor Grant will be used with the recent \$3,700 ComEd Grant to heavily subsidize the ~\$21,000 energy savings upgrade

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

- The annual [5-Essentials Survey](#) has been extended until March 15th! We encourage all Gower parents to participate. We have a standing goal of 35% parent participation and are currently at 34% GW and 25% GM
- The [Gower PTO Fun Fair](#) is scheduled for March 8th (5:00 – 8:30) at GM – Please join us for some fun!
- Families may sign up to be host a food booth, informational booth, or perform during the District's Multicultural Night on Mar. 15th at Gower Middle to showcase and celebrate Gower's diversity
- Attendance for the [Gower Foundation Speaker Series](#) for February 12th was challenged by the weather but the topic of Bullying in Schools was well-received. The final part of the series is scheduled for April 17th
- Information regarding the April 2nd D86 Referendum can be found at the D86 website by using this [link](#)

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

- The Calendar Committee met (1/29) and recommends adoption of the revised 2018-19 & proposed 2019-20 school calendar ([Appendix B](#))
- Innovate 62 is leading an Instructional Bingo Challenge called "March Madness" from March 1-22 in which Teachers draw from a variety of instructional strategies that reflect our i3 Learning goals to implement
- After-school committee meetings continue and most recently included Reading Specialists Collaboration, Science Showcase/STEM Challenge, District Calendar Committee, K-8 ELA, and GM Foreign Language
- GM PE Teachers submitted an [IAHPERD](#) grant application for new smart heart rate monitors to be incorporated into the 2019-2020 school year.
- Gower staff will present at the upcoming conference at ICE (Illinois Computing Educators) and members of the INNOVATE 62 Committee will also attend the conference for professional learning

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

- District Admin continue to share the Gower eLearning model (now used in some districts) and have collected feedback & program data to begin the evaluation process; Board update provided ([Appendix C](#))
- GW and GM Admin and School Leadership Teams have applied to be [IL EMPOWER](#) 'learning partners'
- Gower Admin will complete the [EL - Title III](#) Intent to Apply application with local partners by March 1st
- A recommendation for 2019-2020 school registration and transportation fees has been provided to the Board and includes a rate of inflation fee adjustment to the 2014-15 fee levels ([Appendix D](#))
- A preliminary staffing plan was presented to the Board for the 2019-20 school year ([Appendix E](#))