



## Gower School District 62

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### Superintendent's Report - Board of Education Meeting – March 19, 2019 - 7:00 p.m.

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

- The GM Science Olympiad Team competed (3/9) placing 5<sup>th</sup> (12 Teams) and earned the coveted Spirit Award; an honor for teams that have a positive attitude, exemplify teamwork, and exhibit sportsmanship
- [Illinois Assessment of Readiness - IAR](#) testing will occur the week of April 8th for students in grades 3-8
- The [Illinois Science Assessment](#) will occur on April 24<sup>th</sup> for 5<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students; our 2018 results indicate that 82% of 5<sup>th</sup> grade and 76% of 8<sup>th</sup> grade students are proficient ([Appendix A](#))
- The GM Math Curriculum Committee is finalizing their recommendation and expect to complete it by April
- Summer 2019 offerings will be expanded to include a new virtual Art Club for grades 3-5 led by GW Art Staff and for grades 6-8 led by GM Art staff; more information to be sent home in school virtual backpacks

**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*): 95.8% (95.2%) for our 887 (904) students; 96.4% (96.5%) for our 80 (81) Certified Staff and 97.1% (96.2%) for our 60 (68) Non-Certified Staff. Goal = 97%+
- Required staff trainings held on 3/12 were focused on 504 Plans, IDEA, and the Americans with Disabilities Act led by Gower's school psychologist (GW) and [LADSE's](#) school psychologist (GM)
- Gower paraprofessionals have a training opportunity on Mar. 22<sup>nd</sup> focused on the topic of Data Collection and Additional Effective Behavior Strategies led by LADSE's Behavior Consultant
- Facilities - GM LED Lighting Project (Phase 1) complete with anticipated annual savings of \$3,600 (energy) and \$2,400 (maintenance). Plans for GW LED Lighting Project (Phase 1) underway for spring/summer 19

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

- The annual [5-Essentials Survey](#) closed with parent participation rates of 34% at GW and 25% for GM missing our standing goal of 35%. Full report forthcoming as we await data set from Univ. of Chicago
- Gower celebrated its diversity at the 4<sup>th</sup> annual Multicultural Night on March 15<sup>th</sup> at GM. Culture Trivia, cultural dances performed by students and parents, and a variety of foods were enjoyed by participants
- The [Gower PTO](#) Fun Fair was well-attended and the feedback on the shortened time frame was positive
- The final part of the [Gower Foundation Speaker Series](#) has been rescheduled to April 16<sup>th</sup> - (*Kids and Tech*)
- Kindergarten Registration for 2019-20 was held on 3/2 at GW; Student count of 60 similar to last year (-2)
- Gower was awarded \$8,000 through the Follett Challenge and was the 2<sup>nd</sup> highest number of votes. Funds will be used to enhance our library collections. Thank you Gower Community for your support!
- Information regarding the April 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 revised 2019-2020 school calendar presented to the Board (2/19) was posted to the district website (2/20) and shared in the Community Newsletter (2/21). Approval of draft recommended ([Appendix B](#))
- The BOE and GEA continue to collaborate in preparation for formal approval of Gower's eLearning Plan
- GW & GM School Leadership Teams applied to be [ILEMPOWER](#) support providers for partnering school
- After-school committee meetings continue and most recently included K-8 ELL, Reading Specialists Collaboration, Professional Development, District Technology, and Innovate 62
- Institute Day (3/22) will consist of professional learning in supporting English Learners, Supporting Independence in the Inclusive Classroom & Life Readiness Framework, and Advisory planning (GM)

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

- The Gower eLearning model (now used in a number of districts) continues to be updated in accordance with anticipated changes to legislation ([SB28](#)) and School Code for 2019-20 ([Appendix C](#))
- 4<sup>th</sup> Annual High School Transition Survey was administered in collaboration with D86 and local feeder districts and the data indicate a high degree of readiness from our most recent graduates ([Appendix D](#))
- District administrators continue to review staffing plans for the 2019-20 school year with an ongoing commitment to maximize student supports and a further consolidation of administrative functions
- The 2018-19 Non-Tenured Teacher Evaluation Cycle is complete and met the March 1<sup>st</sup> state deadline
- The 2018-19 Principal Evaluation Cycle has been completed ahead of the March 1<sup>st</sup> state deadline