



Superintendent's Report - Board of Education Meeting – June 18, 2019 - 7:00 p.m.

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

- Our End-of-Year (EOY) student performance data on NWEA/MAP indicates exceptional achievement and growth; 10/10 district-wide student achievement goals were met ([Appendix A](#))
- 2018-19 preliminary [IAR](#) state-testing data indicates 62% of our 3rd-8th graders 'met or exceeded standards' in Reading (ELA); 59% in Math - 64% in Reading and 60% in Math previous year (full report this fall)
- Our 2019 summer programs are off and running with over 250 of our students expected to participate across a variety of learning opportunities and experiences. A more detailed report will be available in August
- Innovate 62 and Tech Team are on-schedule for the recommended SMART Board replacement cycle at GW
- 'Compassion, Empathy, Speaking Up' has emerged as the theme at Gower West for the 2019-20 school-wide reading initiative with work underway for the inclusion of Gower Middle students and staff

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% (95.3%) for our 884 (904) students; 96.3% (96.4%) for our 80 (80) Certified Staff and 97.3% (96.3%) for our 60 (68) Non-Certified Staff. Goal = 97%+
- 4th Qtr. discipline reports show an increase in the number of infractions reported for 2018-19 ([Appendix B](#))
- GM staff & student feedback collected about Advisory was positive and provided a number of ideas for continuing to strengthen the program as it heads into its 2nd year (e.g. themes, consistency, direct support)
- GM HVAC Project underway along with GW LED Lighting Project (Phase 1) - Preliminary energy savings analysis for GM LED light project (March - June/year to year) yields average monthly reduction of over 10,000 kilowatt hours; ~18% energy consumption reduction in line with ~2-year full return on investment

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

- Preliminary [5-Essentials Survey Data](#) indicates overall improvement and improvement in targeted areas for 2018-19 and will be used in 2019-20 goal setting - full report this fall after public release (6/30)
- 2019-20 kindergarten registration school year continues with 71 new Gladiators (*May 18' = 80; 17' = 72*)
- The District Parent-Student Handbook Committee met on May 6th to review the current handbook and develop a 2019-2020 draft for Board review. The final version will be posted online in Aug. ([Appendix C](#))
- Save the date for the annual Village of Willowbrook/Gower PTO Back to School Bash at Gower West and Gower School District's Open House & Meet and Greet scheduled for Aug. 14th (details forthcoming)
- Save the dates for our 2019-20 Curriculum Nights at 7:00 p.m. on Aug. 22nd at GW and Aug 29th at GM
- The Gower Foundation for Excellence in Education is planning the [Parent Speaker Series](#) for 2019-20

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

- On May 21st, Gower hosted a Google Hangout Roundtable Session with a District Exploratory Committee from Oak Lawn School District 123 to share our eLearning experiences and implementation plan
- Our Summer Professional Development Program, Continuing Education Vacation led by Gower staff, includes more than 50 of our teachers participating across blended and virtual excursions
- The District Professional Development Committee is planning Year 2 of #GowerLEARNS
- New Teacher I³-Week/Orientation will be held Aug. 7-9 & Teacher Institute is scheduled for Aug. 13/14
- GW and GM School Leadership Teams will meet this summer to review 2018-19 data (NWEA/MAP, 5-Essentials Survey, CKH Survey) and engage in the 2019-20 goal-setting process in accordance with [ESSA](#)

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

- GM has been selected as an [IL EMPOWER](#) Peer to Peer Learning Partner and joins GW as a ISBE Partner
- Governor Pritzker signed SB28 (6/7), now [Public Act 101-0012](#) which preserves flexibility for eLearning - Gower's implementation and approval process serves as a model for the DuPage Region and beyond
- The selection process to fill our (7) anticipated teacher vacancies in 2019-20 (*retirement, resignation, leave*) is on schedule to meet our July 1st target (*1.0 Reading Specialist position remaining; increased from 0.5 posting*)
- District admin continue to focus staff/restructuring efforts on limiting/reducing [administrative costs](#) and expect a further reduction in state reported values for 2018-19 and 2019-20
- District admin are adjusting the 2019-20 staffing plan to introduce a Chief School Business Official (CSBO) mid-year to consolidate the current Finance Director & Director of Buildings, Grounds, and Transportation