



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

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

- The Illinois State Board of Education released 2018-19 School Report Cards [here](#). Student [IAR](#) data is included along with new [Summative \(Tier\) Designations](#). GW and GM are 'Commendable' ([Appendix A](#))
- GM served as the host site for the annual [WSCAE Civic Action Weekend](#) in partnership with Northwestern University's Center for Talent Development on Nov 1-2. 100+ students from various districts participated
- Our Annual 8th grade Washington D.C. trip took place earlier this year (Oct. 11-13) with 54% overall student participation (41% last year). The D.C. trip is being planned for Oct. 9-11 for the class of 2021.
- Our 7th grade students participated in a [Science Behind Drugs](#) program on Nov. 8th and our 8th grade students participated in a [Teen Puberty/Health](#) program on Oct. 31st both led by Robert Crown
- The GW School Leadership team has updated the formatting of the K-4 Report Cards ([Appendix B](#))

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*): 96.9% (96.7%) for our 882 (880) students; 98.3% (98.7%) for our 83 (80) Certified Staff and 98.6% (98.8%) for our 61 (62) Non-Certified Staff. Goal = 97%+
- 1st Qtr Discipline Reports indicate a decrease in student referrals at GW & a decrease at GM compared to previous year; quarterly reports are used for annual reporting and trend analysis ([Appendix C](#))
- Required staff trainings in November (11th & 12th) were led by Gower staff members and included Recognizing and Reporting Child Abuse Training for Mandated Reporters
- Facilities Update: Our architects (Green Associates) are reviewing the [2018 Facility Assessment Report](#) against preliminary [GW Campus Facility and Project Survey](#) data for early project scope and work design

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

- The annual [5-Essentials Survey](#) is open and we encourage all Gower parents to participate. Our standing goal is 35% parent participation and need your help to meet it! - 32.3% last year; 24.4% GM, 40.1% GW
- The Gower Foundation of Educational Excellence Speaker Series for 2019-20 continues on Dec. 10th with a screening of the documentary [Angst](#) (7 p.m. at GW) - Visit the [Foundation website](#) for more information
- The Annual PTO Holiday Bazaar at GW is scheduled for Dec. 6-7 - Visit the [PTO website](#) to get involved
- Parent Teacher Conferences will be held on Nov. 25th from 8am to 8pm. Students are not in session
- Nov. 26th: eLearning Day (*Test Run*) - Students are not in session. eLearning activities/assignments will be posted no later than 8:30 a.m. Teachers are "e"available for guidance and assistance from 8:30 am to 1:30 pm
- Early results of the [GW Campus Facility and Project Survey](#) launched for parents indicate a higher priority for adding a STEAM Lab as well as a Full Size Gym for our K-4 students - more details forthcoming

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

- The Gower Education Association and the Board of Education have agreed to terms to amend and extend the [2018-2021 Collective Bargaining Agreement](#) and sign a 2021-2024 Collective Bargaining Agreement
- The PERA committee development an appeals process for unsatisfactory ratings in accordance with [Public Act 101-0591](#) - The process is included in the revised Appraisal Plan posted on the district's [PERA webpage](#)
- Nov. 26th Teacher Institute Day - eLearning training, engagement and collaboration, required trainings
- 2019-20 District Committee work continues and most recently involved our AT, PERA, ELA, ELL, and Innovate 62 Committees

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

- The ISBE eLearning Verification Formal shared with Regional Offices of Ed. is a replica of [Gower's Model](#)
- Gower's teaching staff continue to contribute to the profession through peer modeling/presentations and will be presenting at the state P.E. conference [IAHPERD](#) (Nov. 21-22) in St. Charles, IL
- Gower received grant approval for the following federal grant allotments to supplement our educational programs: [Title I](#) (\$70,116), [Title II](#) (\$17,580), [Title III](#) (\$17,170), and [Title IV](#) (\$10,000)
- Gower is approved to receive \$184,848 as part of the [IDEA PreK & Flow-Through Grant](#) - Funds will be used for professional development, instructional materials, and to offset SpEd Staff salary
- The Principal Evaluation Model for 2019-2020 has been initiated and is based on 50% Professional Practice and 50% Student Growth ([Appendix D](#))