



Superintendent's Report - Board of Education Meeting – April 21, 2020 - 7:00 p.m.

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

- Our [eLearning webpage](#) has been updated to include additional activities and resources as our program continues to adjust to meet the needs of our diverse learners (e.g. remediation, wellness, enrichment, etc.)
- [Illinois Assessment of Readiness - IAR](#) and the [Illinois Science Assessment](#) have been cancelled for 2019-20
- The GM Foreign Language Curriculum Committee recommends the purchase of supplemental curricular materials for Spanish and the continuation of Middlebury Interactive Languages in Gr. 6-8 ([Appendix A](#))
- Summer 2020 offerings and design are under review by Gower Staff as we anticipate additional guidance from public health officials, the Governor's office, and the Illinois State Board of Education
- The 6th-8th grade Course Selection Process at GM for 2020-21 is complete with 5th grade Course Selection set to take place in early May - a more detailed report is expected as part of the May Board meeting

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.*

- Student Enrollment is 892 for PreK-8 (+3 from March); The average K-8 Student Participation and Engagement rate from March 16th is 93.5% (K-8 Attendance Rate from 8/16 - 3/13 was 95.6%)
- The [Breakfast & Lunch Grab n' Go Program](#) is available at Door #1 at Gower West on Mon., Wed. & Fri.
- 3rd Qtr. Discipline Reports indicate that the district was on-track to meet annual goals prior to extended school closure period beginning March 13th - The 4th Qtr. Report will be extrapolated ([Appendix B](#))
- Required staff trainings held virtually during April faculty meetings were focused on ethics and led by school principals (Policy 2:105 Ethics & Gift Ban, Policy 5:120 Employee Ethics, Conduct, & Conflict of Interest)
- Facilities Update: Revised drafts of the proposed addition at GW, developed from our Campus Facility and Projects Survey, are available for review along with the Prototype Classroom Furniture design ([Appendix C](#))

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

- Registration for 2020-21 is expected to begin in early May; more information to be sent in school updates
- The April 14 ECE Screening has been cancelled; parents will receive a packet to complete at home
- The [Gower PTO](#) held their Annual Book Fair virtually from April 10-23 - Use the [GW](#) or [GM](#) links today!
- The last installment of the 2019-20 [Gower Foundation Speaker Series](#), *Using Assessments as a Teaching and Learning Tool*, has been postponed until the fall - more information to follow
- The [District's Campus Projects & Referendum webpage](#) has been updated with renderings of the Prototype Classrooms for 2020-21 as well as the proposed addition to Gower West

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

- Board correspondence was received from Districts 53, 65, 92.5, 96, and 113A expressing appreciation and gratitude to the Gower Staff for their support and guidance in the development of their eLearning plans
- The Professional Development Committee will meet virtually at the end of April to review survey results from staff and develop a recommendation for Summer 2020 and the Fall of the 2020-21 school year
- Curriculum committee meetings continue virtually and most recently included K-8 ELA, Academically Talented, and Special Education ECE-8th grade
- The K-8 ELA Curriculum Committee expects to have a recommendation ready for the May Board meeting
- The March 27th professional learning in supporting English Learners in the area of writing took place through GW and GW full Zoom sessions and remote collaboration with the [Illinois Resource Center](#)

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

- [Board Policy](#) 2:230 - Public Participation at School Board Meetings was reviewed by the Board and Temporary Rules adopted to allow for a virtual meeting to conduct Board business
- The Gower eLearning Plan is posted on the [Learning Technology Center of Illinois](#) database as a resource to others along with a number of other district plans posted for comparison and open sharing
- An updated Staffing Plan has been provided to the Board and includes an additional Sp.Ed. Aide at GW and a Certified District Math Specialist to add to our existing complement of student supports ([Appendix D](#))
- Final adjustments to the 2019 tax levy which will fund the 2020-21 school year was filed with the [DuPage County Clerk's Office](#) prior to the 3/31 deadline
- Preliminary FY20 budgets have been presented to the BOE for O & M and Transportation
- District local revenue projections for FY21 were within 0.05% of the final property tax levy calculated by the [DuPage County Clerk](#) - The \$13,878,826 tax extension represents roughly 84% of total revenue