



Gower School District 62

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

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

- [ACCESS](#) testing for K-8 English Learners will occur 1/22 – 2/25 to measure English language proficiency
- GM student course selection will begin 1/27 and will include a variety of [Course Descriptions](#) aimed at maximizing student choice and expanding the student curriculum experience throughout middle school
- The District's Annual Science Showcase and STEM Challenge (grades 4-8) is scheduled for Feb 4th at GM
- 7th & 8th gr. students are receiving instruction in mental health and depression awareness through P.E. based on programming from [Erika's Lighthouse](#) and led by our P.E. staff, school counselor, and social worker
- Registration for our 2020 Camp Invention summer program for K-5 is now open - Visit this [link](#) to register.

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*): 96.1% (96.2%) for our 887 (873) students; 96.2% (96.7%) for our 84 (80) Certified Staff and 97.0% (97.0%) for our 62 (61) Non-Certified Staff. Goal = 97%+
- 2nd Qtr discipline reports indicate that GW & GM are on-pace to reach year end school goals ([Appendix A](#))
- Required staff trainings (Anti-bullying, Violence Prevention, and Suicide Prevention) were held during Jan. faculty meetings and led by Gower staff members – [Tip 62](#) is our anonymous bullying prevention link
- Gower's School and District Threat Assessment Teams are in place and have adopted procedures required by [Public Act 101-0455](#) - procedures are included in our building crisis plans and part of 1/17 staff training
- Facilities Update: Parents are encouraged to share their input and help guide our Facilities Plan by taking the [GM Campus Facility and Project Survey](#). If you missed the GW version in the fall click [here](#) to take it today

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! - (We are currently at ~ 15%)
- Bring Your Parent to School Day on Jan. 17th at GM was attended by more than 200 parents and provided an opportunity for parents to experience a 'day in the life' through an abbreviated class schedule
- Save the Date for the District's Multicultural Night on February 28th at Gower Middle
- Our Feb. 14th Early Release schedule will allow teachers to host parent conferences on an as-needed basis
- The next [Gower Foundation Speaker Series](#), *Continuing to Invest in Gower*, (1/29, 7 pm @ GM) will focus on the ongoing investments made across our school facilities, student supports, and instructional programs

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

- Gower staff will participate in a [DuPage ROE](#) eLearning Panel Discussion on 1/28 along with D88 & D99
- The District Calendar Committee includes administrators, teachers and parents and met on Jan. 21 to develop a draft 2020-21 and 2021-22 calendar for Board review in Feb. and approval in March
- Gower nurses & admin participated in a Medical Cannabis Training on 1/7 in accordance with [PA-101-0370](#)
- Early Release Day (1/17): 4 training stations focused on District Threat Assessment, FastBridge, i3 Student Outcomes, and Instructional Strategies; The 1/23 Lead & Learn will focus on Leadership Case Studies
- 2019-20 District Committee work continues and most recently involved our ELA and ELL Committees
- Gower staff will co-host a CPI training (Jan. 21-24) at Burr Ridge Park District for area Teachers to become certified trainers in CPI; two of Gower's special education teachers will renew their instructor certification

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

- The District expects to receive the highest Financial Profile Designation from the IL State Board as evidence of effective stewardship of taxpayer resources. Once verified, the 2020 Profiles will be posted [here](#)
- The administrative review process of the curriculum design, organization of instruction, current class size and bell schedule is underway for 2020-21 staffing/program recommendations expected in Feb/March
- Gower is in full compliance with [ISBE Emergency Rules on Time-Outs & Physical Restraint](#) (see [Parent/Student Handbook](#)); an updated Board policy is expected this spring after ISBE finalizes rules
- GM will host the annual [WSCAE NUMATS](#) ACT Testing in coordination with Northwestern on 2/8
- Gower hosted the [WSCAE Brookfield Zoo Science Fair](#) Planning Meeting (11/12) and will lead the 6th Annual WSCAE Brookfield Zoo Science Fair on 2/20
- The District plans to submit a [School Maintenance Project Grant](#) for \$50,000 ahead of the 2/14 deadline