



Superintendent's Report - Board of Education Meeting – April 26, 2022 - 7:00 p.m.

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

- [Illinois Assessment of Readiness - IAR](#) and [Illinois Science Assessment](#) testing for the 2021-22 school year are complete - results are included in the [Annual School Report Card](#) published by ISBE each fall
- WSCAE [Art Expo](#) is 4/30 at the Cheney Mansion in Oak Park or use this [link](#) for more information
- The 6-8 Family and Consumer Science Curriculum Committee recommends an updated curricular series to be implemented in the 2022-2023 school year ([Appendix A](#))
- [Registration](#) is open for our K-7 Gower Summer Opportunities; information shared through weekly school eblasts - 8th grade students are encouraged to explore their respective High School program options
- Our [Remote Education Program](#), designed around [Edmentum](#) and aligned to the same learning standards as our In-Person program, continues for the students approved for remote learning (GW - 4; GM - 3)

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: 93.0% for our 554 GW students; 95.6% for our 385 GM students; 96.1% for our 93 Certified Staff and 95.4% for our 59 Non-Certified Staff. Goal = 97%+
- [COVID-19 Community Levels](#) were introduced to help communities decide what prevention steps to take based on the latest data and have impacted state reporting rules and local metrics in our [Reopening Plan](#)
- We ask parents to cooperate with masking and testing requests when notified of [close contact](#) designation
- The ISBE [Equity Journey Continuum](#), is an informational tool for districts to identify and work to close gaps in student achievement, opportunities, and supports ([Appendix B](#))
- Required Staff Trainings (April 12th) focused on Ethics for Educators and was led by Principals Required staff (Policy 2:105 Ethics & Gift Ban, Policy 5:120 Employee Ethics, Conduct, & Conflict of Interest)
- Facilities Update: The ground has been officially broken on the Gower West addition. Weekly [Campus Project](#) construction meetings continue and our [April Update](#) has been added to the Project webpage

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

- Registration for 2022-23 began on April 14th - use our dedicated [registration webpage](#) to get started
- Gower Cares partnered with [Project Rise](#) to pack snack bags for students over spring break. The packing event was held March 22nd with snacks provided through Gower Foundation & Student Council donations
- Our final ECE Screening for the 2022-23 school year was held on April 19th at Gower West
- The [Gower PTO](#) held their Annual Book Fair on April 18-20 at GW and will host on April 26-27 at GM
- The [Gower Foundation](#) held their Celebrating Differences Event (3/17) and the Fine Art Symposium (4/21) and encourage Gower Families to Save the Date for the [Gower Foundation Gala](#) on Sept. 17, 2022

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

- 2021-22 District Committee work continues and most recently involved our FACS, Special Education Teams, K-4 Math, ELL, Professional Development, and AT
- 4/15 Professional Learning focused on Planning for Instruction at GW and Staff Culture Building at GM
- The Professional Development Committee is offering a variety of virtual summer learning opportunities for staff including SMART tools for Increased Student Collaboration, Google Certification, *Tech Like a Pirate* book club, Using Video to Enhance Your Lessons, and Google Meet/Go Guardian Advanced Tools
- 6th grade team meetings have focused on grading practices in preparation for the utilization of the standards-based grading model in 6th grade, and select specials courses, in 2022-23 (Board Report in May)

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

- District administrators continue hiring and staffing recommendations in accordance with the 2022-23 Staffing Plan presented at the March Board meeting and in preparation for the upcoming school year
- Preliminary FY23 budgets have been presented to the Board of Education for O & M and Transportation
- Final allocation of the 2021 tax levy extension was filed with the [DuPage County Clerk's Office](#) prior to the 3/31 deadline. The \$14,524,556 tax levy comprises 86% of the 2022-23 school year total revenue expected
- Gower was represented in the Illinois Association of School Business Officials ([IASBO](#)) Spring 2022, *Update Magazine, Leadership and Wellness Issue* article, [Pandemic Aftershock: Looking Back and Moving Forward](#)