



Superintendent's Report - Board of Education Meeting – February 15, 2022 - 7:00 p.m.

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

- MOY (Middle of Year) NWEA/MAP testing in Reading and Math is complete for students in grades K-8 and mid-year growth data indicates high levels of attainment and growth in both subject areas ([Appendix A](#))
- The GM student course selection for 2022-23 began on 2/4 with [course descriptions](#) available on our Parent Info/Curriculum and Assessment (Additional Information) page
- GW 4th grade students were selected to participate in the [National Assessment of Educational Progress](#) (NAEP) in Math & Reading on 1/26 - data is used to help compile state and national report cards
- Summer Step Up and ESY Programs for targeted Gower Middle and Gower West students are being planned for June 6-30. Parents will receive a letter and registration information in the next few weeks
- 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 - 5; 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 547 GW students; 95.7% for our 379 GM students; 96.2% for our 93 Certified Staff and 96.2% for our 59 Non-Certified Staff. Goal = 97%+
- Updates provided on our District News Page and Community Newsletter reflect the latest information related to the ongoing COVID-19 mandates (including masks) - Remember: *We're in this Together!*
- Required Staff Trainings (Feb. 8) focused on annual State Testing schedules ([LAR](#)) and led by Principals
- Our Restraint and Time Out (RTO) Oversight Team will hold their annual meeting on 3/3 - [P.A. 102-0339](#)
- Facilities Update: Final bid packages for construction at GW were approved by the Board (1/18) with the first construction planning meeting held on 2/9. Visit the [Campus Projects](#) webpage to track progress

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

- The annual [5-Essentials Survey](#) opened on Jan. 11th. We have a standing goal of 35% parent participation and encourage all of our families to help us meet it! - Participation rate to date: GW 23% and GM 25%
- The Virtual STEM Engineering Challenge was held on Feb. 10th with 84 families participating
- Kindergarten Registration for the 2022-2023 school year will begin on Feb. 16th for our newest Gladiators!
- The [Gower PTO](#) Funfair is being planned for March 4th pending local health conditions and with group size limited by time slots and gym schedules
- Save the Date for the [Gower Foundation](#) Gala on September 17, 2022 at the Marriott in Burr Ridge
- We encourage applicants for our remaining Education Support Personnel vacancies ([Link](#) to apply)

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

- Early Release Day (2/18): Parent Teacher Conferences are held as needed for Gower West families
- 2021-22 District Committee work continues and most recently involved our Tech Team Meeting, GM FACS, Special Education Teams, RtI/MTSS, K-4 Math, and District Mentoring
- The Homeless Audit was completed by the DuPage ROE with no corrections or areas that need to be addressed. Positive feedback included: "Gower 62 is a very welcoming district and ensures that homeless students are enrolled quickly and given resources to succeed."
- The RTO Oversight Team (Restraint & Time Out) is made up of Teachers, Student Services Team Members, Paraprofessionals, and Administrators and will submit district plans to [ISBE](#)

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

- Both principals have submitted their application to be a National CKH Showcase School and District Admin are applying to have our District be the first National CKH Showcase District in Illinois
- Gower Admin completed the [EL - Title III](#) Intent to Apply with local partners by Feb. 11 for 2022-23
- Gower Admin are working with LADSE to apply for an IDEA American Relief Plan grant, which would bring an additional \$24,654 in IDEA Flow Through funds and \$4,151 in IDEA Preschool funds
- A recommendation for 2022-2023 school registration and transportation fees has been provided to the Board for approval and maintains a reduced rate in response to the COVID-19 pandemic ([Appendix B](#))
- District administrators continue to review staffing plans for the 2022-23 school year with an ongoing commitment to maximize student supports - staffing plan is expected for the March/April Board Meeting
- Gower was represented as a panelist in the Education Writers Association workshop, [Follow the Money: Workshop for Illinois Reporters on Covering COVID-19 Relief for Schools](#) held on Feb. 8th