



Superintendent's Report - Board of Education Meeting – June 14, 2022 - 7:00 p.m.

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

- Our End-of-Year (EOY) student performance data on NWEA/MAP indicates exceptional achievement and growth for the 2021-22 school year. 8 of 10 ambitious district goals were met this year and will remain in place district-wide for the 2022-23 school year to continue pandemic-related recovery ([Appendix A](#))
- The final draft of the Illinois Social Science Standards is expected to be released by the end of June to clarify any new requirements in content/curriculum for our local K-8 program of study
- Extended School Year programs are underway at GM and throughout LADSE for our qualifying special education students. Gower is hosting an elementary classroom and a middle school classroom this summer
- Planning for instruction continues throughout the summer with collaborative work sessions and professional learning opportunities for GM STEM and ESL; GW MTSS (social/behavioral group), and math; and district-wide cross-categorical SpEd programs and whole child support (e.g. counseling services)

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.*

- Our final attendance rates for 2021-22: 93.0% for our 552 GW students; 95.2% for our 381 GM students; 94.6% for our 93 Certified Staff and 95.0% for our 59 Non-Certified Staff. Goal = 97%+
- [COVID-19 Community Levels](#) remain at the High Risk Level for DuPage County. Summer school families are encouraged to cooperate with masking and testing requests when notified of [close contact](#) designation
- The Gower Cares school supply packing event is being held on August 18th at GM from 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. in coordination with the Willowbrook and Burr Ridge Chamber of Commerce
- Our Annual Safety Committee meeting held with our local Police and Fire partner agencies is scheduled for late July to review our existing Emergency Operations Plan and update based on partner recommendations
- Facilities Update: Visit our [Campus Project website](#) to track construction progress through the summer

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

- Community Relations (8:110) and Equal Educational Opportunities policies (7:10) help ensure that all proposed programs, curriculum, and practices consider and remove any disparities or barriers that may exist, promote equity and cultural competency, and maximize involvement across our community ([Appendix B](#))
- Plans for the 5th Grade Orientation scheduled for Aug. 11th are underway (watch for Parent GM eBlasts)
- Hold the date for our Annual Back to School Meet & Greet/Open House on Aug. 24th (details to follow)
- Parents and families are encouraged to visit the [Gower PTO](#) and the [Gower Foundation](#) websites for updated information on ongoing activities/programs Save the date for the [Foundation Gala](#) - Sept. 17, 2022

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

- The Professional Development Committee launched our summer virtual and on-site professional learning program - PDFlix. Nearly 40 Teachers are signed up to participate across a variety of topics
- District Committee work continues and most recently involved our Tech Team and Special Education Teams to close out the 2021-22 school year. School Leadership Teams are expected to meet this summer for 2022-23 goal setting work and review of ISBE's [Equity Journey Continuum](#) and the district's *equity narrative*
- The Parent Student Handbook Committee has provided a draft copy for the 2022-2023 school year for Board review prior to final adoption and posting in August ([Appendix C](#))
- New Teacher Orientation is scheduled for Aug. 17-19 & Teacher Institute is scheduled for Aug. 23 & 24
- GM has launched a '[Gower Houses](#)' approach to promote community building, school spirit, and student leadership opportunities. To learn more about this model visit the [Student Resources tab](#) on the GM website

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

- 2021-22 [5-Essentials Survey Data](#) indicates a 'well-organized' school district and will be used to help set annual goals - Gower Administrator persistence has paid off as ISBE has changed the reporting structure state-wide - [ISBE](#) is expected to release the participating school data [here](#) on June 30th ([Appendix D](#))
- The tentative 2022-23 school budget is scheduled for BOE review at the August 23rd meeting
- The selection process to fill our two remaining Teacher vacancies for 2022-23 is being extended into July
- Gower will be represented at the NWEA [Fusion Conference](#) (June 28-30) as a panelist for *Leading with Vision: Leveraging Voices and Research to Focus on Essential Elements for Improvement*
- District grants for the 2022-23 school year will be submitted by June 30th according to ISBE requirements
- ISBE approved the Consortium Grant (D94 & D106) for [ARP McKenney-Vento](#) Homeless funds (\$4,414)