



Superintendent's Report - Board of Education Meeting – September 20, 2022 - 7:00 p.m.

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

- [NWEA/MAP](#) Beginning of Year benchmark testing in Reading and Math is complete for our K-8 students and the resulting data will be used to shape classroom instruction and student learning
- Individual student performance data in reading and math (NWEA/MAP, Fastbridge) and SEL data collected (SAEBRS) are being utilized as part of our school-based Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS)
- Gower Middle has implemented a new WIN (What I Need) Time period added to Advisory for students to focus on specific skills, interests, and areas of growth (e.g. Current Events, Financial Literacy, Writing, Math)
- College & Career Spirit Days will continue at GW & GM throughout the school year with monthly spirit day announcements focused on careers within the Community
- The ISBE Social Science standards are posted as a [draft](#) with implementation required in 2022-2023

**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: 95.0% (95.9%) for our 547 GW students; 95.5% (96.9%) for our 376 GM students; 95.9% (97.5%) for our 94 Certified Staff and 98.0% (97.1%) for our 58 Non-Certified Staff. *Previous year data*
- 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
- Required staff trainings in September were completed (9/13 & 9/20) by school nurses on the following health topics: asthma, diabetes, food allergy, anaphylactic shock guidelines, and seizure protocols
- Our anti-bullying efforts include an online reporting system – [Tip 62](#) – linked to school websites that allows for anonymous reporting (1 report was submitted in 2019-20, 0 reports submitted in 2020-21 or 2021-22)
- [COVID-19 Community Levels](#) are at Medium Risk for DuPage County. Families are encouraged to cooperate with masking requests when notified of *exposure*. COVID-19 testing is available at both schools free of charge - Visit our [COVID-19 information web page](#) for more information
- Facilities Update: Visit our [Campus Project website](#) to track progress which is on-schedule for Spring 2023

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

- Our 2022-23 Curriculum Nights on Sept. 13<sup>th</sup> at GW and Sept. 8<sup>th</sup> at GM were both well attended and provided useful information for parents to gain a clear understanding of the student experience at Gower
- Gower Cares has received a donation of new school supplies from Walmart and a parent donation of gently used clothing - Please use the following [link](#) to communicate needs to our Student Services Team
- GW is hosting Grandparent Bingo Night on Sept. 22<sup>nd</sup> and Family Reading Night on Oct 5<sup>th</sup>
- Our annual Bring Your Parent to School Day at GW is scheduled for Oct. 7<sup>th</sup> and at GM on Jan 13<sup>th</sup>
- Parents and families are encouraged to visit the [Gower PTO](#) and the [Gower Foundation](#) websites for updated information on ongoing activities/programs

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

- Newly adopted FACS curriculum (grades 6-8) and kitchen equipment are being implemented with a new classroom set of textbooks and online access for students to use
- New teachers will participate in the Capturing Kids' Hearts Training September 29-30 in Tinley Park
- District Committee work continues and most recently involved our District ELL team, District Library/Media Specialist, PERA Committee (virtually), Special Education Teams, and K-4 Math
- Our afternoon Professional Learning on 9/16 is school-based and focused on beginning-of year student data review, Social Science Standards review, and Teacher work on individual Student Learning Objectives

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

- The final 2022-2023 District Budget is being submitted to the Board of Education for adoption
- The current administrative framework utilized for student placement and class size meets our teaching and learning priorities and accounts for local and state budgetary guidelines ([Appendix A](#))
- Gower received an overall 100% Performance Rating/Meets All Requirements on the most recent [Special Education Monitoring System Accountability Report](#) for the 2020-21 school year
- Gower will be represented as a Select Speaker for the first-of-its-kind event, [Be All In for Equity](#), hosted by the IL Association of School Boards and part of their Joint Annual Conference Nov. 18-20
- [ISBE Evidence Based Funding Calculations](#) indicate Gower's 'Percent of Adequacy' for student funding was 113% resulting in \$599,290.35 of state funding for FY23; 2022-23 (FY22 values were 118% & \$599,290.32)