



Superintendent's Report - Board of Education Meeting – June 20, 2023 - 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 high levels of achievement and growth for the 2022-23 school year. 8 of 10 ambitious district goals were met this year ([Appendix A](#))
- 2022-23 preliminary [IAR](#) state-testing data indicates 68% of our 3rd-8th graders 'met or exceeded standards' in Reading (ELA); 55% in Math - 59% in Reading and 51% in Math previous year (full report this fall)
- Our K-7 Gower Summer Learning Opportunities began on June 5th at Gower West (band at Gower Middle) We have over 150 students registered across all programs
- Extended School Year programs are underway at GM and throughout LADSE for our qualifying special education students. Gower is hosting an elementary classroom this summer

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 2022-23: 93.0% for our 507 K-4 GW students; 94.9% for our 381 GM students; 94.0% for our 94 Certified Staff and 96.2% for our 58 Non-Certified Staff. Goal = 97%+
- The Gower Cares school supply packing event is being held on August 7th at GM from 1:00-3:00 p.m. in coordination with the Willowbrook and Burr Ridge Chamber of Commerce
- GM After School Tutoring Program during 10th Hour will continue for the 2023-2024 school year. The program was successfully handed off to two other Gower grads!
- 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: Move-in has begun as the Gower West [Campus Project](#) is in the final stages of completion

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

- Use our [Registration page](#) to complete the process for the 2023-24 school year - Registration began April 7th
- Plans for the 5th Grade Orientation scheduled for Aug. 9th are underway (watch for Parent GM eBlasts)
- Hold the date for our Annual Back to School Meet & Greet/Open House on Aug. 16th (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
- The [Gower Foundation](#) has launched a bonus episode of their [Gladiator Soundboard](#) Podcast! Episode 5: *Ask the Supt!* - Led by some of our very own students!!! Use this link to listen on [Spotify](#) or [Podbean](#)

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

- District Committee work continues and most recently involved our Tech Team and Special Education Teams to close out the 2022-23 school year - School Leadership Teams are expected to meet this summer
- Planning continues throughout the summer with collaborative work sessions and learning opportunities for District ESL and STEM; GW MTSS, GM ELA and SS and district SpEd programs and whole child support
- The Parent Student Handbook Committee has provided a draft copy for the 2023-2024 school year for Board review prior to final adoption and posting in August ([Appendix B](#))
- New Teacher Orientation is scheduled for Aug. 1-2 (Capturing Kids' Hearts Training) and Aug. 7-8 (District-Based); Teacher Institute is scheduled for Aug. 15-16; ESP Staff Institute is scheduled for Aug. 17
- The PERA Committee is scheduled to meet on July 10th to prepare for the 2023-2024 school year

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

- 2022-23 [5-Essentials Survey Data](#) indicates a 'well-organized' school district and will be used to help set annual goals - [ISBE](#) is expected to release the participating school data [here](#) by June 30th ([Appendix C](#))
- The selection process to fill our remaining (3) Teacher vacancies for the 2023-2024 school year is underway
- The Gower Board of Education held an [Open Session Orientation/Training](#) ahead of their May 23rd regularly scheduled meeting to review the [Board Charter](#) and a number of Board roles and responsibilities
- The tentative 2023-24 school budget is scheduled for BOE review at the August 15th meeting
- District grants for the 2023-24 school year will be submitted by June 30th according to ISBE requirements
- District Admin will submit the ISBE Physical Restraint, Time-out and Isolated Time Out (RTO) [Reduction Plan](#) by July 1 in accordance with state legislative guidelines
- District families and staff were notified on June 5th about a data breach in accordance with the Illinois Student Online Personal Protection Act -More information can be found on the district's website [here](#)
- The new District Office is partially open as campus work continues - please call ahead when visiting