



Superintendent's Report – Board of Education Meeting – March 19, 2025 - 7:00 p.m.

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

- The K-8 Social Studies Curriculum Committee recommends new curricular resources for the 2025-2026 school year ([Appendix A](#))
- Summer Step Up and ESY Programs for recommended Gower Middle and Gower West students are being planned for June 3-26 with a new 3-day schedule and a longer day including a lunch/recess/game break
- The required state assessments of [IAR](#) in grades 3-8) and ISA (5th and 8th grade) are planned for April; and students who qualify for the Dynamic Learning Maps ([DLM](#)) in grades 3-8) will begin testing on March 17
- Registration for Gower Summer 2025 Offerings begins on 3/28 - registration details will be included in the Gower West and Gower Middle School Newsletters

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: 90.0% (94.0%) for GW K-4 (K-85%; 1st-88%); 95.0% (95.6%) for GM; 95.2% (94.5%) - Teaching Staff and 96.3% (94.9%) for Student Support Staff. *Previous year data*
- The Gower Student Services Team and [Project Rise](#) will team up again to pack Spring Break “To Go Snack Bags” on 3/26 as part of the Gower Cares Initiative
- Our 4th Gr. students will participate in the presentation, [Substance Abuse Prevention](#) on 5/1 at GW. This content is in line with our inclusion of Illinois Instructional Mandates related to Health and Safety & Awareness. Participation is encouraged. Parent opt out is available upon request
- Staff Required Trainings for March were focused on Cultural Competency, and held at GM on 3/11 and GW on 3/18

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

- The annual [5-Essentials Survey](#) closes on March 28th! We have a standing goal of 35% parent participation and encourage all of our families to help us meet it! - *Last year; 52% GW, 37% GM (state avg. 19%)*
- The Core Stakeholder Team of 50+ Gower School Community members have completed the Strategic Planning process and have submitted a final recommendation for Board review ([Strategic Plan](#))
- 2025-2026 school year registration information for returning students will be available on April 11th - As of today, we have 18 Kindergarten students registered for next year! Welcome Gladiators! (22 this time last year)
- The [Gower PTO](#) Fun Fair was held on March 7th at Gower Middle and brought a huge crowd. Many thanks are to be given to the number of Parent and Teacher Volunteers!!!
- The [Gower Foundation](#) is hosting a Read-A-Thon Bingo Challenge from the end of March-April 18th
- The GM Jazz band performance at Hinsdale South on 2/25 and the Kindergarten Music Program at GW on 3/13 were both well-attended; we expect the same for the upcoming 3rd Grade Wax Museum on 3/26

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

- District Committee Work continues with ELL, Special Education, K-8 Social Studies, GM Math, and the GW RTO Team
- The District Threat Assessment Team participated in a county-wide training on 2/28 to review research and apply our district protocols to a variety of scenarios.
- Gower Middle hosted a site visit on 3/12 for West Chicago Elementary School District 33 focused on our PE/Health program
- The April 18th Early Release Day is a continuation of our work across grade levels with an outside consultant on Learning Progressions, Alignment to Standards, and Planning for Instruction/Assessments

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

- The Gower Admin Team, in coordination with the Gower Education Association, has begun the selection process for the [Director of Special Education position](#) for the 2025-26 school year
- The Preliminary Staffing Plan for the 2025-2026 school year has been submitted to the Board for review and will begin a formal review process with the Gower Education Association ([Appendix B](#))
- Our Board of Education will review the applicants for appointment to the Board in preparation to fill the vacancy after the [April 1st Consolidated Election](#).
- Gower co-led the 2025 WSCAE Science Fair at the Brookfield Zoo on 2/28 for seven member districts - after a decade of Gower leadership, the leadership baton is being passed to two coordinators from D101
- Audits continue in Gower with a DuPage Regional Office of Education McKinney Vento Audit on March 4th and a PreSchool Monitoring Visit happening between April 7-25