



Superintendent's Report – Board of Education Meeting – March 18, 2026 - 7:00 p.m.

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

- The English Learner Committee completed a full program review and an update is provided ([Appendix A](#))
- 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 11
- [ACCESS testing](#) took place from Jan. 26 - March 3 for our English Learners in grades K-8
- The 2026 WSCAE Science Fair at the Brookfield Zoo on 2/27 included 101 student projects - after a decade of Gower leadership and a short handoff this year, our district will lead the event moving forward
- Registration for Gower 2026 Summer Enrichment Offerings begins on 3/27 - registration details will be included in the Gower West and Gower Middle School Newsletters
- Summer Step Up and ESY Programs have been recommended for Gower Middle and Gower West students - ESY registration is due 3/27 and Summer Step Up registration is due 5/1

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 (*previous year data*): 93.9% (90.0%) for GW (K-4; K-94.3% [85%]; 1st-93.8% [88%]); 95.6% (95.0%) for GM; 95.0% (95.2%) - Teaching Staff and 96.9% (96.3%) for Student Support Staff.
- The DuPage County ROE Regional Office of Education completed the annual school inspections for both campuses (3/2) - GW and GM passed with no concerns noted - a standard that we do not take for granted
- The Gower Student Services Team and [Project Rise](#) will team up again to pack Spring Break “To Go Snack Bags” on 3/25 as part of the Gower Cares Initiative
- Our 4th Gr. students will participate in the presentation, [Substance Abuse Prevention](#) on 3/18 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 Social Emotional Learning, and held at GM on 3/10 and GW on 3/17
- GM 5th-8th grade students will receive instruction on [Erin's Law](#) in March during P.E. and led by Gower Staff

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

- The annual [5Essentials Survey](#) closes on 3/13! 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%)*
- 2026-2027 school year registration information for returning students will be available on April 10th - As of today, we have 19 Kindergarten students registered for next year! Welcome Gladiators! (*18 this time last year*)
- The [Gower PTO](#) Fun Fair was held on March 6th 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](#) hosted a Read-A-Thon Bingo Challenge from One Book, One School - *The World According to Humphrey* - from the end of January-March 6th
- The GM Band Solo Contest on 2/21 and the 1st Gr. Music Program at GW on 2/26 were both well-attended; we expect the same for the upcoming 3rd Grade Wax Museum on 3/25
- Download the Gower School District App on [iOS](#) to accompany your online experience

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

- Gower hosted the Elementary Science Olympiad Tournament on 2/21 for area school teams to compete - 25 of our 4th grade students competed and their efforts were recognized at the school level
- District Committee Work continues with Professional Development, GM Spanish, Innovate 62, K-8 ELA, and Accelerated Track
- The March 20th Institute Day is focused on Responsive Teaching: Amplify Your Impact with general education sessions led by teachers & outside presenters with a Special Ed. Team focus on IEP development
- The afternoon Professional Learning on our Early Release Day 3/27 will be school-based and Teacher-directed in alignment with the 2025-2029 Collective Bargaining Agreement

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

- After collecting feedback from teacher and parent panels, Mrs. Meg Hoff is being recommended to the Board of Education as the next Principal of Gower West; a search for a new Assistant Principal will follow
- The Preliminary Staffing Plan for the 2026-2027 school year has been submitted to the Board for review and will begin a formal review process with the Gower Education Association ([Appendix B](#))
- The Gower Admin Team, in coordination with the Gower Education Association, has begun the selection process for the [Director of Curriculum, Instruction, and Student Programs](#) for the 2026-27 school year
- Our School Maintenance Project Grant for the 2026-27 school year, for \$50,000, was approved by ISBE