

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE GOWER SCHOOL DISTRICT
62 BOARD OF EDUCATION, DUPAGE COUNTY, ILLINOIS, HELD IN GOWER
DISTRICT BOARD ROOM**

in said district at 7:00 p.m. on the 19th day of November, 2025

CALL TO ORDER

President Fetouh convened the regular meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Roll Call:

The following board members were present: Fetouh, Akhter, Pitsoulakis, Lupo, Jankowski, and Williams.

Also present: Superintendent Simon, Assistant Superintendent Laratta, Principals Capizzi and Murphy and guests.

PUBLIC COMMENT

School Board Member's Day was on November 15th. The members were given certificates to acknowledge their time and commitment to the Board of Education and Dr. Simon thanked them for their hard work.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

The Superintendent's Report included a separate review of the 2024-2025 State Report Card & Student Performance Data ([Appendix A](#)).

A full copy of the [Superintendent's Report](#) may be found in the Board materials of the November 19, 2025 meeting as posted online.

REPORTS/DISCUSSION ITEMS

Correspondence

None.

Freedom of Information Requests

The District received one FOIA request from Yiran Zhang from SEIU Local 1.

Enrollment Report

As of November 12, 2025, the enrollment at Gower West was 508 students and at Gower Middle 390 students for a total enrollment of 898 students.

First Reading and Posting of the Following Policies

- i. 5:170 - Copyright
- ii. 5:180 - Determination of Temporary and Permanent Disability
- iii. 2:230 - Public Participation at School Board Meetings and Petitions to the Board
- iv. 7:150 - Agency and Law Enforcement Requests

Board Reports: Gower Foundation, PTO, and IASB

The Gower Foundation, PTO and IASB reports were reviewed and can be found [here](#).

District Social Media Profile Performance and Branding

With Board direction entering the 2025-2026 school year to increase social media use and

presence as a strategy for community engagement and outreach, district administrators secured an exploratory contract with RyTech consultants to carry out an increased social media approach from September to October 2025. The feedback has been positive and a performance profile was [presented](#).

Monthly Financial Reports

The financial reports were presented to the Board and there were no questions.

Tentative 2025 Tax Levy

CSBO Brian Riegler explained the levy process for the year for the and noted it will be presented for approval by the Board at the December meeting. There were no questions from the Board.

Board Charter and Social Contract - Self-Evaluation

The Board reviewed and discussed the second item in the charter, Roles & Responsibilities. The Board decided there was no need for revisions. Item six, Board Member Request for Information, will be discussed at the December meeting.

School Improvement Goals 2025-26 - Gower Middle

Principal Tracy Murphy and Assistant Principal Julie Schiffler gave a presentation to outline and explain what the Multi-tiered System of Support (MTSS) looks like at Gower Middle and how they try to offer holistic support for overall student success and growth. Following the presentation, the Board thanked them for their work and asked questions.

ACTION ITEMS

a. Consent Agenda

- i. Approval of the Open Session Minutes of the Regular Meeting, October 15, 2025
- ii. Monthly Payroll and Approval of Bills
- iii. Approval of Contract with RyTech for Social Media Strategy and Community Outreach Support
- iv. Approval of Contract with Colant Landscaping, Inc. for Snow Removal
- v. School Maintenance Project Grant Approval
- vi. Approval of School Bus Bid
- vii. First Reading and Posting of Policies
- viii. Second Reading and Adoption of Board Policies
 - i. 5:150 - Personnel Records
 - ii. 5:70 - Religious Holidays
 - iii. 5:80 - Court Duty
 - iv. 6:10 - Educational Philosophy and Objectives
- ix. Personnel Action: Resignation
 - i. Robyn Palermo, GW SpEd Teachers Assistant, effective October 17, 2025
- x. Authorization for the Release of Closed Session Minutes and the Destruction of Closed Session Recordings

Members Fetouh motioned and Akhter seconded to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

Ayes: Akhter, Fetouh, Jankowski, Lupo, Pitsoulakis, Williams

Nays: None.

Motion passed on a roll call vote.

CLOSED SESSION

Members Fetouh motioned and Pitsoulakis seconded to adjourn to closed session to confidentially discuss the following items:

- a. Other matters relating to individual students. *5 ILCS 120/2(c)(10)*.
- b. Security procedures, school building safety and security, and the use of personnel and equipment to respond to an actual, a threatened, or a reasonably potential danger to the safety of employees, students, staff, the public, or public property. *5 ILCS 120/2(c)(8)*.
- c. The employment, compensation, performance of specific employees. *5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1)*.

Ayes: Akhter, Fetouh, Jankowski, Lupo, Pitsoulakis, Williams

Nays: None.

Motion passed on a voice vote.

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

The Board returned to open session at 10:33 p.m.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS/NEW BUSINESS

- a. Board Policy Review
 - i. 5:210 - Resignations & Retirements - last action - reviewed 12/14/2021
 - ii. 5:220 - Substitute Teachers - last action - revised - 12/14/2021
 - iii. 5:230 - Maintaining Student Discipline - last action - reviewed 12/14/2021
 - iv. 5:240 - Suspension - last action - revised 12/14/2021
 - v. 5:250 - Leaves for Victims of Domestic or Sexual Violence - last action - revised 12/14/2021

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- a. November 21: Early Dismissal Day
- b. November 21 - 23: Board of Education, Triple I Conference (IASA, IASB, IASBO), Chicago, IL
- c. November 22: IASB Annual Delegate Assembly Business Meeting
- d. November 24: No School, Parent/Teacher Conferences
- e. November 25: No School, Practice eLearning Day/Teacher Institute Day
- f. November 26-28: No School, Thanksgiving Break
- g. December 17: Board of Education Regular Meeting
- h. December 19: Early Dismissal Day
- i. December 22: Winter Break Begins
- j. January 5: School Resumes

ADJOURNMENT

Members Fetouh motioned and Lupo seconded to adjourn open session at 10:34 p.m. Motion passed on voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Kate Schillinger
Board Recording Secretary

_____ President

_____ Member