

Approved for posting by Board Consent August 18, 2026

**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 17th day of June, 2026

CALL TO ORDER

President Fetouh convened the regular meeting at 7:01 p.m.

Roll Call:

The following board members were present: Fetouh, Jankowski, Lupo, and Pitsoulakis. Mrs. Akhter arrived at 7:11 p.m. Mr. Williams joined the meeting via phone.

Absent: Polanco-Webb

Also present: Superintendent Simon, Assistant Superintendent Laratta, Chief Financial Officer Riegler, Director of Special Education Dr. Cadard, and guests.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

The Superintendent's Report included separate reports on the End of Year Student Performance Data ([Appendix A](#)) and the 2026-2027 Gower Parent Student Handbook ([Appendix B](#)).

A full copy of the [Superintendent's Report](#) may be found in the Board materials of the June 17, 2026 meeting as posted online.

REPORTS/DISCUSSION ITEMS

Correspondence

The Board received four pieces of correspondence: a letter from the Illinois Policy Institute, an invitation from Ericka Polanco-Webb to attend a Youth Services Advisory Committee Meeting, a thank you note from Mrs. Rebecca Laratta, and a thank you note from Ms. Cheryl Wander.

Freedom of Information Requests

One FOIA request was received from Employee Research Data on May 21.

Enrollment Report

As of May 29, 2026, the final day of school, the enrollment at Gower West was 519 students and at Gower Middle 392 students for a total enrollment of 911 students.

First Reading and Posting of the Following Policies

- i. 6:210 - Instructional Materials
- ii. 6:240 - Field Trips
- iii. 6:250 - Community Resource Persons and Volunteers
- iv. 7:285 - Anaphylaxis Prevention, Response, and Management Program

Board Reports: Gower Foundation, PTO, and IASB

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

Monthly Financial Reports

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

Annual Professional Membership, Conference, and Subscription Expenses

Dr. Simon presented the annual report as required in his contract. There were no questions from Board members.

Gower Middle School - Behavioral System of Support

Principal Tracy Murphy and Assistant Principal Julie Schiffler presented a slideshow presentation about the Behavioral System of Support currently in place at Gower Middle School, as well as future goals the staff have to continue to support students. The Board members asked questions and thanked Mrs. Murphy and Mrs. Schiffler for the information.

Board Charter and Social Contract - Self-Evaluation

NF: thank you for everyone's time for input on the evaluation, celebrations but also some areas to improve on (trust and respect). The goal is to plan some stuff for the Board retreat in August using the feedback.

VS: how much time do we need for training prior to August meeting?

NF: 5-7? Comfortable doing it ourselves, Evan has experience with it, Victor too.

EW: thank you to everyone for doing a self-evaluation survey, I think it's the first time ever. So much positive, done a terrific job, believe it shows the dedication everyone has to continue to do the work as best we can.

ACTION ITEMS

a. Consent Agenda

- i. Approval of the Open Session Minutes of the Regular Meeting, May 20, 2026
- ii. Approval of the Closed Session Minutes of the Regular Meeting, May 20, 2026
- iii. Monthly Payroll and Approval of Bills
- iv. First Reading and Posting of Policies
- v. Second Reading and Adoption of Board Policies
 - i. 4:175 - Convicted Child Sex Offender; Screening; Notifications
 - ii. 6:40 - Curriculum Development
 - iii. 6:145 - Migrant Students
 - iv. 6:190 - Extracurricular Activities
- vi. Treasurer's Bond & Resolution Appointing School Treasurer
- vii. Approval of Hazardous Intersection Resolution
- viii. Temporary Authorization to Maintain Operational Continuity (June 18 - Aug. 18, 2026)
- ix. Personnel Action: Hiring
 - i. Shaina Alegria, District Office & Board Recording Secretary, effective June 18, 2026
 - ii. Kameron Tunk, GM Art Teacher, effective August 18, 2026

- iii. Katie Kehoe, Long-Term Substitute (Leave of Absence), effective August 21, 2026
- x. Personnel Action: Resignation
 - i. Tullio Cox, GW SpEd Teacher Assistant, effective May 29, 2026
 - ii. Judy Kurzeja, GW SpEd Teacher Assistant, effective June 30, 2026
- xi. Amendment to Administrator Performance Based Contract - Superintendent

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

NF re superintendent contract: we wanted to revisit it, and take the time to honor and show how much we value your contributions. Spent time looking at comps and keeping fiduciary responsibility in mind.

JA: echo what Nagla said. Also upon your retirement we wanted to keep the same level that you've brought to this district, make sure others know the value you brought to this district.

VS: appreciate it. Provided context.

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

Nays: None.

Motion passed on a roll call vote.

Done in open rather than closed: **Superintendent Evaluation:** communication ongoing, innovation in leadership (AI, different tech). That's what was in the feedback, positive commentary, make sure we're continuing to look at certain areas and it's what was in my self-assessment too.

NF: very positive, only the third year we're doing this and each year it keeps getting better.

VS: also looking at how to connect across districts and be a leader there, new leadership in 86

JA: communication - how do parents know about how much is happening here? Lots of communication, continuous addition. How is it being received? Innovation doesn't just have to be technology. Starting from a high bar to improve from.

CLOSED SESSION

The Board did not enter into Closed Session.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS/NEW BUSINESS

- a. Board Policy Review
 - i. 7:100 - Health, Eye, and Dental Examinations; Immunizations; and Exclusion of Students - last action - revised 9/20/2022
 - ii. 7:290 - Suicide and Depression Awareness and Prevention - last action - revised 9/20/2022
 - iii. 8:110 - Public Suggestions and Concerns - last action - revised 9/20/2022
- b. IASB Joint Annual Conference - Registration opened June 1, 2026
- c. Gower (Cell Phone) Policy 6:235 Access to Electronic Network and Acceptable Use and [SB2427](#) of the 104th General Assembly
- d. Gower Middle - Anticipated vacancy - Principal retirement June 30, 2027
 - i. Process to begin in August 2026

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- a. June 19 - Juneteenth Holiday (District Closed)

- b. June 25 - Last Day of Summer School
- c. July 3 - Independence Day Observed (District Closed)
- d. NOTE: There is no Board Meeting scheduled for July
- e. August 10 & 11 - New Teacher Orientation
- f. August 18 - Board of Education Meeting, 7 p.m.
- g. August 18 & 19 - Teacher Institute Days
- h. August 19 - Meet & Greet/Open House (4-6 p.m.)
- i. August 21 - First Day of School - 2026-2027 School Year

ADJOURNMENT

Members Fetouh motioned and Jankowski seconded to adjourn open session at 9:07 p.m. Motion passed on voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Kate Schillinger
Board Recording Secretary

_____ President

_____ Member