

Approved for posting by Board Consent September 23, 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 18th day of August , 2026

CALL TO ORDER

President Fetouh convened the regular meeting at 5:00 p.m. to hold an open-session Board Training ahead of the business portion of the meeting.

ROLL CALL

The following board members were present: Fetouh, Jankowski, Lupo, Pitsoulakis Akhter, Williams, and Polanco-Webb

Also present: Superintendent Simon

DISCUSSION ITEMS

- **Review of Closed Session Procedures**
 - Agreed that closed sessions with timeboxed discussions work well
 - Agreed we need to be clear on ask from Dr. Simon, particularly after long discussion
 - Agreed closed sessions with a lot of data to go through should be over two sessions---one to review the data, one to discuss the data.
- **Gallup Survey and Strengthfinders surveys**
 - Reminded of our and how our team of 7/board of 8 work together.
- **Social Contract**
 - Review of current and agreed to review as a takeaway from the meeting. Identified board charter in Section 5 under Closed Session Meetings, will come back with new draft language to consider going forward.

RECESS

President Fetouh called for a brief recess to transition from the open-session training (held in the Board Room) to the business portion of the meeting.

CALL TO ORDER

President Fetouh re-convened the regular meeting at 7:05 p.m.

ROLL CALL

The following board members were present: Fetouh, Jankowski, Lupo, Pitsoulakis, Akhter, Williams, and Polanco-Webb

Also present: Superintendent Simon, Director of Curriculum and Instruction and Student Programming Hess, Chief Financial Officer Riegler, Director of Special Education and Student Services Dr. Cadard.

ORGANIZATIONAL (ACTION) ITEM

Appointment of Board Recording Secretary - S. Alegria
Motioned by Fetouh seconded by Lupo
Voice vote held and approved unanimously (7-0)

BOARD SALUTE

Meg Hoff introduced Sajeedah Shabaneh, School Psychologist
Tracy Murphy - Introduced Hanna Rokofsky Psychologist, Maria Roman 8th grade ELA, Jenna Zimmerman Social Worker, Molly Maci not present and Kameron Tunk mentioned, not present.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

The Superintendent's Report included Curriculum Review Timeline ([Appendix A](#)) and Community Relations and Equal Opportunities([Appendix B](#)).

A full copy of the [Superintendent's Report](#) may be found in the Board materials of the August 18, 2026 meeting as posted online.

REPORTS/DISCUSSION ITEMS

Correspondence

The following correspondence was received since the last regularly scheduled board meeting:

- Thank you note - Mrs. Peggy Coit
- Thank you note - Mrs. Tricia Tokash

Freedom of Information Requests

One FOIA request was received from Daniel Cramer Upgraid RE 6/9/2026

Enrollment Report

As of August 13, 2026, the enrollment at Gower West was 448 students and at Gower Middle 419 students for a total enrollment of 867 students.

First Reading and Posting of the Following Policies

Section 7: Instruction

- 7:100 - Health, Eye, and Dental Examinations; Immunizations;and Exclusion of Students
- 7:290 -Suicide and Depression Awareness and Prevention

Section 8: Students

- 8:110-Public suggestions and concerns

Board Committee/ Liaison Reports

The Board Committees and Assignments Report, along with Foundation, PTO, and IASB updates, are available here.

Monthly Financial Reports

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

Tentative Budget For Fiscal Year 2027

The tentative Budget for FY27 was presented, General question from Fetouh to CFO Brian Riegler if things were going as expected other than what was on the reports

Annual Crisis Plan/ Regional Office of Education Threat Assessment Form

Annual Crisis Plan/ Regional Office of Education Threat Assessment Form were presented to the Board, no questions.

Board Charter and Social Contract - Self-Evaluation

The section for review was- Unity Of Purpose. Dr. Simon stressed the importance of a Board of 7 Team of 8.

ACTION ITEMS

1. Action Items:

a. Consent Agenda

- i. Approval of the Open Session Minutes of the Regular Meeting, June 17, 2026
- ii. Monthly Payroll and Approval of Bills
- iii. Acknowledge Posting of Fiscal Year 2027 Budget for Public Viewing
- iv. First Reading and Posting of Policies
- v. Second Reading and Posting of Policies
 1. 6:210 - Instructional Materials
 2. 6:240 - Field Trips
 3. 6:250 - Community Resource Persons and Volunteers
 4. 7:285 - Anaphylaxis Prevention, Response, and Management Program
- vi. Award of Installation Contract Gower Middle Chiller Replacement
- vii. Approval of Contract Extension (6 months) with RyTech for Social Media Strategy and Community Outreach Support
- viii. Personnel Action: Resignation
- ix. Personnel Action: Hiring
 1. Michele Abrahamson, GW Lunchroom Cashier, effective August 21, 2026
 2. Mira Campbell, GM Lunchroom Cashier, effective August 21, 2026
 3. Rachel Caithamer, GW SpEd Teachers Assistant, effective August 21, 2026
 4. Briana Esposito, GM Special Education Assistant, effective August 21, 2026
 5. Molly Maci, GM 7th Grade Social Studies, effective August 21, 2026

6. Maria Maglaris, GM Special Ed Teachers Assistant, effective August 21, 2026
 7. Abigail Pacyga, GM SpEd Teachers Assistant, effective August 21, 2026
 8. Christine Radtke, GM SpEd Teachers Assistant, effective August 21, 2026
 9. Scott Riedel, GM SpEd Teachers Assistant, effective August 21, 2026
 10. Emma Rogers, GM SpEd Teachers Assistant, effective August 21, 2026
 11. Bianca Zitzka, GW Special Ed Teachers Assistant, effective August 21, 2026
- x. Personnel Action: Retirement
1. Pam Salutric - Gower West
- Members Fetouh motioned and Jankowski 2nd
Roll Call Vote held - Motion passed unanimously (7-0)
- b. Resolution NO. 27-R01 Categories of Positions of Educational Support Personnel
- Members Fetouh motioned and Polanco- Webb 2nd
Roll Call Vote held - Motion passed unanimously (7-0)

CLOSED SESSION

The Board did not enter into Closed Session.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS/NEW BUSINESS

- a. Board Policy Review
 - i. 5:200 - Terms and Conditions of Employment and Dismissal - last action - reviewed 10/18/2022
 - ii. 6:290 - Homework - last action - reviewed 10/18/2022
 - iii. 7:130- Student Rights and Responsibilities - last action - reviewed 10/18/2022
- b. GM Principal - Posting of Vacancy and Selection - Start Date - July 1, 2027

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- a. August 19 - Meet & Greet (4-6 p.m.) and Back to School Bash (4:30-6:30 p.m.)
- b. August 21 - First Day of School for Kindergarten through 8th Grade - *First Day Friday*
- c. August 25 - First Day of School for Pre-K
- d. September 7 - No School - Labor Day
- e. September 3 - Curriculum Night Gower West
- f. September 10 - Curriculum Night Gower Middle
- g. September 18 - Early Dismissal
- h. September 23 - Supt Chat - Open Invite, 5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.
- i. September 23 - Board of Education Meeting, 7 p.m.
- j. September 24 - Health and Wellness Night, 6 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Members Fetouh motioned and Polanco- Webb seconded to adjourn open session at 7:55 p.m.
Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Shaina Alegria
Board Recording Secretary

President

Member

DRAFT