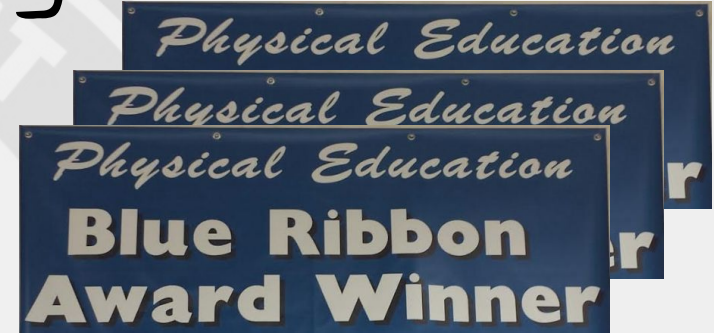


Continuing to Invest in Gower

Discussing Our Campus Needs in Support of Student Learning

Presented: Jan. 29, 2020 as Part of the
Gower Foundation of Education Excellence
Parent Speaker Series

'Good Things'



Continuing to Invest in Gower

"One way for a community to demonstrate meaningful and long-term support for their local public school system, and to see a real benefit in return, is to think about schools as something we invest in and not just something we pay for."

- V. Simon, Supt., Gower School District 62

Continuing to Invest in Gower

Our Agenda:

- A Brief Look Back at Gower's History of Community Support
- Digging into the 'Current State'
- A Glimpse of the 'Future State' for Gower
- Next Steps and Q & A

A Community Preference:

- 1953 - Education Tax Rate of 1.125%
- 1959-1968 - Four Tax Rate Increase Propositions Failed
- 1968 - 0.25% Tax Rate Increase to 1.335%
- 1970-1976 - Five Tax Rate Increase Propositions Failed
- 1976 - 0.35% Tax Rate Increase to 1.685%
- 1988 - Tax Rate Increase Proposition Failed
- 2004 - Tax Rate Increase Proposition Failed

A District's Response:

- No tax rate limit increase in Gower School District 62 since 1976.
- Gower's Tax Rate remains one of the lowest among DuPage County Elementary School Districts. ([County Clerk Website](#))
- Gower has successfully completed a number of Building Bond projects through voter referendum beginning in the late 1950s.

A History of Community Support for Referendum Projects:

- 1965 - Gower West (\$520,000)
- 1979 - Gower Middle (\$3.7 Million)
- 1988 - Gower West Addition (\$2.7 Million)
- 1995 - Technology Expansion (\$650,000)
- 2000 - Gower West Addition (\$6.5 Million)
- 2004 - Technology Expansion/Roof Repairs (\$1.9 Million)
- 2012 - Gower Middle Addition (\$9.0 Million)
- 2020/2021...

Most Recent Examples:

November 2004 'Building Proposition'

*Shall the Board of Education of Gower Elementary School District Number 62, DuPage County, Illinois, repair, renovate, remodel, and equip the schools in the district, including necessary roof replacement, and technology infrastructure, equipment and software, and issue bonds of said School District to the amount of **\$1,850,000** for the purpose of paying the cost thereof?*

71%
Approval
Rate
(3,403 to 1,403)



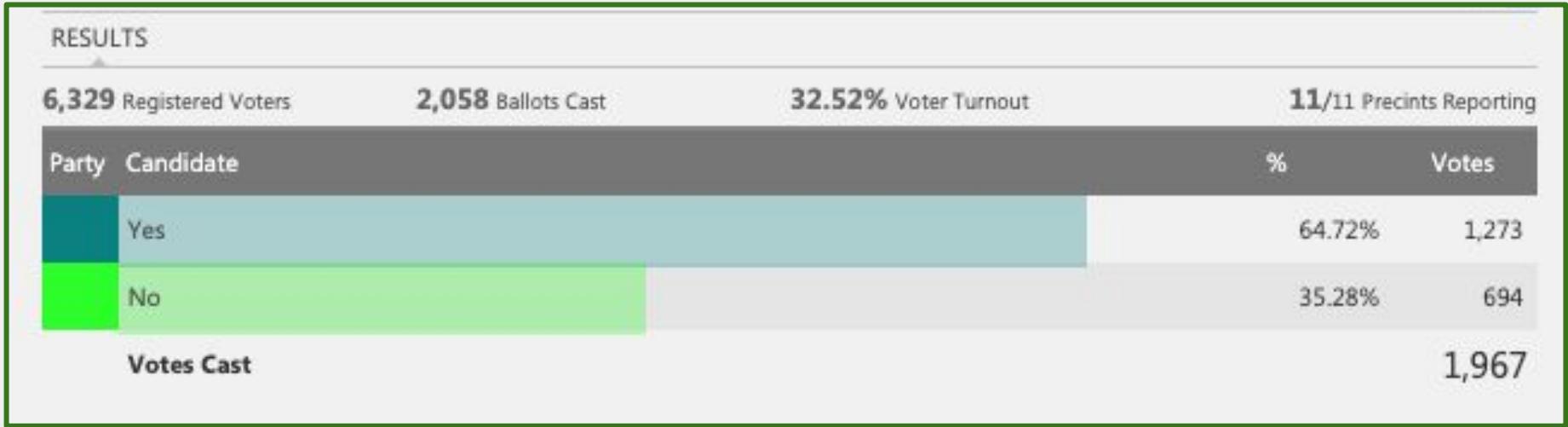
Most Recent Examples: March 2012 'Building Proposition'

*Shall the Board of Education of Gower Elementary School District Number 62, DuPage County, Illinois, build and equip and addition to the Gower Middle School building and improve the sites of, alter, repair and equip the Gower Middle School and the Gower West Elementary School buildings and issue bonds of said School District to the amount of **\$9,000,000** for the purpose of paying the cost thereof?*

65%
Approval
Rate
(1,273 to 694)



Most Recent Examples: March 2012 'Building Proposition'



<https://www.dupageresults.com/IL/DuPage/73890/Web02.192823/#/cid/9500>



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The 'Current State'

Ongoing Investments in Curriculum & Instructional Program

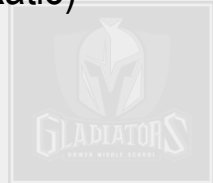
- Future Ready School District Pledge
- Capturing Kids Hearts (National Award Winner)
- I3 Learning Model (Innovate. Integrate. Inspire.)
- Beyond 1:1 Technology Model
- eLearning Plan (Process adopted as State Model)
- Middle School Advisory and Expanded Electives
- Full Day Kindergarten and Expanded EC Program
- English Learner & Special Ed. Program Expansion
- Grade Level and Subject Area Curriculum Updates
- MTSS (Student Support) and Intervention
- Foreign Language Program Expansion
- Summer School and Summer Program Expansion
- Additional STEM Learning Opportunities
- New Cross-Curricular Community Partnerships
- Multiple IAHPERD Blue Ribbons at GW/GM
- Adaptive PE & Communications Development Class
- Student Performance (90% Attainment 90% Growth)
- 5E Data (Highest Rating - 7 Consecutive Years)



The 'Current State'

Ongoing Investments in Personnel & Student Supports

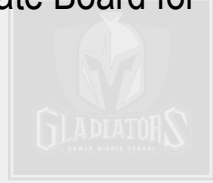
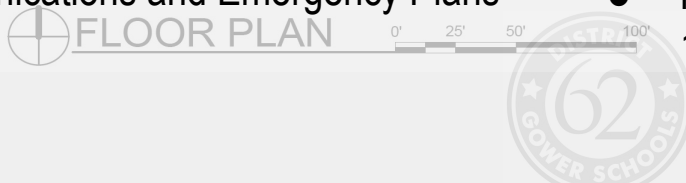
- Increase of Full-Time Employment in Classrooms
- Increase in District-Employed Teacher Aides
- Added School Nurse Support (1 per Campus)
- Added Occupational Therapists to Gower Staff
- Added School Psychologist to Gower Staff
- Added School Counselor to Gower Staff
- Added Reading Specialist to Gower Staff
- Added Special Ed. and English Learner Staff
- Added Instructional Support Specialists
- Increased Staff Presence as Presenters at Regional and Statewide Conferences (P.E., Technology, Sp. Ed. etc.)
- Expanded Professional Development Opportunities for Teachers (Grant Funded) and introduced Virtual Training
- Positive Board-Union Relations (Contract Extension through 2024)
- Leadership Team Continuity (Zero Turnover in 7 Years)
- Effective Recruitment/Transition Planning in Key Positions
- Department Restructure to Redirect Resources to Classrooms (Reduction of Admin to Pupil Ratio)



The 'Current State'

Ongoing Investments in Operations & Facility Management

- Modernization & Expansion of School Security System
- Modernization & Expansion of Internet and WiFi
- Expansion of Facility Rental/Use for Community
- Federal E-Rate Tech Funding of \$150,000 since 2012
- Over \$1,100,000 in Federal Title Grants since 2012
- Reduction of District Vehicle Fleet and Restructure of Bus Routes for Added Efficiency
- Redesign of Bus Leasing and Maintenance Program for Significant Cost Savings
- Effective Communications and Emergency Plans
- Ongoing Engagement with Local, State, and Federal Agencies to Ensure a Safe Learning Environment
- Representation on Regional School Safety Committee
- Direct Involvement with EPA to Secure Air Quality Testing throughout Sterigenics/EtO Issue
- Gower Middle Courtyard & Locker Replacement Project
- Gower West LRC and Main Office Remodel Project
- \$2,000,000 in Local Capital Improvements since 2012
- Ongoing LED High Efficiency Lighting Replacement
- \$100,000+ in Rebates/Grants for Facility Upgrades
- Highest District Financial Rating by IL State Board for 15+ Years



The 'Current State'

2018 Facility Assessment Review

Facilities Summary				
Priority				
	A	B	C	
	1-2 Year	3-5 Year	Future Planning	TOTAL
1.0 BUILDING INTERIOR				
Gower Middle School	\$10,600	\$3,500	\$240,400	\$254,500
Gower West School	\$55,700	\$140,000	\$410,000	\$605,700
TOTAL:	\$66,300	\$143,500	\$650,400	\$860,200
2.0 BUILDING EXTERIOR AND SITE				
Gower Middle School	\$57,500	\$172,600	\$101,000	\$331,100
Gower West School	\$78,860	\$199,750	\$250,700	\$529,310
TOTAL:	\$136,360	\$372,350	\$351,700	\$860,410
3.0 HEATING, VENTILATION AND AIR CONDITIONING				
Gower Middle School	\$573,000	\$1,121,500	\$0	\$1,694,500
Gower West School	\$484,500	\$1,197,000	\$0	\$1,681,500
TOTAL:	\$1,057,500	\$2,318,500	\$0	\$3,376,000
4.0 PLUMBING				
Gower Middle School	\$17,500	\$0	\$0	\$17,500
Gower West School	\$21,000	\$9,500	\$0	\$30,500
TOTAL:	\$38,500	\$9,500	\$0	\$48,000
5.0 POWER				
Gower Middle School	\$0	\$0	\$36,000	\$36,000
Gower West School	\$0	\$0	\$44,000	\$44,000
TOTAL:	\$0	\$0	\$80,000	\$80,000
6.0 LIGHTING				
Gower Middle School	\$2,250	\$0	\$74,200	\$76,450
Gower West School	\$15,250	\$0	\$74,500	\$89,750
TOTAL:	\$17,500	\$0	\$148,700	\$166,200
7.0 SYSTEMS				
Gower Middle School	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Gower West School	\$0	\$183,500	\$0	\$183,500
TOTAL:	\$0	\$183,500	\$0	\$183,500
TOTAL BY PRIORITY				
	\$1,316,160	\$3,027,350	\$1,230,800	\$5,574,310
Plus 130% for soft costs and contingencies, without escalation.	\$1,711,008	\$3,935,555	\$1,600,040	\$7,246,603



ITEM DESCRIPTION	
1.5	Improvements to Sensory Room 31.
1.6	Update main office finishes, provide more staff mail boxes. Casework in office and lounge recently replaced.
1.7	Replace Cafeteria/MPR flooring with new pattern.
1.8	Cafeteria/MPR furniture. Cost shown is for all new furniture
1.9	Storage room 5C, replace doors, add closers to doors at mezzanine.
1.10	Office 44 is undersized for group size. Suggest combining with office 45, and move Speech into one of the rooms between ECC 32 and 34.
1.11	Add windows in corridor walls, rooms 40, PE 41. Add glass in doors Bookroom 62 and 37a.
1.12	Enclose elec panel in former book room / IT office.

[Report Link](#)

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A Glimpse of the 'Future State'

2019-2020 Campus Facility & Project Survey

On your own personal rating scale of 1 (extremely low) to 100 (extremely high), how would you rate the physical campus of...

Gower West = 86

Gower Middle = 87

Please rate the following school campus 'next step priorities' from low importance to you (1) to high importance (5).

Gower West

Gower Middle

Fully Equipped STEM Lab: 4.14

Fully Equipped STEM Lab: 3.74

Full Size Gym: 3.88

Updated Classroom Furniture: 3.55

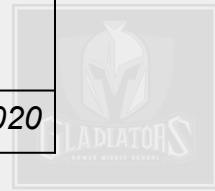
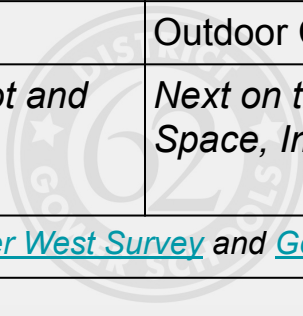
Art & Music Space: 3.65

Outdoor Classroom Space: 3.29

Next on the list: Improved Parking Lot and Traffic Control, Updated Classroom Furniture...

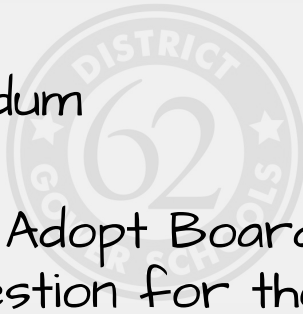
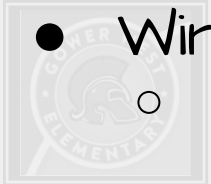
Next on the list: Other Expanded Art & Music Space, Improved Parking Lot...

*Summary of data collected from the [Gower West Survey](#) and [Gower Middle Survey](#) through Jan 28, 2020



Next Steps. Q & A

- Winter/Spring 2020
 - Establish Exploratory Referendum Committee
 - Translate the 'needs' and 'wants' into a Scope of Work
 - Design a Plan that does not exceed our current debt service payment from the sale of 2012 Bonds (Approximately \$1.2 Million)
- Spring/Summer 2020
 - Finalize Project Scope and Timeline for Referendum as Required
 - August 17, 2020 is deadline to Adopt Board Resolution for any Referendum Ballot Question for the Nov. 3, 2020 Election
 - Information Sessions if Nov. Referendum (late summer -> fall)
- Fall 2020
 - Potential Nov. Referendum
- Winter 2021
 - Jan. 19, 2021 deadline to Adopt Board Resolution for any Referendum Ballot Question for the April 6, 2021 Election



Thank You For Attending Continuing to Invest in Gower

Please Contact Dr. Victor Simon at
vsimon@gower62.com with any questions or to follow
up on any matter of concern.

The Next Scheduled Board Meeting is Feb. 18, 2020 at
7:00 p.m. in the Gower West Library

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