



Maximizing the full potential of each child by supporting the heart & challenging the mind

GREAT SCHOOLS MATTER TO OUR FAMILIES AND TO OUR COMMUNITY

D37 is committed to ensuring our children are at the heart of all decision making and planning. With our "Portrait of a Graduate" model approach, we will be sharing our vision and mission in a two-part newsletter series.



OUR GAVIN D37 MISSION—THE FULL POTENTIAL OF EACH CHILD IS MAXIMIZED WHEN WE:

- Provide a safe, respectful and positive environment
- Create and maintain effective home, school and community partnerships
- Develop and deliver learning experiences that stimulate curiosity and discovery
- Utilize resources wisely while keeping the best interest of the children and community at the forefront
- Draw strength from our diversity

IN THIS EDITION LEARN ABOUT

- How our community supports District 37 schools by passing the November referendum, clearing the way to complete capital projects
- How we are developing SEL (Social-Emotional Learning) for all our students
- Our "STEM" program and how it supports our students' natural interests in integration of subjects and real world problem solving
- How our new shared food service program with Big Hollow has met with great success

district 37 views

GAVIN SCHOOL DISTRICT 37
FIRST OF A TWO-PART SERIES | NOVEMBER 2019



PORTRAIT OF A GAVIN GRADUATE

- COLLABORATIVE PROBLEM SOLVER
- EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATOR
- COMPASSIONATE GLOBAL CITIZEN
- INNOVATIVE CRITICAL THINKER
- EMPOWERED LEARNER

D37 Referendum Passes at the Polls on November 6, 2018

Gavin Elementary School District 37 voters approved the November 6 referendum, clearing the way to complete capital projects.

Specific design work began immediately with input from architects, staff, students, and the community. The Board began the process of approving the project phases and design work; then, construction bids were sought and awarded for each component of the project. The District began selling bonds immediately after the passage of the referendum. Once the bonds were sold and bids were approved, construction began.

"Our job as school leaders is to provide the best educational environment for our students and staff. Approximately three years ago, the District began the strategic design to determine the upgrades needed for the current and future educational needs of our students. The results of the Life Safety audit accelerated that process. We are excited that our community understood and supported the educational needs for the Gavin Elementary School District."

—Dr. Julie A. Brua, Superintendent

D37 is incredibly grateful to the Gavin Involvement Group for its many hours of service in support of our student programs through fundraising for events.

The Gavin Involvement Group, similar to a PTO or PTA, supports the following opportunities for our students, families and/or staff:

- Got Sneakers Drive
- Market Day
- Halloween Dance
- Book Fair
- Holiday Bazaar
- Sweetheart Dance
- Family Fun Night
- Gavin Gallop
- Staff Appreciation Week

The money raised is used for educational assemblies, field trips, sports uniforms and banners, libraries, music program instruments, art-related items, and other school-specific projects.

SUMMER 2019 PROJECTS:

- Complete air conditioning at South
- Repair roofing at Central and South
- Replace boiler at South
- Abate asbestos and replace hallway carpet at South
- Select classroom refresh with flooring and paint at South

Separately, thanks to a \$10,000 donation by the Boys Iceless Hockey League of Lake Villa, Illinois, the gym floor was sanded and resurfaced at South this past summer.

"We appreciate our community coming together for Gavin's needs. With the results from the Life Safety audit in 2016, it was crucial to pass a referendum to provide the necessary repairs/renovations for Gavin Central and South Schools. The Board of Education thanks our community for their continued support of our Gavin students."

—Eric Bechelli, Board President

What a win for our district 37 students!

READ MORE ABOUT SCHOOL REPAIRS

<https://www.dailyherald.com/news/20181106/voters-back-funding-for-gavin-school-repairs>



WHAT ABOUT SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL LEARNING (SEL)?



“Second Step is explicitly teaching our students the skills that they need to be successful in interacting with one another—how to be a friend, how to solve conflicts and how to regulate their emotions. Students at Central love hearing about the adventures of “puppy, snail and bunny” and frequently remind each other to take a “belly breath”! By fulfilling the student’s social and emotional needs, their brains are ready to learn.”

—Caryn Redman
Gavin Central Social Worker



“I am very passionate about ensuring that all of our students are offered supports and lessons that focus on the Social-Emotional Learning (SEL) Standards. The SEL/PBIS committee has developed a multi-tiered approach to reach all students, at all levels of need. The Second Step program is a Tier 1 support—meaning all students receive interactive lessons about mindset and goals, emotional management, developing empathy for others, and solving social problems. There are additional Tier 2 and 3 interventions to help provide additional supports and resources to students in need. A weekly SEL communication is also sent to parents to help the skills translate to home.”

—Danielle Christopherson
Gavin South Social Worker

Social-Emotional Learning (SEL)

Gavin D37 takes a **whole child** approach to education, one that ensures **each child**, in each school, in each community, is healthy, safe, engaged, supported, and challenged.



What is social and emotional learning?

Social-emotional learning (SEL) is the process through which children and adults acquire and effectively apply the knowledge, attitudes, and skills necessary to understand and manage emotions, set and achieve positive goals, feel and show empathy for others, establish and maintain positive relationships, and make responsible decisions.

READ MORE ABOUT SECOND STEP
www.secondstep.org/what-is-second-step

Gavin School District 37 is fully implementing a social-emotional learning (SEL) curriculum called Second Step. Second Step is a program rooted in social-emotional learning (SEL) that helps transform schools into supportive, successful learning environments uniquely equipped to help children thrive.

Beginning in Early Childhood, students in all D37 classrooms are engaging in interactive lessons that introduce the three SEL standards:

- Demonstrates self-awareness and self-management
- Demonstrates social awareness & relationship skills
- Demonstrates responsible decision-making

In addition, our students are recognized for positive behaviors on a routine basis as part of a districtwide initiative called the TIGERS program. Students are awarded paw prints when they are meeting the expectations outlined in the TIGERS program. Expectations are set through lessons in each of the following areas throughout the 2019-20 school year:

TIGERS PROGRAM



- Talking level (Voice Level)
- Inquire (I Need Help)
- Goal (Outcome or Learning Target)
- Energy Level (Movement)
- Respectful and Responsible (Behavior)
- Success (Implementation Leads to Success)

The staff will spend this year working through the program to refine schoolwide expectations.



IL ASCD Whole Child Award

Congratulations to Stephanie Kaye, proposal writer, Danielle Christopherson, and the Gavin South staff who received the IL ASCD Whole Child Award. The IL ASCD Whole Child Task Force reviews all applicants and recognized one school for overall recognition and five schools each for achieving excellence in one of the five tenets of the Whole Child. Stephanie and Danielle accepted the recognition award at the IL ASCD Social-Emotional Learning Summit this past July.

THE FIVE TENETS OF THE WHOLE CHILD

- 1 Each student enters school healthy and learns about and practices a healthy lifestyle.
- 2 Each student learns in an environment that is physically and emotionally safe for students and adults.
- 3 Each student is actively engaged in learning and is connected to the school and broader community.
- 4 Each student has access to personalized learning and is supported by qualified, caring adults.
- 5 Each student is challenged academically and prepared for success in college or further study and for employment and participation in a global environment.

READ MORE ABOUT THE IL ASCD WHOLE CHILD AWARD
<https://illinoisascd.org/about/whole-child>

Today, Tomorrow, and Beyond—Supporting Our Students through Integrated Studies



With employment in science and engineering occupations growing faster than most other occupations, Gavin District 37 believes in supporting our students' interests and knowledge through integrated studies. This includes a focus on Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics, otherwise known as STEM.

Students in grades K-4 will have an opportunity to engage in units and activities involving STEM as part of the Specials rotation. They are also offered an opportunity to join STEM Club, an after-school program.

GAVIN'S APPROACH TO INTRODUCING STEM PROGRAMS TO STUDENTS

STEM Grade K Project Launch: Pushes and Pulls, Exploring Weather and other activities

STEM Grade 1 Project Launch: Sun, Moon, and Stars and other activities

STEM Grade 2 Project Launch: The Changing Earth and other activities

STEM Grade 3 Project Explore: Mars, Birdman, and Skydive and other activities

STEM Grade 4 Engineering, Chemical Changes and other activities

STEM Grade 5 STEM (1 trimester)

Students learn about buoyancy/ weight distribution, angle and force needed to propel an object, team building activities as well as how to write code for the computer to tell character or image on the computer how to move or change. This leads into programming the Ozobots to complete an obstacle course.

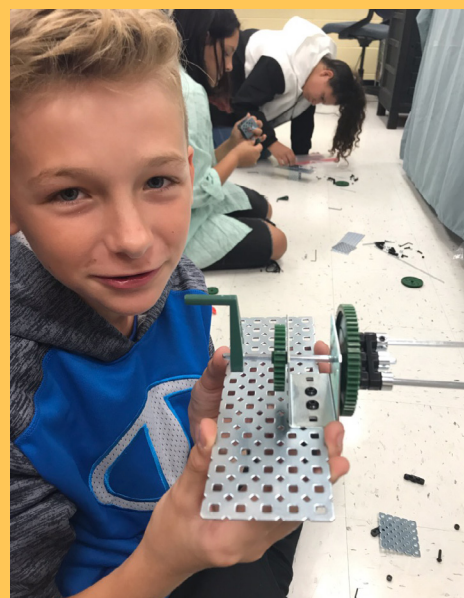
PLTW Grade 6 Design and Modeling (1 trimester)

Students discover the design process and develop an understanding of the influence of creativity and innovation in their lives. They are then challenged and empowered to use and apply what they've learned throughout the unit to design an ankle foot orthosis for a child who has cerebral palsy.

PLTW Grades 7-8 Robotics (1 trimester)

Throughout the trimester students trace the history, development, and influence of automation and robotics as they learn about mechanical systems, energy transfer, machine automation, and computer control systems. They will use the design process and the VEX Robotics System to design, build, and program real-world objects such as traffic lights, pull toys, and chair lifts.

PLTW Grade 8 App Creator
(1 trimester beginning in 2020-21)



READ MORE ABOUT THE U.S. STEM JOB MARKET

<https://www.nsf.gov/nsb/sei/edTool/data/workforce-03.html>

Other Ways Our District Supports the Whole Child

LULLABYE FOUNDATION

Through the Lullabye Foundation, our students benefit tremendously from the generosity of the Foundation which has donated funds for individual student field trips, personal necessities, etc. Community by community, the Lullabye Foundation partners with schools and others to identify, lift up, and "level the playing field" for children and youth, enabling them to have experiences which otherwise—for them—would be only a dream. Teachers and staff fill out an application for support for individual requests, and D37 is grateful for the Lullabye Foundation's support of our students!

READ MORE ABOUT THE LULLABYE FOUNDATION

<https://www.lullabyefoundation.org/>



ENCHANTED BACKPACK

During the 2018-2019 school year, Central School received over 1,800 books as well as winter clothing, games, physical education equipment, TIGERS prizes for positive rewards, and school supplies from a generous donation by Enchanted

Backpack, a charitable organization serving under-resourced schools in the Chicagoland area. Their mission is to make a real difference in the lives of students and teachers by reinforcing key values and supporting the growth of better educated, principle driven individuals.



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GAVIN SOUTH SCHOOL
GAVIN CENTRAL SCHOOL

Mission: Maximizing the full potential of each child by supporting the heart & challenging the mind

Key Dates for Winter 2019-20

Mark your calendars for these important events:

NOVEMBER

- 5 Board of Education Meeting
- 11 Veteran's Day Events (Both schools)
- 14 Student Led Conferences
- 15 Non-Attendance Day (Teacher Institute Day)
- 20 End of Trimester 1
- 26 Board of Education Meeting
- 27-29 Thanksgiving Break (no student attendance)

DECEMBER

- 7 Gavin Involvement Group Holiday Bazaar and Book Fair
- 11 Half Day Dismissal/School Improvement
- 17 Board of Education Meeting
- 20 Winter Parties at Central
- 23-Jan 3 No School (Winter Break)

JANUARY

- 6 School Resumes
- 14 Board of Education Meeting
- 15 Half Day Dismissal/School Improvement
- 20 No School (Martin Luther King Jr. Day)
- 28 Board of Education Meeting

FEBRUARY

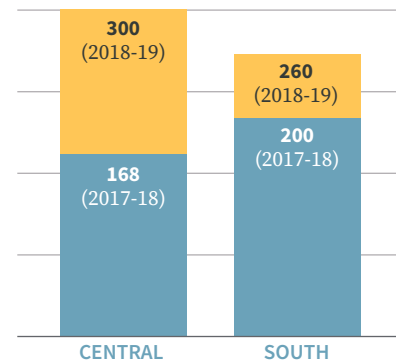
- 7 Gavin Involvement Group Sweetheart Dance
- 12 Half Day Dismissal/School Improvement
- 14 Valentine's Parties at Central
- 17 If no Snow Make-Up Day is needed, then No School (President's Day)
- 25 Board of Education Meeting

Students Enjoy Healthier Food Choices for Lunch with Shared Food Services

Gavin School District 37 has joined together with Big Hollow District 38 to share food service programming for our schools. Under the direction of Shelly Phillipsen, Food Service Director for both programs, food choices have become healthier through better quality products. Student feedback was sought to enhance the program throughout last year. Grab 'n go food and a salad bar are new options for students as well.

More information will be coming soon about a Health and Wellness Night set for April 30, 2020 at Big Hollow Middle School. In addition, a monthly newsletter is shared with Gavin families, highlighting menus and new programs.

AVERAGE DAILY LUNCH SALES



The new Shared Food Service program has seen a significant increase in student lunch purchases. With higher quality products and healthier food choices, the average daily lunch sales have increased steadily since the 2017-18 school year.

Source: Shelley Phillipsen, Food Service Director



CONNECT WITH US



GavinSD37



Gavin School District

#gavin37pride

¿Quiere recibir los boletines futuros en español?
Haga contacto con: jbrua@gavin37.org