



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

district 37 views

GAVIN SCHOOL DISTRICT 37
WINTER EDITION | JANUARY 2021



PORTRAIT OF A GAVIN GRADUATE

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

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 this newsletter.



D37 Referendum Capital Projects Completed During Summer 2020



OUR GAVIN D37 VISION—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 supported D37 schools by passing the November 2018 referendum, clearing the way to complete capital projects in summer 2020
- How our district is focusing on student achievement through its use of grants and resources
- Our 1:1 initiative and how it supports student learning
- Our upcoming school board election process

VOTERS APPROVED NOVEMBER 6, 2018 REFERENDUM, CLEARING THE WAY TO COMPLETE CAPITAL PROJECTS

Once District voters approved the November 2018 referendum, specific design work began immediately with input from architects, students, staff, students and the community. Through the work of the Board's Construction Committee, the process of approving the project phases and design work began. Construction bids were then 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, Phase I of construction began in summer 2019 while Phase II took place during summer 2020.

COMPLETED SUMMER 2020 PROJECTS INCLUDED:

- Security entrance work at Central and South
- District Office at South
- Chiller replacement at Central
- STEM labs at Central and South
- Asphalt drive repair at South

"After two years of construction winding down at both Gavin Schools, the Board of Education would like to thank the community for passing the Gavin District 37 Referendum to benefit our students.

- Both schools now have more secure entries for the safety of our students and staff.
- There are new shingles at Central and a new flat roof membrane at South.
- New air conditioning units were installed in South classrooms so the students can learn better in cooler rooms in the summer and Central has a brand new chiller.
- Both schools now have STEM Labs for the students to expand their learning in science, technology, engineering and math.
- South School has new flooring and color schemes picked out by the students to make the school a more receptive place to learn.
- The District Office is now in one location at South School.

All of this was made possible by our community to support our students."

—James Miller, District 37 School Board President

READ MORE ABOUT DISTRICT REPAIRS:

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



Evidence-based Funding (EBF)

As calculated by the Illinois State Board of Education for the 2019 fiscal year.



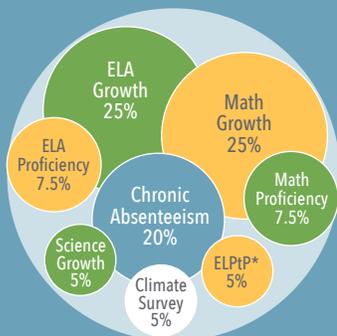
GAVIN D37 IS AT 63% FINANCIAL CAPACITY TO MEET EXPECTATIONS.

Gavin D37 Adequacy Target is the calculated cost to educate students within the district based on the cost factors outlined in the EBF.

For more information about Evidence Based Funding:
<https://www.isbe.net/Pages/EvidenceBasedFunding.aspx>

Eight Indicators of Academic Success

District 37 Achieved Commendable Status as based upon eight indicators of academic success and school quality, weighted by percentages and shown in the chart below:



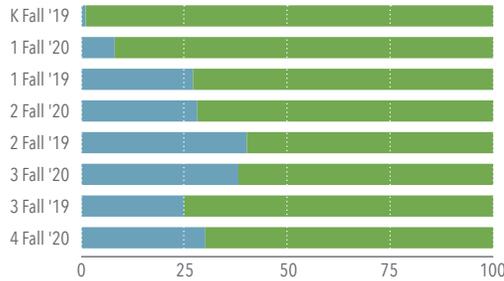
* English Learner Progress to Proficiency (ELPtP)
 Source: <https://www.isbe.net/Documents/2019-Summative-Designations-Deep-Dive.pdf>

District 37 Maintains “Commendable” Status by State

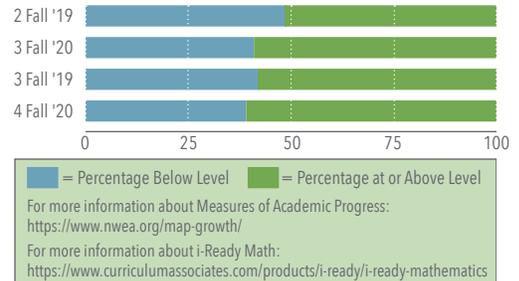
The Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) released their annual school report cards for Gavin D37 on Oct. 30 at www.illinoisreportcard.com. The report cards show how well our schools are progressing on a wide range of educational goals. We are proud of our students’ growth in literacy, numeracy and scientific inquiry.

This progress reflects the investments we have made in student progress toward their understanding of the Illinois Learning Standards in English language arts, math and science. Our teachers, administrators, and staff, in partnership with our community, are continuing to focus on elevating our student achievement as evidenced through our Measures of Academic Progress assessments in reading and i-Ready assessments in math as well as improving attendance and securing feedback on school climate through the 5Essentials survey at each building.

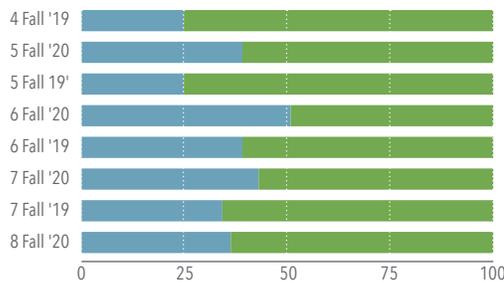
i-Ready Math—Central School



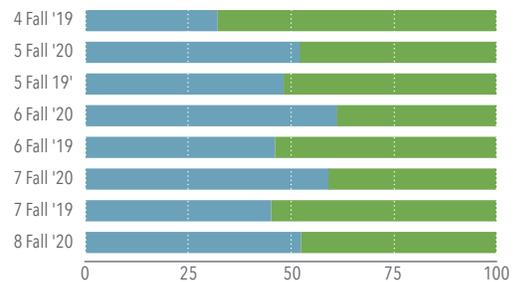
MAP Reading—Central School



i-Ready Math—South School



MAP Reading—South School



District 37 Gavin Schools’ Use of Federal and State Grants

The State Board of Education offers numerous direct grant opportunities through state and federal funds received by the agency. These grants are supplemental and not drawn from Gavin D37 tax dollars. Our District applied for more than \$850,000 in grants to support our teachers and staff with helping our students meet instructional goals:

- 1 **Back to Books Grant Project** provides resources on topics related to equity, diversity, inclusion. **\$4,900**
- 2 **Elementary and Secondary Relief** provides technology tools and home internet access necessary for technology-rich remote learning. **\$72,292***
- 3 **Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) Grant** provides emergency relief funds to address the impact that COVID-19 has had. **\$116,066***
- 4 **IDEA Part B Flow** ensures that all children with disabilities ages 3-21 receive a free public education in the least restrictive environment. **\$252,818**
- 5 **Preschool for All Children Program** provides funds for early education programs and services that will help young children at risk. **\$203,010**
- 6 **School Maintenance Project Grant** provides matching funds for capital projects for schools. **\$50,000**

- 7 **Title I** provides a fair, equitable, and high-quality education and to close educational achievement gaps. **\$106,987***
- 8 **Title I-A School Improvement Grant** provides resources in order to substantially raise the achievement of students in lowest-performing schools. **\$30,000**
- 9 **Title II** provides grants to increase student achievement and to improve the effectiveness of teachers, principals, and other school leaders. **\$29,125***
- 10 **Title III Language Instruction for English Learners (ELs)** supports programming, professional development, and parent participation in ELs education. **\$8,160***
- 11 **Title IV** helps improve the use of technology in order to improve academic achievement and digital literacy. **\$10,000***

* A portion of funds must be proportionately shared with private schools within Gavin D37 school boundaries.

Supporting Our Students through the Technology 1:1 Initiative... Today, Tomorrow, and Beyond

The Gavin D37 Technology Committee, formed in 2017, created a long-range technology plan to support student instruction through the creation of a 1:1 rollout. As a result of a pilot at Central School, the District moved forward with its long-range plan in order to meet the following District 37 Technology Vision Statement for Learning and to equip each student with a laptop device:



We want our students to engage in productive learning that embeds critical thinking, effective communication, collaboration, innovative and courageous exploration, and complex problem-solving through real-world application, inquiry and connection to personal passion in learning environments that host current tools and resources.

- 2017-18** | One set of 25 shared devices between grade 8 social studies and English language arts
- 2018-19** | 1:1 student devices provided for Grades 5 and 6
- 2019-20** | 1:1 student devices provided for Grades 7 and 8
- 2020-21** | 1:1 student devices provided for Grades K-4

In addition, these goals were achieved:

- Staff devices were upgraded.
- A technology Acceptable Use Policy (AUP) was created and put in use.
- Grade level technology expectations and learning targets were determined.
- One full-time Director of Technology was added to D37 staff.
- One part-time Technology Coach and one part-time Technology Assistant were hired to support the technology program.

The District also determined that Google Classroom would be the common platform for all student and family communications.



“Technology in schools today is as basic as pencils and books. By providing students an electronic device to access the internet, digital course materials and digital textbooks, students have access to information, are engaged in learning, and take responsibility for their own learning.”

—Tek Tracz, District 37 Director of Technology and Network Management



“The 1:1 initiative takes teaching and learning above and beyond the basics by empowering students and magnifying twenty-first century skills, the four Cs: creativity, collaboration, communication, and critical thinking.”

—Lisa Adler, District 37 Technology Coach

No Cost Breakfast and Lunch Meal Program Approved



Gavin District 37 applied for and received approval for the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP), a non-pricing meal service option for schools and school districts in low-income areas. CEP allows Gavin District 37 to serve breakfast and lunch at no cost to all enrolled students without

collecting household applications. Instead, schools that adopt CEP are reimbursed using a formula based on the percentage of students categorically eligible for free meals based on their participation in other specific programs, such as the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF).

Under the direction of Shelly Phillipson, Food Service Director, food choices have become healthier through better quality products. Our Food Service team can provide all families within Gavin District 37 breakfast and lunches for our students through this program. Families need to sign up each week if they are interested in obtaining meals for their students.

READ MORE ABOUT THE CEP PROGRAM

<https://www.fns.usda.gov/cn/community-eligibility-provision>

The Opportunity Coalition

For the past year, a group of teachers, administrators, and board of education members have been meeting to further their work on equity for students. This group, called The Opportunity Coalition, works within the district and collaborates with educational and community leaders throughout Illinois, united by a desire to reduce the impact of the opportunity gaps which face our students.



The “opportunity gap” refers to arbitrary circumstances in which people are born (a student’s race, ethnicity, zip code and/or socioeconomic status, etc.) which can determine their opportunities. The Opportunity Coalition strives to reduce these gaps so all have an equal chance to achieve their best potential.

Several district-community collaborative groups (GIG, CEC, BPAC) have formed to advocate for our students. The Opportunity Coalition encourages community members to volunteer to participate in these efforts as well.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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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-Spring 2021

Mark your calendars for these important events:

JANUARY

- 4 School resumes from Winter Break
- 18 No School (Martin Luther King Jr. Day)
- 19 Gavin Involvement Group Meeting
- 21 Trimester 2 Mid-Term
- 26 Board of Education Meeting

FEBRUARY

- 15 If no Snow Make-Up Day is needed, then No School (President's Day)
- 17 Gavin Involvement Group Meeting
- 23 Board of Education Meeting

MARCH

- 4 Second Trimester Ends
- 9 Student-Led Conferences (TBD)
- 16 Board of Education Meeting
- 18 Gavin Involvement Group Meeting
- 22-26 Spring Break (No student attendance)

APRIL

- 2 Non-Attendance Day
- 20 Gavin Involvement Group Meeting
- 22 Trimester 3 Mid-Term
- 27 Board of Education Meeting

MAY

- 3-7 Teacher Appreciation Week
- 20 Gavin Involvement Group Meeting
- 21 No School (Teacher Institute Day)
- 25 Board of Education Meeting
- 31 No School (Memorial Day)

JUNE

- 1 Eighth Grade Promotion Ceremony
- 4 Half Day Dismissal (Last day of school)

School Board Elections Slated for Tuesday, April 6, 2021

The Gavin School District 37 Board of Education is comprised of citizens dedicated to providing the best education possible for every student it serves. Board members establish sound written policies and expect the chief executive officer to function as the superintendent to implement those policies.

School board elections are held during the Consolidated Election on the first Tuesday in April of each odd-numbered year. Vacancies caused by death or resignation are filled by appointment (by the remaining board members) until the next election.

FIVE SCHOOL BOARD SEATS UP FOR THE APRIL 6 ELECTION INCLUDE:

- Four seats, each with four-year terms
- One seat with a two-year unexpired term

READ MORE ABOUT THE UPCOMING ELECTION:

<https://www.gavin37.org/domain/34>

<https://www.lakecountyil.gov/300/Candidate-Services>

<https://www.iasb.com/memberships-and-divisions/school-board-elections/>

Students of the Month Honored via GIG Donations



The Gavin Involvement Group (GIG), similar to a PTO or PTA, supports opportunities for our students, families, and staff. This year, the GIG purchased Student of the Month (SOTM) signs for both Central and South.

These SOTM signs are delivered to the homes of selected students each month as nominated by their teachers. At South, students are chosen for showing the exceptional positive character traits of respect, responsibility, and kindness to others in many settings.

At Central, students are selected if they follow the qualities of T.I.G.E.R.S., are hardworking, are willing to share ideas, attend Zoom meetings, and/or are making great growth/progress.

D37 is incredibly grateful to the Gavin Involvement Group for their many hours of service in support of our student programs such as honoring our Students of the Month through their fundraising efforts.

CONNECT WITH US



GavinSD37



Gavin School District

#gavin37pride

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