



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 District 37 is reaching out to our community through the new Community Engagement Committee
- How our district is focusing on student achievement and fiscal stability
- Our student-led conferences and how these promote social-emotional and leadership skills
- How our community supports District 37 by passing the November 2018 referendum clearing the way to complete capital projects during summer 2020

district 37 views

GAVIN SCHOOL DISTRICT 37
SECOND OF A TWO-PART SERIES | FEBRUARY 2020



PORTRAIT OF A GAVIN GRADUATE

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

D37 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE BUILDS STUDENTS, STAFF AND COMMUNITY CONNECTION



The Community Engagement Committee (CEC) was formed this year in Gavin Elementary School District 37 and is dedicated to strengthening family and community participation in the improvement of student achievement at the school and district levels.

"The Community Engagement Committee is comprised of people who want to make a difference in our students' lives and enrich their school experience as much as possible. All are welcome to join. Follow our Facebook page to keep up with us, our events, and meetings."

—Erika Cappert,
Community Engagement
Committee Chairperson

A group comprised of board members, community members, parents and staff meet regularly to plan activities to provide the following opportunities for our students, families and staff:

- Greeters from the community for the students as they enter our schools, including:
 - Fox Lake Police Department
 - Fox Lake Fire Department
 - Great Lakes Naval Academy
 - Nanny Nikki
 - Lake County Sheriff's Office
- Boys Basketball Scoreboard Volunteers
- Dia De Los Muertos
- Therapy animals through House of Hope
- Feed My Starving Children
- Family Literacy Night
- Family Fun Night with Gavin Involvement Group
- Parent University Topics
- Fifth Grade Fluency Reading Program
- Community Newsletters (two per year)
- NJHS Student Advisor to the Board
- Board Meetings at Central
- Communication Apps

"This year, the Board of Education has created a new committee called the Community Engagement Committee, with the goal of engaging the community in the education of their children, engaging children in their communities and strengthening the critical relationships between key groups such as parents, administration, teachers, staff, board and members of the community. We are incredibly happy with the opportunities for all our shareholders that have sprung from this new endeavor and we look forward to what the future will bring."

—Eric Bechelli, District 37 School Board President

LEARN MORE OR CONTACT THE COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE (CEC):

Facebook: @GavinDistrict37

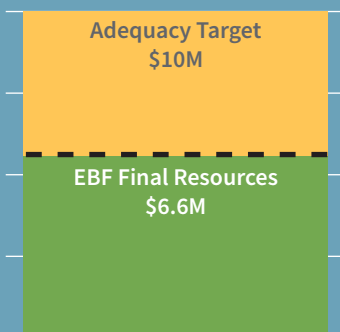
Twitter: @D37Gavin

Email: CommunityEngagement@Gavin37.org



Evidence-based Funding (EBF)

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



GAVIN D37 IS AT 64% 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.

Read more at <https://www.isbe.net/Pages/EvidenceBasedFunding.aspx>

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“We welcome this opportunity to dive into our data and talk about additional improvements and investments so we can support every student in reaching his/her goals. Our school is strongest when we all work together and we are so proud of these summative designations for both of our schools.”

—Dr. Julie A. Brua, D37 Superintendent

District 37 Achieves “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.

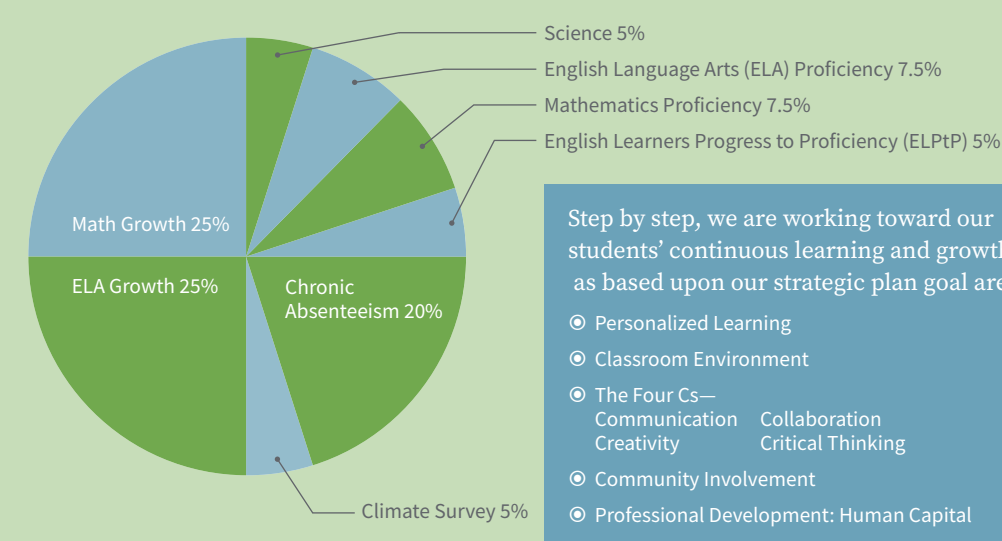
This progress reflects the investments we have made in student progress toward their understanding of the Illinois Learning Standards in English language arts, math and science. Our teachers, administrators and staff, in partnership with our community, are continuing to focus on elevating our student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

Each Illinois school will land in one of these four categories:



District 37 achieved “Commendable” status as based on eight indicators of academic success and school quality, weighted by percentages and shown in the chart below.

EIGHT INDICATORS OF ACADEMIC SUCCESS AND SCHOOL QUALITY



Step by step, we are working toward our students’ continuous learning and growth, as based upon our strategic plan goal areas:

- ⦿ Personalized Learning
- ⦿ Classroom Environment
- ⦿ The Four Cs—
 - Communication Collaboration
 - Creativity Critical Thinking
- ⦿ Community Involvement
- ⦿ Professional Development: Human Capital

District 37 Moves Up in ISBE Financial Profile Score

The Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) has developed the School District Financial Profile to help monitor the finances of school districts and identify which are in, or are moving toward, financial difficulty. There are five indicators that make up a school’s total profile score:

- 1 Fund Balance-to-Revenue Ratio
- 2 Expenditure-to-Revenue Ratio
- 3 Days Cash on Hand
- 4 Percent of Short-Term Borrowing Ability Remaining
- 5 Percent of Long-Term Debt Margin Remaining

Based upon these weighted indicators, an overall total profile score is derived that best determines a district’s financial strengths or weaknesses with four designations for each district from highest to lowest with the highest score of 4.0.

GAVIN DISTRICT 37 TOTAL PROFILE SCORE



Based upon the 2018-2019 ISBE School Audit of our financials and our total profile score, Gavin D37 has moved up from a designation of “Financial Review” at 3.45 to “Financial Recognition” with a score of 3.8 out of 4.0.

READ MORE ABOUT THE SCHOOL DISTRICT FINANCIAL PROFILE: <https://www.isbe.net/Documents/OEPP-PTC-Profile.pdf>

Student Leadership Takes the Helm with Student-Led Conferences



Within the “Four Cs” Strategic Planning Goal (*Communication, Collaboration, Creativity and Critical Thinking*), there will now be a greater focus on adding more student voice to the Gavin D37 schooling experience. By the recommendation of the D37 Calendar Committee and through the work of our teachers, parent-teacher conferences were transitioned to **student-led** conferences. These conferences took place on Thursday, Nov. 14.



“Personally, the student-led conferences provided insights into how much my students truly are learning. Empowering the children to share what they do, how they learn and play and communicate this to their parents embodies whole child learning. Learning essential life skills early on will better prepare them for future success.”

—Diane Barrett, Central Pre-Kindergarten Teacher

At Central, students shared their work with their teachers and parents/guardians through portfolios, center activities, presentations, etc. Each grade level team collaborated to create a format that worked best for their team of students.

South School students created Google slide presentations through a common template developed by a core group of staff and students led their parents through the Google presentation. During the student-led conferences, teachers were available to answer specific questions that parents had about their child’s performance, as well.

Over 564 student conferences took place on Nov. 14. The next student-led conference date is scheduled for both schools on Tuesday, March 10 from 1-8 p.m. and all families are invited to attend.

A survey will go out to all Gavin parents/guardians to provide feedback prior to setting up next year’s student-led conferences.



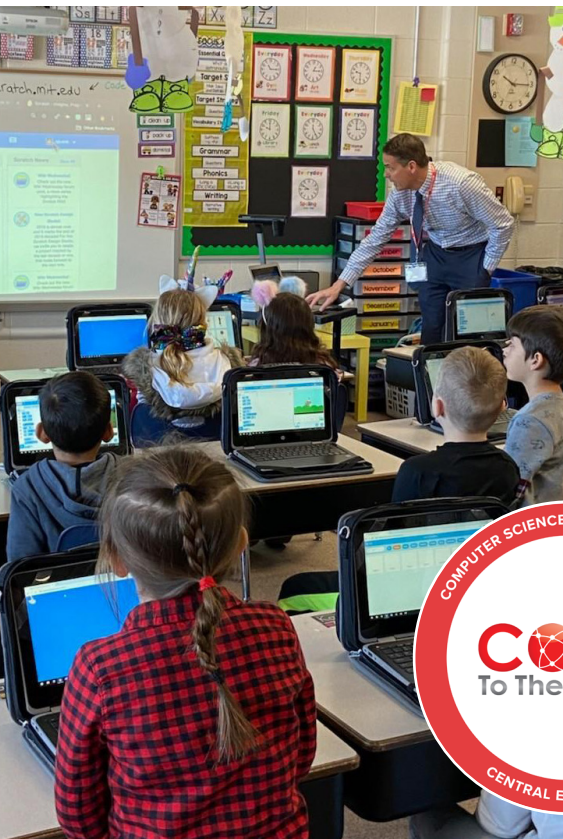
“What stood out to me the most about the student-led conferences was the interaction between the students and their parents/guardians. The kids were front and center and they seemed proud of being the ones to show their work. Plus, the parents/guardians had a chance to talk to teachers if they chose to.”

—Bill Sullivan, South English Language Arts Teacher



“I loved how the students lit up as they led the conference and communicated their growth. The students truly took ownership and were so proud!”

—Holly Gaida, Central Structured Learning Teacher



Today, Tomorrow and Beyond

The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics projects that, during the 2019 to 2020 period, employment in science and engineering occupations will grow by 18.7%, compared to 14.3% for all occupations.

Gavin District 37 believes in supporting our students’ interests and knowledge through integrated studies.

This includes a focus on science, technology, engineering and math, **otherwise known as STEM.**

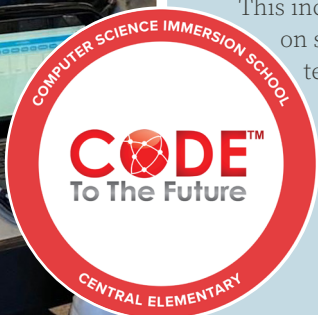
Our first grade teachers are piloting *Code To The Future* as part of the Title I grant and will complete two cycles during the 2019-20 school year. During the first cycle, the students will be introduced to software called *Scratch* to learn the basic ideas of computer science and how to code with blocks and fancy words like conditional and debugging.

During the second cycle, students will work with coding through the use of building with Legos. Each cycle concludes with a showcase where parents

and other classrooms can see what the students have coded and created.

Jacob Makuvire and Kevin Weiss, leaders from *Code To The Future*, introduced the new coding program to Dr. Julie Brua, Alyssa Kay and Ms. Scofield on Jan. 9 and to Tami Balmes, Michele Nothdorf, Katie Ryan and Lisa Adler during an initial training session on Jan. 14.

The program began in January and will conclude in May.





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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 2020

Mark your calendars for these important events:

MARCH

- 1 End of Trimester 2
- 10 Student-Led Conferences
- 11 Half Day Dismissal/School Improvement
- 17 Board of Education Meeting
- 23-27 Spring Break (No student attendance)
- 30 School Resumes
- 31 Board of Education Meeting

APRIL

- 14 Board of Education Meeting
- 17 Mid-Term of Trimester 3
- 22 Half Day Dismissal/School Improvement
- 24 Gavin Involvement Group Family Event at South
- 28 Board of Education Meeting

MAY

- 4-8 Teacher Appreciation Week
- 12 District Choir Concert
- 14 District Band Concert
- 22 Non-Attendance Day (Teacher Institute Day)
- 25 No School (Memorial Day)
- 26 Board of Education Meeting
- 29 8th Grade Promotion Ceremony

JUNE

- 3 Half Day Dismissal (Last day of school)
- 10 Last Day of School (If five inclement weather days are used)



D37 Referendum Capital Projects Continued (Phase II) for Summer 2020

VOTERS APPROVE NOV. 6, 2018 REFERENDUM, CLEARING THE WAY TO COMPLETE CAPITAL PROJECTS

Once District voters approved the Nov. 2018 referendum, 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 in spring 2019 and will continue with the second phase during summer 2020.

SUMMER 2020 PROJECTS INCLUDE:

- Adding a security entrance at South
- Enhancing the security entrance at Central
- Designing STEM labs at Central and South
- Completing the District Office at South
- Replacing the chillers at Central
- Repairing the asphalt drive at South

READ MORE:

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

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GavinSD37



Gavin School District

[#gavin37pride](#)

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Haga contacto con: jbrua@gavin37.org