
Teaching Learning and Equity Department/Program Board Summary Report

Report Identification

Field	Information
Department/Program Name:	Curriculum and Instruction
Report Title:	Credit and Course Updates
Report Leader:	Jen Larva, Julie Stauber, Danette Seboe
Date Submitted:	November 21, 2025
Date of Board Meeting:	December 2, 2025

Summary Report

I. Program Objectives & Goals

To ensure a relevant, rigorous, and equitable course catalog that aligns with academic standards and provides diverse pathways for student success in post-secondary education and careers.

II. Key Actions & Activities

Action 1: Departments and Content Specialists Submit Course Recommendations

- *Description:* Departments, in collaboration with Content Specialists, conducted an annual review of current offerings, standards alignment, and student needs, resulting in formal submissions for new courses, course revisions, and credit changes (e.g., x new courses proposed, y credit changes requested).

Action 2: Course Recommendations Presented to Director, Principals

- *Description:* Course proposals were reviewed by the Secondary leadership team that includes the Director of Secondary Education, MnMTSS and Curriculum and Instruction Coordinator and School Principals to ensure operational feasibility, resource alignment, and consistency across schools. Feedback was gathered and incorporated.

Action 3: Course Recommendations Presented to Counselors

- *Description:* Recommendations were shared with school Counselors to inform their upcoming work on registration, student advising protocols, and graduation requirements. This step ensures accurate communication to students and families.

Action 4: Review of District-Required Semester Courses

- *Description:* A review was conducted on the four district-required, non-state-required semester courses (9th Grade Futures, Computer Science 10, College Career and Life Readiness (grade 11), and Personal Finance (grade 12) implemented with the 7-period day schedule. Meetings were held with principals and counselors to discuss course retention, elimination, and necessary curriculum adjustments.
- *Key Proposal Status:* We will be proposing at the board Committee of the Whole meeting that the District retain current graduation credit requirements (total number of credits required) but no longer require Computer Science 10, instead offering it as an elective choice option. All secondary teachers will be responsible for teaching computer science standards as it is appropriate to their content area. Professional development will be ongoing.
- *Further Development:* We are implementing changes to the 11th grade College, Career and Life Readiness (CCLR), altering the frameworks to move it into our CTE Work Based Learning. State CTE leaders were consulted to determine the feasibility of moving this course into our Work Based Learning pathway as a seminar course. This change was strongly supported by state leaders, principals, and counselors. Altering the course to add the frameworks for the work seminar will result in the course meeting the requirements for the Work Based Seminar. As a result, all students can move into credit bearing Work Based Learning or Work Experience courses upon successful completion without the need to take the seminar concurrently. The official recommendation will be brought to the board at the January meeting.

III. Outcomes & Results

Area 1: Past board supported culturally responsive courses have been successfully created, offered, and scheduled based on student interest.

Course Title	School	Status/Planned	Student Requests
Ethnic Studies	Denfeld	Running 2nd semester	21
	East	Not running this year	0
	AEO	Running one section	N/A
Global and Indigenous Sports	Denfeld	Running	52
	East	Not running	0
CITS Annishinabe of Lake Superior	East	Running	19
	Denfeld	Planned for 2nd semester (pending qualified teacher)	20
African American Literature	Denfeld	Running 1 section first semester	26
	East	Not running	0
Diverse Perspectives	Denfeld	Running one section	46
	East	Not running	3

Area 2: Standards Integration

- Reading and writing standards have been infused into all content standards.
- Similarly, Native American standards are now infused into state content standards.

IV. Next Steps

- **Next Step 1: Formal Board Action (Course Catalog)** Request formal Board approval for the finalized list of new courses, revisions, and credit updates at the January Committee of the Whole Meeting.
- **Next Step 2: Finalize Course Catalog Document** The final draft of the 2026-2027 Course Catalog will be completed before the student enrollment window.
- **Next Step 3: Registration Kick-off** The finalized course catalog and registration information will be sent home to secondary families in January

V. Future Focus Focus will shift to successful implementation of the new curriculum and supporting the registration windows (IC open for students: January-February 2026 for MS and HS).