

DEPARTMENT OF Curriculum and Instruction
Administrative Center

310 Seminary Avenue • Aurora, IL 60505

d131.org • (630) 299-5554

Date: August 18, 2025

To: Dr. Robert Halverson, Superintendent of Schools

East Aurora School District 131 Board of Education
Ms. Jennifer Mitchell, Principal/Director of High School Programs

Subject: East Aurora High School New Course Proposals

#### **Issue:**

From:

The review of the course catalog and revision of our course offerings ensures a diverse and comprehensive educational experience for our students. This continuous review process allows us to better align our offerings with the varied interests, talents, and career aspirations of our student body. This not only enriches their high school experience but also equips them with a broader skill set and a more global perspective.

#### **Justification:**

This memo proposes the introduction of four new courses: Culinary Arts Fundamentals, Forensics II, College Preparation Math, and Technical Math as a dual credit offering. These additions will diversify our curriculum, providing students with a wider range of academic and vocational opportunities. The courses are specifically designed to fill existing gaps and align our offerings with contemporary educational standards and career pathways. We believe these strategic additions will significantly enrich our students' educational experiences and better prepare them for success beyond high school. This expansion can be achieved without the need for new staff, making it a fiscally responsible and beneficial change.

## **Board Policy and Past Practice:**

Past practice of the district is to support schools with the programming needed to provide the highest quality of education for all of our students.

#### **Strategic Plan:**

This proposal supports Strategic Goal #1 Educational Equity: East Aurora School District 131 will meet the diverse needs of all students by providing opportunities to decrease the gaps of college enrollment and career preparedness and Strategic Goal #4, Student Achievement: East Aurora School District 131 will ensure the academic success of all students by closing the opportunity gap and preparing students for success in reading and math on national assessments.

## **Supporting Data:**

By strategically leveraging our current teaching staff, we will be able to offer these courses to our students, providing them with valuable skills and advanced learning opportunities. This approach allows us to expand our curriculum and increase course offerings without the need to hire additional full-time equivalent (FTE) employees, ensuring fiscal responsibility while enhancing student education.

#### **Recommendation:**

It is recommended that the Board of Education approve the new course proposals for Culinary Arts Fundamentals, Forensics II, College Preparation Math, and Technical Math as dual credit.

# **Timeline for Decision:**

September 2, 2025