

REPORT NAME: Proposal of AP Cybersecurity

REPORT OF: Executive Director of Instruction

FOR: Approval of AP Cybersecurity

APPLICABLE LAW AND/OR POLICY: 2210 – Curriculum Development

STRATEGIC GOAL ALIGNMENT: Board Strategic Plan Goal II – Instruction

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE ALIGNMENT: Strategic Objective 6 - Establish an environment of high expectations and opportunities for college and career preparedness through awareness and exploration

FISCAL FUND IMPACT: SEA Salary and Benefits

IMPACT AMOUNT: Current Staff Cost Only, AP Certification through grants

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY/BACKGROUND:

AP Cybersecurity is a yearlong high school course that offers a broad introduction to the field and aligns closely with a college-level, introductory cybersecurity course. Students learn about common threats and vulnerabilities and how they combine to create risk. Students study how individuals and organizations manage risk and how risk can be mitigated through a defense-in-depth strategy. Students explore specific vulnerabilities, attacks, mitigations, and detection measures across a variety of domains including physical spaces, computer networks, devices, and data and applications. Throughout the course, students consider the impact of cybersecurity on individuals, organizations, societies, and governments. Content and skills taught in the course align with the professional skills outlined in the National Initiative for Cybersecurity Education Workforce Framework.

COST BENEFIT ANALYSIS: Adopting AP Cybersecurity requires modest training, textbooks if needed, and scheduling adjustments, but delivers strong gains in financial literacy, college readiness, School Index indicators, and family appeal, making it a high-value addition to our AP portfolio.

RECOMMENDATION:

IMPACT IF NOT APPROVED:

Not adopting this AP Cybersecurity course reduces access to advanced learning opportunities and lowers our competitiveness. It also has a negative effect on our School Index because fewer students have access to rigorous coursework.

NEXT STEPS IF APPROVED: Counselors, students, and staff would be notified of the new offerings. Students would work with their counselors to select these classes.