Zionsville Community Schools
Board of School Trustees Meeting "Item for Consideration"

New Business Item 6c ● Date: November 11, 2024

Course Addition to High School Program of Studies

Category:

_____ Human Resources, Personnel/Staffing	___x___ Curriculum, Instruction, Assessment	
_____ Finance, Budgeting, Accounting	_____ Student Services	_____ Board Policy
_____ Facilities, Transportation, Nutrition	_____ Community Relations	_____ Other

Type of Board of Trustees Consideration Sought:

Action ___x___
Discussion _____
Report _____

Facts of this Matter:
Each school year, ZCS leaders assess new legislation and any changes to required course work at all levels. This year, there has been an update at the high school level, and we are recommending the following course addition (course description is included below):
4565 Computing Foundations for a Digital Age.

On August 30, 2024, the Indiana Department of Education (IDOE) released updated High School Computer Science Course Guidance Pursuant to House Enrolled Act (HEA)1243. To help more students gain the digital literacy skills needed for future success, a new law in Indiana requires all high schools to include high-quality computer science instruction within their curriculum. IDOE's preferred computer science course is 4565 Computing Foundations for a Digital Age. Completion of this course will satisfy a Directed Elective requirement.

The Indiana Department of Education requires the following:

Duration: One semester, one credit hour

Licensure: Any grade five through 12 educator who holds a valid Indiana license (i.e., instructional, administrator, counselor) and has training or work experience in computer science, information technology (IT), or business professional development may teach this course. Additionally, an adjunct teacher holding a locally-issued adjunct teacher permit for teaching at the secondary level may also instruct this course if they have work experience or training in computer science, IT, or business.

Standards: All Career and Technical Education (CTE) standards are housed in the Indiana Commission for Higher Education's (CHE's) Next Level Programs of Study Review guidance. Schools may utilize any locally-developed or commercially-available curriculum (e.g., print, online) to offer this course, as long as it aligns with course standards.

<u>Objective POSITIVES related to this item or approach:</u>
Annual review of the course offerings in relation to new legislative mandates keep our course offerings compliant for our students. If approved, ZCHS will add this course to our course catalogue.

<u>Objective NEGATIVES related to this item or approach:</u>
None known.

<u>Financial Implications, if any:</u>
There may be an opportunity to receive some state funding for this CTE course. There could be a staffing impact of approximately 12 sections or two (2) teachers.

<u>Opinion/Recommendation:</u>
Recommend approval.

<u>Suggested Wording for a Motion, if any:</u>
I move to approve the Computing Foundations for a Digital Age course as described for inclusion in the 2025-2026 high school offering of studies.