

Geneva High School Memorandum

To: Dr. Barrett
From: Doug Drexler
Date: August 5th, 2015
Re: Summary of Summer School 2015 and Planned Dates for Summer School 2016

Geneva High School completed a successful summer school program during June and July 2015, with many students taking advantage of the opportunity to complete a required course, make up a credit course, complete driver education, or participate in a non-credit enrichment program. In total, there were 294 summer school enrollments in 2015, an increase over last summer's 253 enrollments. Listed below is a summary of the courses that we ran this past summer:

Courses	# of seats filled
U.S. Government	83
Personal Finance (GHS)	56
Personal Finance (IVS)	16
Driver Education	31
English Workshop	24
History Workshop (IVS)	13
ACT Boot Camp	20
Algebra Bridge	12
Keyboarding/Typing	9
Computer Programming	30
Total	294

Highlights:

- Our credit-based course enrollments have remained stable, and we have offered the same number of sections of these courses for several years.
- We collected data from students enrolling in our credit-based courses this summer about their motivation for taking a summer school class. The data indicated that:
 - 54% of summer school students took a class in order to free up room in their schedule to take additional classes during the school year.
 - 41% of summer school students took a class in order to lighten their course load during the school year
 - 5% of summer school students took a class in order to work towards early graduation.
- For multiple reasons, we implemented three online classes through the Illinois Virtual School (IVS) this summer.
 - Personal Finance
 - Due to our inability to find a qualified instructor for one summer section of this course, we turned to Illinois Virtual School to fill this need. This turned out to be a positive endeavor for our students. Sixteen students were enrolled in this course, which provided interaction between the student and an Illinois-certified business teacher over a period of 10 weeks. Although we are still gathering feedback, all of the information gathered to date indicates that both students and parents viewed this as a positive experience. In fact, several students enrolled in the in-person sections of the course requested to switch to the online version for the increased flexibility it would provide in avoiding school camps, family vacations, and similar events. For the future, we see potential in this option to meet the needs of our students.

- Credit Recovery US History and World History
 - In past years, we offered History Workshop in person at Geneva High School as a “catch-all” credit recovery option for students who had failed US History or World History. Given the small number of students with this need, the students were combined into one class that attempted to remediate the knowledge and skill gaps in both US History and World History simultaneously. Using Illinois Virtual School, students were registered for either US History or World History credit recovery, thereby differentiating their program and tailoring it to their needs. The credit recovery courses through Illinois Virtual School are essentially independent study programs with limited interaction with an online teacher. We found that many of the students enrolled in this program struggled to keep up with their independent work. For the future, we would suggest evaluating other credit-recovery options, adding a layer of oversight at GHS to this program, or reformatting our in-person offerings to better meet this need.
- In addition to our traditional credit-based summer school offerings, we continued to offer non-credit opportunities as well.
 - We offered a new opportunity this summer for students to participate in computer programming sessions (for both middle school and high school students). Enrollment was strong, particularly for the first year of a new program.
 - Our Algebra Bridge program continues to be well-received by parents who wished to solidify their child’s math foundation as they prepared to enter Algebra at GHS this fall.
 - The ACT Boot Camp was again a success in our fourth year of offering this program. Students were able to receive the standard ACT preparation program at a special group price as part of our summer school program.
 - Typing/Computer Keyboarding continued to attract interest, mainly from middle school aged students.
- Overall, summer school is financially self-supporting with tuition covering the personnel expenses associated with the program:

Total summer school tuition collected	\$45,155
Total summer school staff payroll	\$39,094
Net	\$6,061

Looking ahead to Summer School 2016, I am proposing the following session dates:

- Session 1: June 6-June 23, 2016, Monday thru Thursday
- Session 2: July 11-July 28, 2016, Monday thru Thursday

I would like to publish these dates now so that students and families can plan ahead, as we usually begin receiving inquiries in late fall.

Please let me know if you have any questions about Summer School 2015 or Summer School 2016.