

School Board Meeting:

January 14, 2013

Subject:

Course Proposals for 2013-14

Presenter:

Pam Miller & Mark Mischke

SUGGESTED SCHOOL BOARD ACTION:

No recommended action at this time. Action will be taken at the January 28 school board meeting.

DESCRIPTION:

New course proposals and course modifications have been solicited and developed for the 2013-2014 school year. The district's course proposal process begins in October and ends with board approval in January. Once approval for new courses is given, the course information is placed in the registration book and sent to print, thus beginning the timeline of registration and scheduling for the secondary schools.

Overview of the Course Proposal Process

The course proposal process includes a series of steps to ensure that all perspectives of possible implications of the addition or modification of each proposed course have been considered. The following information is communicated to teachers as they consider submitting a proposal.

- ❑ A complete curriculum map for the course is required with the proposal.
- ❑ The Director of Teaching & Learning may reject or recommend redesign of a course proposal at any time in the process.
- ❑ Incomplete proposals will not be processed.
- ❑ Course proposal recommendations are required from the following groups or individuals prior to being brought to the School Board for approval:
 - Department Chairperson
 - Site Principal
 - Site Teaching and Learning Council
 - Secondary Teaching and Learning Council
 - District/Community Teaching and Learning Council
- ❑ Courses that do not receive sufficient student requests will not be offered next year, but may remain in the registration book as an option for the following school year.
- ❑ Course approval does not guarantee implementation. Implementation is dependent on resources and scheduling considerations. Feasibility of implementation is determined by the site principal.

The course proposals outlined below have been reviewed by each of the required groups listed above. They were discussed and reviewed by the Secondary Teaching & Learning Council on December 6, 2012 and by the District/Community Teaching & Learning Council on December 7, 2012. The course proposals were recommended to move forward to the School Board for approval. Each individual or group was asked to use the following criteria in formulating a recommendation for each course:

Criteria to Consider

- ❑ *Evidence of student need or parent/community demand*
- ❑ *Graduation requirement impact*
- ❑ *District goals match*
- ❑ *Program rationale match*
- ❑ *Program standards alignment*
- ❑ *Local expertise*
- ❑ *Post-secondary impact*
- ❑ *Cost and/or resource availability*
- ❑ *Impact on other buildings*
- ❑ *Overlap with other courses*
- ❑ *Match of content and course length*
- ❑ *Efficiency in utilization of space and personnel*

BHS Course Proposals

A total of 26 courses were proposed for consideration. Each of the 26 proposals was reviewed by Mark Mischke, BHS Principal, and Pam Miller, Director of Teaching & Learning. The total courses proposed were narrowed from 26 to 15 courses which we agreed were ready to move forward.

These 15 course proposals are being presented for your consideration. Seven new courses are proposed as single department/single teacher courses; four new courses are proposed as team department/team teacher courses; and four courses are proposed with modifications of course name, instructional delivery method, or course content. The course names are listed below, and detailed course proposal information for each proposal is included as an attachment.

Course Name	Department	Proposed Action
CIS College Algebra	Math	New Course
9 th Grade Skills	Multiple	New Course
Varsity Orchestra	Music	New Course
Advanced Individual Musicianship	Music	New Course
Intense Aerobics & Kinesthetics	Phy Ed	New Course
Enriched American Experience	Social Studies	New Course
Basic Physics	Science	New Course
Senior Academy	Multiple	New Course
10 th Grade Coordinated Health/PE	Phy Ed	New Course

Learning Geometry through CAD	Math/Tech Ed	New Course
Accounting I: Hybrid	Business Ed	Course Modification
Spanish II: Hybrid	World Languages	Course Modification
Psychology A&B: Hybrid	Social Studies	Course Modification
Fashion Design	FACS	Course Modification
Sew Creative	FACS	Course Modification

At the January 28 board meeting, I will recommend approval for each course proposal presented, and for all new course proposals to be added to the registration process at Buffalo High School as an additional opportunity for students.

Each course approved for implementation in 2013-2014 will be allotted up to twenty hours of further curriculum writing development if needed. These hours are under the direction of the Department of Teaching & Learning, and will be completed during the summer months.

Mark Mischke and I will be in attendance at the January 14 workshop to answer any questions you may have regarding the proposed courses.