

School Board Meeting: January 11, 2010
Subject: Course Proposals for 2010-11
Presenter: Pam Miller

SUGGESTED SCHOOL BOARD ACTION:

No recommended action at this time. Action will be taken at the January 25 school board meeting.

DESCRIPTION:

New course proposals and course modifications have been solicited and developed for the 2010-2011 school year. The district's course proposal process begins in October and ends with a board approval in January. Once approval for new courses are 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.

Four course proposals are being presented for your consideration. Two are new courses, and two are course modifications.

Algebra 1.5	New Course Proposal
Reading Enhancement	New Course Proposal
Marketing	Course Modification
Computer Graphics II	Course Modification

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 Board of Education for approval:
 - Department Chairperson
 - Building Principal
 - Building 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.

The course proposals outlined on the next page has been reviewed by each of the required groups listed above. They were discussed and reviewed by the District/Community Teaching & Learning Council on December 11, 2009. 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*

At the January 26 board meeting, I will recommend approval for each course to be added to the registration process at Buffalo High School as an additional opportunity for students.

Each course approved for implementation in 2010-2011 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 and Learning, and will be completed during the summer months.

Mark Mischke and I will be in attendance at the January 11 workshop to answer any questions you may have regarding the proposed courses.