



EAST AURORA
SCHOOL DISTRICT 131

DEPARTMENT OF Curriculum and Instruction
Administrative Center
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Date: April 20, 2026
To: Dr. Robert Halverson, Superintendent of Schools
East Aurora School District 131 Board of Education
From: Jennifer Mitchell, Principal East Aurora High School
Subject: East Aurora High School New Course Proposal - Welding III

Issue:

In order to provide students with the most current technology skills available within the welding industry, we are proposing this additional course. This course will provide students with leadership opportunities within the course to teach other students in our introductory course. Additionally, the course will provide students with advanced skills to help increase their employability.

Justification:

This memo proposes the introduction of one new course, Welding III. This addition will provide students who have completed the prerequisite courses (Welding I and II) with advanced, structural welding knowledge. By focusing on multi-pass, out-of-position, and groove welds, the course enables students to gain the specialized skills necessary for immediate career entry or further post-secondary training, directly supporting the district's strategic goals for career preparedness.

Board Policy and Past Practice:

Past practice of the district is to support schools with the programming needed to provide the highest quality of education for all of our students.

Strategic Plan:

This proposal supports Strategic Goal #1 Educational Equity: East Aurora School District 131 will meet the diverse needs of all students by providing opportunities to decrease the gaps of college enrollment and career preparedness and Strategic Goal #4, Student Achievement: East Aurora School District 131 will ensure the academic success of all students by closing the opportunity gap and preparing students for success in reading and math on national assessments.

Supporting Data:

By strategically leveraging our current teaching staff, we will be able to offer this course to our students, providing them with valuable skills and advanced learning opportunities. This approach allows us to expand our curriculum and increase course offerings without the need to hire additional full-time equivalent (FTE) employees, ensuring fiscal responsibility while enhancing student education.

Recommendation:

It is recommended that the Board of Education approve offering Welding III at East Aurora High School beginning in the 2026/2027 school year.

Timeline for Decision:

May 4, 2026

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