

The curriculum additions, deletions and revisions (CADR) proposal for the 2024-25 school year was presented to the Neenah Joint School District Board of Education at its November 5 meeting. The Board will vote on the changes at its next meeting on November 19.

The most significant proposed curriculum change is the elimination of the middle school and high school advanced foundations of physics and high school advanced biology. High school teacher Scott Hertting and middle school teacher Cheryl Prosek spoke to the Board in support of the deletion. They noted that middle school students currently miss the Earth Science portion of the curriculum to take this course. They also stated that the course content is the same as the regular foundations courses and removing the advanced students can bring down the rest of the class.

Other revisions included changes to health careers and culinary courses, modern world history, 3D design and astronomy. All of the proposed new courses are at the high school and include a champion course, Ignite School Spirit course, photography, advanced 3D art and AP environmental science. The CADR will be voted on at the November 19 meeting.

The Board also received a report on summer school from the past year. Board members expressed concern about the drop in student enrollment from previous years. Total participation was down significantly at each level and only 37 percent of students recommended for summer academy were enrolled. It was noted that there were issues with the online enrollment process, which are being addressed for the upcoming year.

In other action, an end-of-school year retirement was approved for Don Judnic at Coolidge. Resignations were approved for four educational assistants: Hailey Krause at Coolidge, effective Nov. 20; Kelly Hintz at Coolidge and Lakeview, effective Nov. 22; Alexandra Janssen at Horace Mann, effective Nov. 26 and Melissa Okrie at the high school, effective Dec. 6.

Board member Alex Corrigan provided a recap of a recent seminar she attended regarding the school expulsion process. The Board and administration held a follow-up discussion about expulsions.