

The Dunlap Board of Education met June 13 and heard a presentation on the Dunlap High School course proposals.

“The proposed courses will be offered in the 2013-14 school year,” Superintendent Jay Marino said. “The revisions proposed will provide students more options and are tightly aligned to our 21st century learning initiative.”

The course proposal team’s three-step process to looking at what needs to be changed, added or dropped in regards to courses at the high school starts with a brainstorming session.

The team then determined if current or proposed classes are in alignment with the district’s vision, standards and the core standards of the school.

The last step is compiling research from student data and comparable schools.

Based on the process, the team decided that, for the 2013-14 freshmen, the science requirement should be increased from two years to three years for graduation.

The team also recommended adding a creative science class, a forensic science class and a environmental/Earth science class.

For social studies, the team recommended adding a general psychology class to compliment the advanced placement psychology class.

In the business department, the team suggested adding a business and technology concepts class and cut the business law class and information processing class.

To add these classes, the school needs more curriculum resources such as textbooks, DVDs, subscriptions to magazines and journals.

The school also would need additional staff and lab space.

The board members also heard an update on Hickory Grove Elementary School.

“We are pleased with the progress at Hickory Grove and are on schedule to open the school on time,” Marino said. “In early August, we will begin moving into the school and by mid-August, teachers will be setting up their classrooms. There are always some last minute ‘punch list’ items, which is typical for new construction, but we’ll be ready for the nearly 500 students that will be attending the school.”

The Granite Street and Hickory Road construction work is finishing ahead of schedule and the production on the roundabout is set to begin July 9.

The parking lots at the site are planned to be paved by the last week of July.

All the windows at the school are installed except those in the library, commons and the upper entrance area.

In other board news:

The district athletic director's presented the athletic reports for the 2011-12 school year.

- At the high school, there were 28 All-Mid-Illini Conference members for fall, two for winter and 33 for spring.
- Participation in all sports at the high school, Dunlap Middle School and Dunlap Valley Middle School were near the average.
- Dunlap Valley received the 2011-12 Division F Sportsmanship Award from the IESA.

"We are proud of our athletic teams and the progress made during the past year," Marino said. "We are especially proud of the sportsmanship award received by one of our middle schools."

Dunlap Middle earned second place at the State scholastic bowl meet.

The board recognized two Boy Scouts attending the meeting to earn their Communications Badge.

The board recognized the new administrators for the district: Antonio Johnson, the new assistant principal at Dunlap Valley Middle School; Holly Creel, the new assistant principal at Dunlap Middle School; Amy Smith, the new assistant principal at Dunlap High School; Mandy Ellis, the new principal at Dunlap Grade School; Stacy Berg, the new principal at Wilder-Waite; Greg Crider, the new district athletic director and Doris Martin, the new director of transportation.

The board recognized the Dunlap administrators in new positions: Jeremy Etnyre moves from principal at Dunlap Grade School to principal at Hickory Grove Elementary School; Todd Jefferson moves from principal of Wilder-Waite to principal of Ridgeview and Ali Bond moves from principal of Ridgeview to director of student services.

The board next meets at 7 p.m. July 11.