

New 2015-16 Courses Created with Community Input

Partnerships helped develop new courses for Manufacturing, Health Science and Information Technology

New Berlin, Wis. – New courses in Manufacturing, Health Science and Information Technology will be offered to School District of New Berlin students in 2015-16, thanks in large part to input from community and business partners on the skills students will need to succeed in those fields.

“We absolutely need to hear from those who currently work in the environments we are preparing our students for after high school,” said Joe Garza, Superintendent of the School District of New Berlin (SDNB). “The input we received was invaluable and has impacted course proposals as well as some aspects of our strategic planning process.”

The district recently held focus groups that included parents, post-secondary education partners, industry representatives, employers, regional partners and internal staff members to study and improve curriculum in three targeted areas: Manufacturing, Health Science and Computing/Information Technology. Interdisciplinary Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) concepts were considered as part of these discussions. These areas were chosen for study this year based on the projected labor market.

Leveraging input from more than 60 participants, the district gathered information on what knowledge, skills, dispositions and opportunities a high school graduate would need to be successful in these fields of study.

The following new courses were proposed and approved by the Board of Education for the 2015-16 school year to expand offerings in targeted areas:

- **Calculus 3:** This course benefits students pursuing any post-secondary education that has a heavy math requirement (most 4 year STEM majors). It is offered for college credit through the University of Wisconsin (UW) System.
- **Oral / Interpersonal Communication:** This course primarily benefits students pursuing a technical degree through Wisconsin Technical College System (WTCS) by providing an opportunity for students to further advance skills in effective speech delivery, listening, conflict resolution, teamwork, and general interpersonal communication.
- **Introduction to Manufacturing:** This course benefits students interested in pursuing engineering as well as applied technology degrees. Students will earn a MSSC industry certification which is valuable for students interested in high school internships and/or youth apprenticeships.
- **Computer Science and Software Engineering (Project Lead the Way) and AP Computer Principles.** These courses enrich and extend current offerings in the area of Computer Science. PLTW: Computer Science and Software Engineering will provide students with engineering experiences specific to software engineering and app development. AP Computer Principles is a new AP College Board course for the 2016-2017 school year.
- **Certified Nursing Assistant.** This course provides an industry certification that is a prerequisite for working as a CNA and is also considered a college admissions credential for a variety of post-secondary Health Science programs.
- **Principles of Biomedical Sciences (Project Lead the Way).** This course applies engineering principles to analyze and design solutions to problems involving biology and medicine.
- **Mentorship:** This program assigns students to an industry mentor who provides exposure and project based activities aligned to a student's interest in a particular career/industry.

"We are excited to make these courses available for students next year," said Kelli Kwiatkowski, SDNB Director of Curriculum. "Each are uniquely designed to help inform a student's Academic and Career Plan as well as enhance their investment in their post-secondary education. As a service to our students, we continually look for ways to strengthen our alignment to the District's work based learning programs as well as

the post-secondary education options available to students. Our enrollment trends from New Berlin West and Eisenhower Career Days show high interest in these areas as well.”

William Trudell, SDNB Content Specialist, said, “The Project Lead the Way (PLTW) courses provide project based learning opportunities that are extremely meaningful for students. These new course options in technology-related areas extends new opportunities to students in a way that will better prepare them for a wide variety of opportunities after high school. They also provide college credit and additional scholarship opportunities through the Milwaukee School of Engineering (MSOE).”

The School District of New Berlin could not have done this work without the partnerships from:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Manufacturing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Health Science 	Information Technology
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● UW Milwaukee ● Milwaukee School of Engineering ● Marquette University ● Waukesha County Technical College ● UW-Waukesha ● STEM Forward ● Waukesha County Business Alliance ● Rockwell Automation ● A.S. Pindel Corporation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● UW Milwaukee ● Milwaukee School of Engineering ● Carroll University ● Waukesha County Technical College ● UW-Waukesha ● STEM Forward ● Waukesha County Business Alliance ● Froedtert Hospital ● Rogers Memorial Hospital ● LindenGrove ● Humana, Inc. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● UW Milwaukee ● Milwaukee School of Engineering ● Marquette University ● Waukesha County Technical College ● UW-Waukesha ● STEM Forward ● Waukesha County Business Alliance ● Dedicated Computing ● EmbedTek ● AT&T