

MASSENA HIGH SCHOOL

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TO: Patrick Brady
FROM: Sarah Boyce
DATE: February 7, 2019
RE: Proposal for Online Summer School

Technology has become an important part of instruction in today's schools. Students are much more savvy with technology than in previous years. Technology has allowed teachers to facilitate in the learning process while students work individual through digital programs, flipped classrooms and credit recovery programs. Massena has been using the credit recovery program, Odysseyware, for approximately 10 years and has had success with students who are on medical leave, at sports school and in the 3-5 Program. Two years ago, we began using Odysseyware for student who had scheduling issues due to elective course conflicts. Students have been allowed to take Health online during the summer, so they can continue to take band and chorus at the same time during the academic year. This has been a viable option for students and has proven to be successful.

Because of the success of our online program, we began looking at the possibility of using an online program for summer school. The success rate for the traditional summer school has decreased significantly, so we were looking for a new option. Potsdam CSD partnered with Jeff-Lewis BOCES to initiate an online summer school two years ago because of low performance on Regents Exams and students being dropped because of the attendance policy. I have been speaking with them about their success of the program. They are happy with the decision to move to online summer school and have seen an increase in student performance over the past two years. Based on the information below, I am proposing that Massena CSD initiate an online summer school program beginning in the summer of 2019.

Problem:

Summer School 2018:

- 33% of HS students enrolled in summer school for the 2018 year were dropped
- 10% of JH students enrolled in summer school for the 2018 year were dropped
- 54% of students enrolled in a Living Environment class during summer school did not pass the August Regents Exam
- 77% of students enrolled in a US History class during summer school did not pass the August Regents Exam
- 53% of students enrolled in a Global II class during summer school did not pass the August Regents Exam
- 36% of students enrolled in a ELA class during summer school did not pass the August Regents Exam

- 48% of students enrolled in a Algebra I class during summer school did not pass the August Regents Exam

Summer School 2017:

- 23% of students enrolled in a Living Environment class during summer school did not pass the August Regents Exam
- 64% of students enrolled in a US History class during summer school did not pass the August Regents Exam
- 80% of students enrolled in a Global class during summer school did not pass the August Regents Exam
- 50% of students enrolled in a ELA class during summer school did not pass the August Regents Exam
- 38% of students enrolled in a Algebra 1 class during summer school did not pass the August Regents Exam
- 55% of students enrolled in a Earth Science class during summer school did not pass the August Regents Exam
- 72% of students enrolled in a Geometry class during summer school did not pass the August Regents Exam

Solution:

Online Summer School:

HS and JH students will have the opportunity to register for credit recovery courses using the online format PLATO, which is similar to Odysseyware we currently use at Massena HS. We would be required to use PLATO because we are contracting this service through the Jeff-Lewis BOCES and this is the program they use.

PLATO courses are developed to give students an opportunity to experience a range of standards and objectives to ensure academic success. The use of PLATO online courses will allow students who have fallen behind, the opportunity to stay at grade level. The desired end results is a successful student who will graduate with his or her peers.

Rationale: Only Massena CSD students will attend the on-line summer school. We can focus on our students because we will have the advantage of knowing their needs and learning styles. In addition, the shortened time frame will appeal to these students and therefore allow them to be more successful in completing summer school courses.

Structure of Summer School:

We will offer two 3 week sessions:

Session 1 - will be for Jr High students completing coursework, July 1 – 18, 2019

Session 2 – will be for High School students completing a course and working on Regents review, July 22 – Aug 9, 2019

- Students who need more than two courses, may attend an extra session.
- Students who are wish to retake a Regents Exam only must attend Regents review.
- Each session will run from 8:30-11:30 each day Mon-Thurs.

- Students are expected to attend 3 days per week. The remainder of work can be completed off campus.
- Anyone wishing to work in the lab on Fridays can do so with permission. The coordinator is paid for five days, so will be available to oversee the lab.
- This structure was created based on information from Potsdam CSD and General Brown CSD that we considered. It is a combination of the two programs, which we feel is best suited for Massena CSD students.
- All core classes, English, math ,science and social studies will be available to students. In addition, we will offer Health.

There is flexibility in seat time but the hours are set at three hours per day. Classroom seat time is counted for those using the program for Credit Recovery. If a student finishes the course work early and satisfactorily, it will be a District decision if the student continues to report to class or is marked as work satisfied.

The passing point is also a District determination – PLATO sets a high pass point, but it can be altered to a lower passing point.

We will use the Placement option on PLATO – Placement test 1st sets the levels for the students to begin work.

The most a student can complete in a summer is two courses, but as said before, the structure of summer school is flexible enough that we can design it to meet our needs.

Building Use for Summer School.

Since only Massena CSD students will be eligible to attend summer school, the number of students in the building will be reduced significantly. We anticipate we will be able to house all students in the front of the building in the 800 wing, using four of the five classroom. If we need to go to a 5th classroom, it will be available. The auditorium may be used for orientation and graduation. The benefit of this is twofold: Student activity will be in the front of the building and the custodians will be able to complete the summer cleaning without working around summer school.

Personnel:

The number of required tutors is based on the number of Massena students who attended Regional Summer School during 2018.

Course Name	Number of students	Number of Tutors
Algebra I	16	
Geometry	11	
Math 7	22	
Math 8	24	
Total Math Tutors		2
Social studies 7	4	

Social Studies 8	11	
Global I	18	
Global II	17	
US Hlst	6	
PIG	12	
ECON	13	
Total Social Studies Tutors		2 It is possible the coordinator would be one of them and another tutor in included in the cost of summer school
Science 7	8	
Science 8	12	
Living Environment	9	
Total Science Tutors		1
ELA 7	10	
ELA 8	4	
ELA 9	21	
ELA 10	7	
ELA 11	12	
Total ELA Tutors		2

Costs of Summer School

Below is the cost for online summer school for the 2019 session as set by the Jeff-Lewis BOCES. Also, revenues we received in 2018 are included.

Regional Summer School Costs	
2017	
408.5 classes @\$302	\$123,367
74% state aid	- \$91,291
BOCES Room Rental	-\$10,000
Total Cost	\$22,075
2018	
317classes@ \$306	\$97,002
74% state aid	-\$71,781
BOCES Room Rental	-\$10,000
Total Cost	\$15,221
2019	
6 week program with coordinator/1tutor	\$13,637
5 additional Tutors @ \$3,692	\$18,460

Cost of PLATO	\$4,500
Total cost of Online SS	\$36,597
74% aid	-\$27,082
Total Cost	\$9,515
Revenue from Regional Summer School	\$10,000 for rent (would be lost)
Total On-line Summer School Cost	\$19, 515
Total Regular Summer School Cost	\$25,221

The \$4,500 cost of PLATO will replace the cost of Odysseyware, which is the current online program we use for the 3-5 Credit Recovery Program. With PLATO, we will have the program for the full year, not just summer school and it would be available to the whole high school. Currently, we have limited licenses for Odysseyware.