

## MEMORANDUM

**To:** Indiana State Board of Education  
**From:** Robin LeClaire, Chief Academic Officer  
J. Matthew Walsh, Curriculum Specialist  
**Date:** May 15, 2020  
**Subject:** 2020-2021 Elementary and Middle Level Subject Descriptions Revisions

The Indiana Department of Education (IDOE) is seeking approval for the 2020-2021 Elementary and Middle Level Subject Descriptions document.

### **2020-2021 updates include:**

- Course Numbers - IDOE updated the course coding for Elementary/Middle School Subjects and Courses with grade specific identifiers. Using the new course coding scheme, many courses may be differentiated by grade level, allowing both local schools and IDOE to access better, more accurate data.

For example, in the past, mathematics was denoted with the number 0430 for all mathematics courses in kindergarten through grade 8. Under the new codes, mathematics for kindergarten would be 0430.0K, mathematics for first grade would be 0430.01, etc. All course codes now have the format XXXX.XX, where the first four digits denote the subject area, and the last two digits denote the grade level for single courses or grade *levels* if the courses are banded.

In light of this, IDOE is communicating these changes to the student information systems (SIS) providers. SIS providers will receive the new codes with that communication. These codes will be used with the Certified Personnel (CP) report in December 2020.

- The following courses were added as new courses:

CTE: Business and Information Technology – Computer Science, Kindergarten - Grade 2 (0488.K2) subject description was added as follows: K-2 Computer Science provides a foundation upon which students will build their content knowledge in upper elementary, middle, and high school. The standards focus on Indiana's Five Core Computer Science Concepts: Data and Information, Computing Devices and Systems, Programs and Algorithms, Networking and Communication, and Impact and Culture. Focusing on these domains offers students the opportunity to experience and apply a variety of computer science concepts in order to build a solid foundation for more advanced and specialized studies.

CTE: Business and Information Technology - Computer Science, Grade 3 - Grade 5 (0488.35) subject description was added as follows: 3-5 Computer Science builds upon the standards in K-2 Computer Science. The standards focus on Indiana's Five Core Computer Science Concepts: Data and Information, Computing Devices and Systems, Programs and Algorithms, Networking and Communication, and Impact and Culture. Focusing on these domains offers students the opportunity to experience and apply a variety of computer science concepts in order to build a solid foundation for more advanced and specialized studies.

- The following subjects were provided descriptions:

Middle Level Advisor/Advisee (0498.68) was added as follows: Advisory is a regularly scheduled period of time typically during the school day when teachers meet with small groups of students for the purpose of advising them on academic, social, or future-planning issues.

Elementary/Pre-kindergarten (0436.PK) was added as follows: Research details the significance of development during a child's early years. The core for future success is built through formal and informal interactions with others and the environment. The Foundations are Indiana's early learning development framework and are aligned to the 2014 Indiana Academic Standards. This framework provides core elements that children should achieve from birth to age five in order to be ready for future success. The 2015 revision was based on research, feedback from practitioners, and work from professionals with expertise in each specialized area. The Foundations and corresponding guidance can be found [here](#).

- Health and Wellness subjects for all grade levels were banded together to reflect the banded nature of the Indiana Academic Standards for Health and Wellness (2017). To account for the differences in content from the previous grade level subject descriptions, the 2020-2021 Elementary and Middle Level Subject Descriptions does contain language for grade level differences.
- Multidisciplinary subjects – Basic Skills Development (0500) now contains a code for each grade level, including course code bands for grades kindergarten through five and five through eight.
- All other changes were cosmetic in nature.

Respectfully submitted,

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