THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF PALM BEACH COUNTY, FL

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Action By:
Information Only

TO: Principals

FROM: Edward Tierney / Deputy Supt Chief of Schools

SUBJECT: **FY26 GENERAL EDUCATION COMPUTER SCIENCE COURSE CHANGES**

Florida's State Academic Standards for Computer Science were recently developed from Florida statute 1007.2616 for implementation in the FY26 school year. To assist schools with scheduling decisions for FY26, please note the following changes to K-12 Computer Science courses. Courses were updated to include communication and collaboration, personal health and safety, computing components, programming and software engineering, technological impact, emerging technologies, cybersecurity, digital currencies and financial management, and computational thinking and reasoning. It is essential to note the changes in standards, courses, and content when determining student placement.

The following courses have been terminated for FY26:

- PreK to 5: Introduction to Computer Science 1 (5002010) and Introduction to Computer Science 2 (5002020)
- Grades 6 to 8: M/J Computer Science Discoveries (0200000), M/J Computer Science Discoveries 1 (0200010), and M/J Computer Science Discoveries 2 (0200020)
- Grades 9 to 12: Computer Science Discoveries (0200305) and Computer Science Principles (0200315)
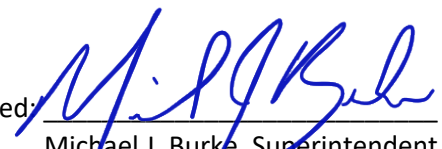
New courses being offered for FY26:

- PreK to 5: Kindergarten Foundations of Computer Science (5002030), Grade 1 Foundations of Computer Science (5002031), Grade 2 Foundations of Computer Science (5002032), Grade 3 Foundations of Computer Science (5002033), Grade 4 Foundations of Computer Science (5002034), Grade 5 Foundations of Computer Science (5002035), Grades 3-5 Unplugged Computer Science (5002040)
- Grades 6 to 8: M/J Grade 6 Digital Discoveries (0200021), M/J Grade 7 Digital Discoveries (0200022), M/J Grade 8 Digital Discoveries (0200023), M/J Navigating Technology: Digital Literacy and Digital Citizenship (0200024), and M/J Introduction to Cybersecurity (0200025)
- Grades 9 to 12: Conceptual Cybersecurity (0200381), Computer Programming Fundamentals Honors (0200382), Principles of Computer Science (0200383), and Discovering Computer Science (0200384)

Essential Notes and Suggestions for FY26:

- New courses being offered for FY26 are not currently in the Florida Department of Education's 2024-2025 Course Code Directory but are expected to be added in spring 2025 for the 2025-2026 school year. Once available, updates will be made to the Student Information System (SIS).
- The new standards are significantly updated, and as a result, there is generally no one-to-one correspondence between prior and updated courses.
- The previous Introduction to Computer Science 1 (5002010) and Introduction to Computer Science 2 (5002020) courses were grade-banded, while the new foundational courses are grade-level specific for Kindergarten through Grade 5. Schools offering Introduction to Computer Science 1 or 2 are encouraged to review the new Foundations of Computer Science courses by grade level and determine the appropriate alignment based on student needs.
- While no direct replacement exists for courses like M/J Computer Science Discoveries or Computer Science Principles, schools should review the new middle and high school courses.
- For Grades 6 to 8, M/J Grade 6 Digital Discoveries (0200021), M/J Grade 7 Digital Discoveries (0200022), M/J Grade 8 Digital Discoveries (0200023), and M/J Introduction to Cybersecurity (0200025) are semester courses. M/J Navigating Technology: Digital Literacy and Digital Citizenship (0200024) is a full-year course.
- Computer Science Discoveries (0200305) and Computer Science Principles (0200315) previously fulfilled a mathematics graduation requirement, however, all of the new 9-12 courses (0200381, 0200382, 0200383, and 0200384) fulfill an elective requirement.
- Additional course information including specific benchmarks and resources can be found in CPalms.

PLEASE NOTE: The changes to the computer science courses outlined above are only related to general education computer science courses and do not affect CTE courses. If your CTE courses align with computer science standards, there is no need for action regarding these changes.

Approved: _____
Michael J. Burke, Superintendent