

A staffing recommendation for 2024-25 was approved by the Neenah Joint School District Board of Education at its March 19 meeting. The Board also held its first review of the 2024-25 Employee Policy Manual and celebrated several students for their achievements in extracurricular activities over the past month.

The staffing plan reduces the overall staffing for 2024-25 by 2.35 full-time equivalency (FTE). The reductions are due to the closure of Hoover Elementary School and the loss of Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) funding from the pandemic. Due to the ESSER grants expiring, 4.0 FTE of math and literacy support will no longer be funded, though all employees will have an assignment due to retirements and resignations. Additionally, the District plans for the addition of three full-time special education teachers as well as the addition of instructors in family and consumer studies and the English Learners program.

In the Employee Policy Manual updates, there are no substantive alterations to District practices from the current manual. In the vast majority of cases, changes represent only clarification of current practice, wording, formatting or punctuation.

The Board approved a policy that allows students who turn five in July or August to still enroll for four-year-old kindergarten in the fall. Policies were also approved for the administration of medication, wireless communication devices and internet safety and responsible use of technology.

In other action, hires were approved for Paige Leistner as a school psychologist and Emily Block as a cross categorical teacher at Horace Mann. Resignations were approved for middle school teacher Lee Blank at the end of the school year and middle school teacher Sarah Stecker, effective April 9.

The Board also reviewed the District Administrator evaluation tool in hopes of clarifying the purpose of the tool, clarifying the numeric scale that is used and offering a suggestion to Board members on how to complete the evaluation.

The Board honored the state champion fishing team and state runner-up girls basketball team, as well as state champion wrestler Jacob Herm and state runner-up wrestler Declan Koch.