North Rose Wolcott Central School District

New Course Proposal

Submitting Teacher: Sam Halfman and Amanda Johnson

Submission Date: 9/5/19

Department/Grade Level: Special Education/ Library

Course Title: Genius Hour

Proposed Start Date: ASAP

Length: Half a year

Credit: .5

Prerequisite: None

Enrollment: Principal to set minimum in order to run

Staff needed (special qualifications if applicable):

Course Description: Genius hour is a class based on Personalized Learning where students are encouraged to explore their own interests and passions. Their work is based off an inquiry question. Students use academic research skills, engineering design processes, and other critical academic skills throughout the course.

Material or Special Equipment Needed: Basic classroom crafts and STEAM supplies.

Summary of Alignment to the NYS Learning Standards: Genius Hour aligns with many cross curricular subjects; mainly English, Math and Science. It follows the engineering design process, meets the Next Generation Science Standards, and relies heavily on researching and reporting, most commonly focused in in English. Depending on the students' subject choice, many other standards could be included as well.

Course Justification: During the 2018-2019 school year, several teachers piloted Genius Hour by incorporating it into their lessons. They saw an increase in student engagement and positive learning outcomes while implementing this research based learning method. This class allows students to learn vital skills such as researching, presenting, critical thinking, interviewing, professional writing, time management and others. It also gives students a chance to explore topics of interest not offered in other courses.

Please describe how this relates to the goals of the Strategic Action Plan: This class is based on the theory of Personalized Learning and meet all four core beliefs of the action plan. By integrating student choice, students are pushed to a higher standard through which to demonstrate their academic skills. This class specifically addresses Strategic Goal 4, by increasing student participation in STEAM courses.

Please submit to Building Administrator by November 15th for review. All sections must be completed.

Next Steps:

- Building Administrator submits proposal to the ASI by November 25th.
- Leadership Council review proposal at the December LC meeting.
- Superintendent recommends new course to the BOE at the January BOE meeting.
  -Submitting teacher may be asked to attend the meeting to give information about the new course.
- Upon BOE approval, teacher will submit course outline/syllabus, including anticipated assessments used to the building principal, by May 1st.
- Counseling office will include the new course description in the Student Course Catalog.

This proposal will/will not be recommended for approval.

If not recommended for approval, please provide a reason:

Teacher may resubmit an amended proposal.

_____	_____
Building Administrator	Date
_____	_____
Assistant Superintendent for Instruction	Date

Please describe how this relates to the goals of the Strategic Action Plan:

This class is based on the theory of Personalized learning and meets all four core beliefs of the action plan. By giving choice, pushing students to a higher standard, and academic skills this follows core beliefs. Additionally, this class targets strategic goal 4, by increasing student participation in STEAM courses.

Please submit to Building Administrator by November 15th for review. All sections must be completed.

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I recommend the course be approved. Genius Hour is referenced in the SAP. Whether or not it runs would depend on enrollment. BM

Building Administrator — Date 9/5/19

Megan C Palinotti — Date 9/6/19

Assistant Superintendent for Instruction

Leadership Council Approval on 9/24/19