

Chippewa Valley prepares no-cost summer school

- By Nicole Tuttle For MediaNews Group
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Chippewa Valley Schools is planning to offer summer school education at no cost to participating families. Most elementary school offerings will be held with in-person and virtual options. Pictured is Ojibwa Elementary School in Macomb Township, one of two in-person sites for elementary summer school.

NICOLE TUTTLE FOR THE MACOMB DAILY

Summer school will be cost-free to families in Chippewa Valley Schools, as the Clinton Township-based district continues to juggle in-person and online education on a smaller scale.

“We’re going to do the best that we can to meet the needs of as many students as possible,” Chippewa Valley Schools Executive Director of Innovation and Learning Walter Kozlowski said on May 3. “We know that we aren’t going to be able to fit everybody in. We also know that right now there are some families that are ready for a break and might not really want to commit to summer school, so we will also be pulling together resources and send them out.”

Kozlowski updated the school board on plans for summer school. The board met at Chippewa Valley High School in Clinton Township, with community members present in person and live streaming offered.

“We are pretty confident we are going to be able to do most of the things we wanted to do,” Kozlowski said.

Chippewa Valley Schools summer school is set to run June 21 to Aug. 19. Kozlowski said most programs are offered by invitation to students and families, targeted to students who, by district statistics, are most in need of academic assistance. May 14 is the general registration deadline for summer school with transportation, and for Creative Learning Program camps.

“If we have people that apply for summer school after that, we can’t guarantee transportation. If we have spots in the summer school, we are willing to fill them,” Kozlowski said.

On May 3, Kozlowski told the board that letters had gone out to selected elementary and middle school student families inviting their participation in summer school. He also said that high school students generally work with counselors to obtain credit recovery information.

“We have options for Kindergarten through fifth grade. We are going to have some middle school math. High school credit recovery. Some options for special education students and also for our English language learners,” Kozlowski said.

Elementary school level students will have options for virtual or in-person education, with Ojibwa and Ottawa elementary schools serving as the in-person sites. Ojibwa Elementary School is located on Heydenreich Road, south of 21 Mile Road in Macomb Township. Ottawa Elementary School is located on Millar Road, south of Moravian Drive in Clinton Township.

“This is kind of a rundown for elementary. We have an early literacy and that will be offered, at this point we believe it will be offered in person at two sites and also virtually,” Kozlowski said. “We have a CVS summer literacy for students exiting Kindergarten through third grade, again, two in person sites and a remote option. We are partnering with MISD (Macomb Intermediate School District) for a STEM option for our students who are exiting third grade. That is a virtual option. Math and literacy through the ISD for students exiting fourth and fifth grade.”

Elementary Creative Learning Program (CLP) students will be offered a summer camp, and English learner support will also be offered at the elementary level.

At the middle school level, the district will partner with the MISD for a virtual math program targeted to students exiting sixth and seventh grade. Credit recovery will be offered to high school students via summer school, as it has in the past, but this year students can take up to two courses for free. Kozlowski said on May 10 that with the exception of older students in the CLP participating in a summer camp, secondary level students would be attending summer school online.

“A secondary CLP summer camp will be in person and then some support for our English language learners in high school,” Kozlowski said May 3.