

Madison Public Schools Board of Education

Curriculum Committee Meeting

Tuesday, January 10, 2023 at 5:30 PM

Hammonasset Room / Zoom

Meeting Minutes

Members present: Steven Pynn, Jen Gordon.

Also present: Seth Klaskin, Chair; Dr. Craig Cooke, Gail Dahling-Hench

AP US History Textbook Update

Presenter: Gail Dahling-Hench

A new textbook has been reviewed for the AP US History course and is recommended to be implemented in March. Although most courses are driven by teacher generated curriculum materials versus a textbook, AP courses are so prescriptive regarding the material to be covered that they are the exception. There was some discussion from board members about the degree of latitude teachers have in bringing meaning to the instruction within AP courses.

College and Career Center Update

Presenter: Christine Coyle

The College and Career Center had a make-over to make it more welcoming and to facilitate collaboration and cooperation. The focus of the center is to support exploration of college and career options, community-based work experiences, and develop partnerships within the community for internships and learning. A student's experience begins with a career interest profile developed through the Naviance program. From this inventory careers are identified to investigate. This then guides discussions of course options within the National Career Clusters. Upper classes include individual meetings, workshop group sessions, community-based experiences and visits to a variety of community colleges and specialized technical programs. Recent developments include opportunities to earn credits at Goodwin College for some of the technical courses at DHHS.

Advisory Update

Presenters: Catherine Kennedy and Ron Spears

The advisory program occurs weekly for 20 minutes and involves all of the teachers and 52 grade level groups. The focus is on developing relationships between students and faculty and offering a forum for discussing a variety of topics of interest to students and life skills. There is a voluntary faculty advisory group as well as a student committee. The program is evolving and trying to be responsive to student needs and developing increasing levels of student leadership within the program.

State Reading Waiver Update

Presenter: Gail Dahling-Hench

The Literacy coaches, as well as the Asst. Superintendent, have been working on the waiver submission to the CSDE which was introduced by CSDE in the end of December and is due by February 28. There has been considerable time and effort expended in answering 9 key questions and providing supporting data. Input from three national figures has been elicited to review our application and provide input. The team feels very confident as does the superintendent that a very strong submission is being forwarded to the CSDE in approximately a week. Board members will eagerly await the response to the waiver application and are in full support of this effort.

There was no public comment.

The meeting adjourned at 6:40pm

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