Madison Public Schools
Board of Education
Curriculum and Student Development Committee
Tuesday, April 20, 2021
5:30 PM
Via Zoom

MEETING MINUTES

Diane Infantine-Vyce called the meeting to order at 5:35 p.m. via Zoom.

Committee Members present:
Diane Infantine-Vyce (Chair), Greg DeSantis, and Galen Cawley (ex officio)

Administration and MPS Staff Present:
Craig Cooke (Superintendent), Gail Dahling-Hench (Assistant Superintendent), Wendy Brighindi (MPS Secretary & Zoom Host), Heather Persson (DHHS Math Coordinator & Teacher), Pamela Kendrick (K-8 LA Coordinator), Carol Sullivan (K-8 Math Coordinator), Frank Henderson (Principal, Brown Intermediate School), Kathryn Hart (Principal, Polson Middle School)

Also Present: Members of the public

Recorder: Diane Infantine-Vyce

I. **Go Formative Use in Classrooms and Departments**

Heather Persson presented on the Go Formative program use at DHHS and Pamela Kendrick presented on its use at Polson. Applications (such as Pre-assessments, entrance & exit slips, checks, PBA's, and transfer tasks) and examples were given and discussed. Pros (such as ability to assign unlimited attempts, unlimited time, hide names, tagging standards, creating open ended tasks, ability for students to show their work, data use for universal screenings and benchmarks, and ability to compare data across students and teachers) and Cons (such as need to carefully craft questions and answers to reduce cheating and reduce false wrong answers, cannot paragraph, difficulty in applying to ELA & Social studies, not as user friendly as Google Docs) were discussed. Overall Go Formative is best used in Polson and Hand, with some application at Brown. Go Formative will continue to be used next year at these levels.

II. **Math MS/HS Ongoing Materials Study 2020-2021**

Heather Persson reviewed the Math Curriculum timeline starting with Bridges in Mathematics implementation and K-12 Math Curriculum writing (2013/2014) through current spring 2021. A committee was formed to find the best math materials/program (comparing Illustrative Math, Mathematics Vision Project, CT State Curriculum and Traditional Textbook) and Illustrative Math was chosen. It is currently being used by several local districts. Illustrative Math was described, moving away from I do/We do/You do type of teaching to a problem-based math curriculum where students spend more time actually doing math in class and building true understanding in math. This week Professional Development (PD) will be given in Illustrative Math by Lindsay Ramos from CREC. Illustrative Math will be implemented for the School Year (SY) 2021-22 in Grade 6 & 7 Math, and Grade 8 Pre-Algebra and in SY 2022-23 it will be used in Grade 7 Pre-Algebra and Grade 8 Algebra. Use in the HS is being evaluated.

III. **Data Teams/SST Trends and Approaches**

Principals Frank Henderson and Kathryn Hart presented on Data Teams in Grades 4-8. Data Teams, Student Support Teams (SST), Assessments [SBAC, Easy CBM, Universal Screens, Interim Assessment Blocks (IABs), and Curriculum based assessments] were reviewed and discussed. Focus Areas (Grade 6 Math, Grade 7 ELA) in the High Needs SubGroup (SpEd, ELL, students who qualify for free/reduced lunches) and Tiered Intervention were discussed and examples were given. It was noted that trends for SY 2020-21 at Brown and Polson were in line with the previous SY with regards to Interventions given in Math and LA. Social/Emotional Support needs at Brown were also in line with the previous year while needs at Polson have increased. Changes and adjustments were made this year to benefit all student groups. Student Performance trends will continue to be monitored and approaches to instruction and assessment will continue to be finetuned.

IV. Public Comments

None

The meeting was adjourned at 6:34 p.m.

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