Madison Public Schools Board of Education
Curriculum & Student Development Committee Meeting
Tuesday, November 15, 2022 at 5:30 PM
Hammonasset Room / Zoom

Meeting Minutes

Steven Pynn called the meeting to order at 5:30pm.

Members present: Steven Pynn, Jen Gordon, Cathy Miller.

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

Recorder: Steven Pynn

1. DHHS Program of Studies:
This is a yearly event in which updates to course offerings and changes to the program of studies is presented. This is a comprehensive process whereby all courses and course descriptions are reviewed against criteria. It involves every member of the faculty. This year's particular focus was on STEM and Humanities criteria and looking at courses in relation to meeting that criteria. Overall there was an increase in student centered and high interest course offerings as well as an increase in technology, design and creativity all supporting 21st Century learning. Every single course description has been rewritten. Particular effort has been in being certain 8th graders have an understanding of the course offerings for their freshman year as well as their teachers at the middle school.

The Art Department responded to the challenge from members of the board to rewrite their philosophy and mission to be more in alignment with what they actually do and what they aspire to. The rewrite was well received by the Board Members.

2. NEASC Accreditation process and update: Presentation by T.J. Salutari
DHHS is in the middle of the accreditation process that covers a ten-year period. The high school is currently accredited. The process involves all of the faculty and staff under the guidance of a steering committee. There are five standards and 32 indicators of effective practice. There is a chairperson for a committee for each of the five standards. Principal Salutari praised the hard work and focus of all of the staff and particularly the members of the steering committee. He also highlighted that the accreditation process has evolved to being much more in alignment with the current focus of the School improvement plan with an increased focus on learning in contrast to the previous focus on teaching. The entire staff completed a comprehensive self-reflection report that was presented to the NEASC visiting team for the Collaborative Visit that occurred November 2nd and 3rd. The visiting team observed many classrooms and aspects of the school and provided a brief feedback session and report at the end of the visit. A full report will be provided within roughly four months. Following that report the Steering Committee will develop a growth plan that will

comprise the focus of the work in preparation for the Decennial Visit which will occur in November of 2024 and from which an accreditation decision will be made.

Public Comment: There was no public comment.

The meeting adjourned at 6:35 p.m.

The Town of Madison does not discriminate on the basis of disability, and the meeting facilities are ADA accessible. Individuals who need assistance are invited to make their needs known by contacting the Town ADA/Human Resources Director, Debra Ferrante, at 203-245-6310 or by email at ferranted@madisonct.org at least five (5) business days prior to the meeting.