

Madison Public Schools Board of Education
Curriculum Committee Meeting
Tuesday, December 13, 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. Craig Cooke, Gail Dahling-Hench

Recorder: Steven Pynn

NOTE: The agenda was amended as the Advisory Update had to be moved to the January 10 meeting due to illness of the presenters.

Wellness Curriculum Update
Presenter: Sarah Sandora

Over the summer a group of counselors and social workers did extensive work on adopting and integrating The Frameworks from the state regarding wellness to the curriculum. A particular focus was creating a K-12 vertical alignment of language and concepts and having it become a part of every child's experience. There were cross curricular connections and a focus more on skill development than presenting purely content.

Of note was bringing lessons to each classroom from social work staff and MYFS staff. Also of note was an increase in choice for students regarding the health curriculum.

Counseling and Examples
Presenters: Jen Hawley and Sarah Sandora

An increase in opportunities for students to meet with counselors has been facilitated by the sharing with social work staff of presentations that had been done by counselors in the past.

Of note were the development of themes responsive to the needs of each grade level particularly at the high school. Student surveys have been used extensively to ensure that the offerings are responsive to what the students need.

Board member comments

Cathy Miller underscored the importance of student voice and choice and encouraged further exploration of social media formats in accessing students and their issues and concerns.

Jen Gordon further supported possible formats for involving students. Seth Klaskin queried whether there was a need for more Social Workers and inquired as to whether there was explicit work around bullying and identifying students at risk engaging or being victims of bullying. Steve Pynn pointed out that the wellness of students is and has been a very high priority for the Board and involves many aspects beyond the curriculum.

There was no public comment.

Meeting adjourned at 6:33 pm

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