Madison Public Schools
Board of Education
Curriculum and Student Development Committee
Tuesday, October 3, 2023
5:30 PM
Hammonasset Room and Zoom

MEETING MINUTES

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

Members present: Cathy Miller, Mary Ann Connelly, Steven Pynn.

Also present: Gail Dahling-Hench, Dr. Cooke

Recorder: Steven Pynn

I. DHHS Artificial Intelligence Presentation. *Celina DaSilva* presenting.
Celina DaSilva, a teacher in the English Dept. of DHHS presented on the current policy and discussion regarding AI within the English Courses at the high school. The faculty comfort level with this topic is very broad at present with discussions about how to control it and or how best to make use of it. The English Dept. has set guidelines for both parents and students in which ethical use and academic integrity are central and that student work is truly their own, The Department utilizes several tools to monitor student work although this rapidly developing technology requires frequent adjustments. Teachers have reported using AI for their own personal uses and as a teacher utility to some extent.
It was stated to the school and department's position is that it can't be blocked and that it is a decision to work to find positive ways to utilize this tool and involve students in that discussion. Committee member comments and questions included Mary Ann Connelly asking if the teachers were feeling overwhelmed by these advancements. Cathy Miller applauded that there were Professional Learning Communities where teachers could safely explore this new area. She also applauded the efforts to include students in the conversation. Steven Pynn highlighted the potential to utilize AI for teacher utility that would free them up to focus on less of the busy work and what is most meaningful for them.

II. Grade 8 Madison Experience Presentation. *Kathryn Hart, Kim Russo, Jen Weinberg* presenting.
Kathryn Hart and her team presented a program for eighth graders in which two days are devoted to emersion and deep learning around a topic of interest. Teachers volunteered of the summer to brainstorm a topic and selected Artificial Intelligence as the topic of The Madison Experience. Students will be introduced to the topic through video presentations and readings on the first day followed by deep dives in small groups on formulating questions to be presented to an expert on AI. There will be round table discussion and each of the students will select an area from the Profile of a Graduate on which to be evaluated; Inquiry, Collective Intelligence, or Alternate Perspectives. Students will receive feedback on their performance. The Experience will take place on November 9th and 16th. Gail Dahling-Hench commented that this was a good example

of the district pursuing depth of knowledge beyond what is easily measured on standardized testing.

III. Public Comment.
There was no public comment.

The meeting adjourned at 6:30p.m.

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