Seymour Public Schools

Seymour Board of Education
WORKING SESSION MINUTES
November 5, 2025
Seymour Middle School
6:00 pm

Members Present:	Jim Garofolo
	Pete Kubik
	Kristen Harmeling
	Ed Strumello

Others in Attendance:	Dr. Susan Compton
	Keith O'Rourke
	Shannon Levey

I. CALL TO ORDER
   A. Pledge of Allegiance – the meeting was called to order at 6:07 PM

II. PUBLIC COMMENT
Public Comment provides the opportunity for the public to make a comment. It is not a dialogue between the Board and the public. Based upon what is heard during Public Comment, the Board may choose to add a topic to the agenda. If questions are posed that the Chairperson is able to answer, those questions may be addressed under the Chairperson's Comments portion of the agenda. The Board will not discuss personnel matters. Comments should be respectful and no longer than 3 minutes in length so that all who wish to comment may have the opportunity to do so. All the public wanting to comment will need to state their name and address for the record prior to addressing the Board.

III. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION
   A. AI Presentation for Board of Education – Matt Mervis of EdAdvance (CT Department of Education AI Pilot Program, SMS)

   Mr. Matt Mervis from EdAdvance provided an overview of the Connecticut State Department of Education's AI Pilot Program. Seymour Middle School (SMS) is one of only six schools in the state selected to participate. The program is supported by a statewide grant of over $100,000, administered through EdAdvance. Participation includes both students and staff, with a focus on integrating artificial intelligence tools into instruction and professional practice.

   Mr. Mervis shared several AI resources currently being explored:
   - Udio – a creative song generation tool.
   - Magic School – an AI platform that supports teachers in lesson planning and instructional tasks.
   - Notebook LM (Google) – an AI tutor tool that can create quizzes, flashcards, mind maps, podcasts, and other learning materials for students and staff.
   - Common Sense Media – utilized as a framework for teaching digital citizenship, online safety, and AI ethics.

1

Discussion emphasized how AI can enhance learning outcomes while also helping students build critical future-ready and life skills. The Board noted the importance of balancing innovation with ethical considerations.

Board Policy Consideration

The Board briefly discussed CABE's model policy regarding artificial intelligence, specifically addressing ethics and the risks of inauthentic or "deep fake" content. The importance of establishing clear district guidelines for responsible AI use was acknowledged.

Next Steps

- The Board expressed interest in having Matt Mervis return at a later date to provide updates on the pilot program's progress and outcomes.
- Continued review of CABE policy guidance on AI and digital ethics will be pursued.

IV. REPORTS
    A. Board of Education
        1. Chairman Comments
        2. Board Member Comments
    B. Superintendent's Report

V. ADJOURNMENT
The meeting was adjourned at 6:57 PM

Prepared by Shannon Levey,
Board Clerk