

**Smith Middle School  
School Improvement Team  
Monday, April 29, 2019  
Smith Media Center, 4:30-5:30 p.m.**

**SIT Members:**

Faculty Co-Chair: Lori Clark  
Parent Co-Chair: Rachael DiSantostefano  
Faculty/Staff Members: Ryan Kulikowski, Matthew Bello, TBD  
Parent Members: Liane Carneiro, Becky Lee, Kavita Rajagopal, Rane Montgomery  
Administration: Stephon Goode, Spencer Hawkins  
Student Members: Vaughn Vandegrift, Daniel Perrin

**AGENDA**

Meeting started at 4:35, adjourned at 5:20 pm

1. Minutes were not approved from March. Stephon needs to examine them for accuracy of the statements in there about testing results / Benchmarks.
2. SIT District chairs meeting. Rachael and Lori reviewed content. There is a desire to diversify SITs but this is complicated in practice (who signs up, slots aren't able to be held for groups). There was discussion about the role of public comment at SIT. In general, schools can decide to keep or not – it is not required and is being removed next year. Different schools are keeping it, some are removing it. Generally, schools needs to provide clarification on what is in scope of SIT vs. what needs to be heard elsewhere to prevent from getting off track. Smith SIT is open to a 'suggestion box' or email box or venue to hear input but nothing was formally decided. If we keep open comment, we would navigate what can be heard vs. what might be better in another forum or through another means (teacher, principal, district, PTSA, etc). This will need to be discussed / finalized next year.
3. Student Input – how to improve school / what's not working. From past meeting, there was discussion of 1) testing, 2) alternative bells to accommodate enrollment may not be working as intended. This meeting focused on 3) culture. Smith has culture within a classroom, but not as cohesively as a school. The students would like us to consider ways to improve school cohesion. Many ideas were discussed, but there is recognition that this would be in the scope of PTSA and/or administration to address. Crowding and size also impinge upon some ideas. Ideas included:
  - Desegregating lunch, Yearbook superlatives, assemblies, performances @ school, dances at school, cultural arts, PBIS blow up or bouncy things, and ways that LEAP may feel less segregated. Can things be done grade-wide or school wide?
4. Matt reviewed discipline data (topline). Referrals are up, including pattern with EC students driving most of it. There are kids that have serious needs, including 6+ kids that have joined Smith this year from residential programs. This is a problem at Smith that has reached serious levels, and patterns like this with more serious issues coming up has been seen across the district.
5. AOB. Next meeting, we will welcome new members – discuss what worked/ didn't work for next year, and discuss ACCESS data if it is available.