

SMASH Site Council Minutes

Wednesday, December 3, 2025 3:15 PM on Zoom

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://smmk12.zoom.us/j/84627439205?pwd=c0dDdkRPWXpRWtIrUjFYWZxN21wZz09>

Meeting ID: 846 2743 9205

Passcode: 755366

In attendance: Jeff Rubin, Jessica Rishe, Sarah Daunis, Rohan Sellers, Jen Gardner, Cecilia Cox, Mike Oliver, Ania Kubicz-Preis, Alissa Bizzul

Absent: Jen Mack, Ezra Mooney, Christian Carter, Kai Richardson,

Adopted Agenda - Motioned by Rohan Sellers, Seconded by Mike Oliver
Approved minutes of last meeting - Motioned by Rohan Sellers, Seconded by Mike Oliver

Community participation: none

Reports and Announcements (regular agenda items)

PTSA

The First DEI committee meeting is tomorrow at 6 p.m.

In terms of Spirit Gear, new designs are being considered.

The Nominating Committee is looking for people to join PTSA. If there is anyone interested or a potential good fit, please reach out to Mike, Trudy, or Jessica.

Student Reports:

CORE 4

8th Grader Rohan shared how the first Algebra test went and that the Algebra class is still studying systems of linear equations. In 8th grade math, they learned about the principals of algebra. They're learning about DNA in Science. They just finished up their learning about West African history. The 8th graders are researching their projects right now. They're also going to the TK classrooms to read books. 7th Grader Cecilia was involved with the SMASH tour on Monday. People asked about projects, mixed Cores, and extracurricular activities. A new 8th grader was welcomed into our community.

CORE 3

4th Grade Mathematicians completed the current unit, "Factors, Multiples, and Arrays.". 5th Grade Mathematicians used standard units of measurement, centimeters and inches, to determine the volume of rectangular prisms and learned how the dimensions of a prism are affected when the volume is doubled, tripled, or halved. Jayme's advisory worked to finish the research for our focus planet so we're ready to draft our sketchnote page. Scientists created a model to show how much "space" is in outer space. Readers continued to listen to our podcast and wrote a new summary style with timelines. They also looked more closely for clues about setting and the traits of characters through dialogue and action. Writers thought about how the problem in their original story would get worse as they started drafts thinking about sentence variety. In Sarah's advisory, they finished the mentor text read aloud, The Absent Author and talked about how to apply the writing about reading strategies modelled in class. Students are learning how to record their thinking on post-its, bubble maps, and t-charts. They engaged in a History Mystery, looking at an artifact. They learned how important it is to observe, analyze, wonder, and interpret. For our Cookie Jar Mystery, the detectives engaged in a lab where they looked at the ink on the crime scene note.

Community Groups are happening 1-2 times monthly. This month it will be focused on reading together. Last month was focused on connections and coming up with group names.

Old Business: none

New Business:

Updates to SPSA Goals #1 and #2- 11.24.25 and 11.25.25 Writing with ELD Supports Learning Walks Results

Updates to SPSA Goal #3 SEL- UCLA Center for East West Medecine

Jessica shared the action steps we're taking to support students who are ELD. There are three learning walks with $\frac{1}{3}$ of the teaching staff at a time. All classroom teachers host/visit. On the 1st visit, patterns noted that students were aware of how to get help. They had ownership of their own writing. That writing instruction was differentiated to help them and stretch them. There were lots of models of student and teacher writing that provided entry points. Possible next steps include developing a writing continuum, looking at what teacher language we use, considering checklists and how they grow over time, using Google Classroom as a place to keep students' writing in a digital portfolio, and considering what revision strategies are used/should be used. On the 2nd visit, there was room for voice and choice with the writing. Peers were a resource, in addition to adults. There was a lot of perseverance. The students presented grounded body language as they were writing. Students shared that they viewed themselves as writers, felt comfortable with support systems, and were excited about writing. They were using writing as a way to learn about themselves and others. Students could tell how invested adults were in helping them through the writing process. Students beyond those initially tapped were asked to have their writing read/be interviewed.

Next steps could include more touch points to match teachers with students throughout the year to share writing, have opportunities to reflect on the writing, look at scaffolds to support writing, and consider the role of AI when writing. The third walk will take place tomorrow.

Cecilia would like to know how we would implement the writing interviews in the future. Jen Gardner shared her experience as a walker, especially how the questions could be tweaked. (Tools questions made most kids answer pencils, but charts, etc.) But most questions pulled out the information that we wanted.

In terms of supporting the social/emotional development, we're starting a new action step in January. There are twelve lessons (elementary and middle school versions) that were developed through UCLA Center for East West Medicine and it will be piloted at our school. Each week, there is a different method (yoga, meditation, etc.) demonstrated through video. UCLA instructors will join and TK and K/1 will also use books to support this experience. Parents will be invited to opt their child into a focus group. (There will be intake surveys, focus groups, and exit surveys that parents could give 2-8th permission for their children to participate.)

Community participation: one parent shared that she attended to learn more about how Site Council works.

Motion to adjourn

Motioned by Ania Kubicz-Preis

Seconded by Rohan Sellers

Meeting notes taken by Recording Secretary Sarah Daunis

Meeting Adjourned at 3:44 p.m.

Next meeting dates for 2025-26: 1/7/26, 2/11/26, 3/4/26, 4/15/26, 5/6/26