

SMASH Site Council Minutes
Wednesday, February 11, 2026 3:15 PM on Zoom

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://smmk12.zoom.us/j/84627439205?pwd=c0dDdkRPWXpRWTlrUIFYWZNXN21wZz09>

Meeting ID: 846 2743 9205

Passcode: 755366

In attendance: Jessica Rishe, Rohan Sellers, Jen Gardner, Ezra Mooney, Ania Kubicz-Preis, Alissa Bizzul, Mike Oliver
Absent: Jeff Rubin, Sarah Daunis, Jen Mack, Kai Richardson, Christian Carter

Adopted Agenda - Motioned by Rohan Seconded by Ezra
Approved minutes of last meeting - Ezra Motioned by Jen Seconded by
Community participation: No one

Reports and Announcements (regular agenda items)

PTSA: none

Student Reports: Core 4 Algebra finished graphs/data unit and started a new unit on absolute value functions with a new Salvas curriculum. In Humanities, just finished Imperial China studies and shifting to Japan and Farewell to Manzanar book. Starting debates and working on grammar. In science, began Evolution unit, how creatures adapt to their environment. Did a bird identification unit. Middle School Dance is this Friday 2/13. Passion Projects- 8th graders done with research phase, working on interviews and product now.

Old Business: None

New Business:

Used protocol to review the 1st-8th grade Multilingual Learner Student Focus Group Data.

What stands out from the data?

1. Need more **grammar** help.
2. Teachers talk too much when students already have their ideas.
3. Students like honest feedback not just compliments.
4. Taking a break when overstimulated helps writing stamina.
5. Think Time
6. Physical methods: sounding out, using finger to space words
7. **Distractions** are hard for students Wanting a quiet space to focus.
8. Older students were more aware and/or descriptive about what helps them as writers Younger students did not share as much in the focus group
9. The students did not need a lot of tools or a lot of choices or too much teaching time, they more needed limited time/choices and get to work then ask for help when need it.
10. **Vocabulary** (hard to stretch out a sentence, finding synonyms, forget words)

What matters about this data?

1. If we are a school that honors creating a learning environment that addresses the needs of all learners. This data shows distractions are difficult and students want quiet space. We can build expectations into what a writing space should look, sound and feel like in order to address those needs TK-8th.
2. It is hard to regulate everyone and meet the pace of each writer, some people need to talk to get/give feedback. Maybe we can designate spaces in quiet corners or patios for those who want that.
3. Use additional tools to learn vocabulary

SMMUSD gives a lot of surveys. Students don't want to write more than they need to so multiple choice surveys with option to write short answer as well are more manageable than writing 7 sentences about how the recent unit was. Give a couple days after the unit or after get teacher feedback before need to reflect on it as a student.

Circling up/talking through reflections allows students to hear helpful ideas from peers too. It can intrude on some people's thinking though.

Community participation: None

Motioned to adjourn

Motioned by Alisa

Seconded by Rohan

Meeting notes taken by Jessica Rishe

Meeting Adjourned at 4:05 p.m.

Next meeting dates for 2025-26: 3/4/26, 4/15/26, 5/6/26