

-M-A SITE COUNCIL

10/23/25

3:30 - 5:00 pm

In the Staff Lounge (across from B-10)

Minutes

A. Welcome and Introductions

Attending Members: Karina Flores, Mark Helfenberger, Tricia Barr (PTA), Elisa Nocedal, Andrea Valencia (student), Alexa Habibi (student)

Attending Guests: Maria Luisa De Seta (Standing in for Karl), Celine (Standing in for Rob Bentley, Foundation for the Future)

Absent: Fernando Ramirez (ELAC);

B. Approve Minutes from [9/25/25](#)

As the site council does not have enough regular members to meet Quorum, approval of minutes and all other motions will be tabled until the next meeting.

D. Recap 9/25 Meeting

- We reviewed Goal 1
- Reached out to Classified staff to add them as representation to Site Council. Have selected two candidates
- Seeking 1 more student to join, reaching out to leadership and AVID students
- Discussed modifications to grades and the challenges that come with that (modified grades are not A-G eligible)
- Talked about sending a feedback form to get more information on how teachers use/view our small settings testing center.

C. REPORTING OUT: What's a highlight and challenge from the 1st quarter for your group?

Chair: The Site council is filling up the committee spots. The highlight is the committee meeting and welcoming the new members. As a conflict mediator, the first quarter has been good. Working with PCRC and other third-party groups has been helpful in dividing up the work. A challenge is working with students to resolve conflicts, while not removing students from class excessively.

Students: Highlight: Amount of class clash and spirit days we hosted was well participated and well received from the school. Challenge, personally sleeplessness with the homework loads and extracurricular activities. Another challenge is prioritizing schoolwork with AP classes and extracurricular activities, and learning to manage that time.

Staff: Challenges: tardies and consistent hw completion. Students are opening up more and community is starting to build. AVID hosted its Q1 Site team meeting. AVID goals include increasing AVID awareness schoolwide, as many staff and students are unaware of AVID's daily and weekly activities.

PTA: Excited about upcoming events between now and the end of 2025. Homecoming tailgate and senior breakfast. The canned food drive is coming up starting 11/1, and the gift drive shortly after that (Thanksgiving). Distribution is before the holidays.

Foundation: No specific challenges, which is a positive. The fall fundraising campaign is going well. Hoping to raise a similar amount from last year. Mood from parents seems more optimistic and lighthearted. Fewer issues communicated to the foundation. Approximately 95% of the funding goes to the school's funds for teacher salaries. The principal decides specifically where the money goes.

ELAC: Absent

Principal: School events are doing a great job of fostering a sense of community. Parent involvement, staff tailgate, cultural events like Dia de los Muertos are in progress, and participation is going well

E. Title 1 Fund Review (if available) - \$68k. Typically, fund an instructional associate in the English Learners Dept. If there is money left over, we can discuss how to allocate the extra funds.

E. Review Goals 1-3 of [25-26 Site Plan](#)

 2025 26 M-A SPSA, Final Draft.docx

Notes and comments on Goal 1:

- Is there statistics and data, as well as anecdotal evidence to showcase the success of the various funded programs (AVID tutors, Small settings testing center, SAAP, etc.)?

Notes and comments on Goal 2:

- Strategy 1: New CTE pathways
 - New Sports medicine class seems to be going well, and well received (from anecdotal observations)
 - Strategy 2: Entrepreneurship CTE Path for EML
 - Q: What are EL and LTEL, and EML? ELs are usually new to the country, LTELs are students who have been in the country for 7 years and have not been rated 'proficient' in English on the state test. EML is a new term to more broadly identify English learners, as it highlights a skill they are building, rather than a deficiency
 - Can we rewrite this year's SPSA to make all these terms align? (convert all parts that say EL to EML?) Karl will know if this is allowed
 - Strategy 3: College and Career Day
 - Just held College and Career day. 9th graders made 4-year plans for after high school pathways and had financial literacy lessons
 - 9th graders Mark Helfenberger spoke to voiced their feelings that the lesson had value. They liked making a 4-year plan and were surprised to see how much things cost. They also said it was boring at times and felt repetitive or similar to life skills
 - can we request attendance data for the career panels with seniors?
- For College and Career Day, add reminders to MAToday and ask sophomore and junior teachers to remind students of their responsibilities, etc. Despite email and Canvas

reminders, students are missing the information and not arriving on time for C&C Day activities. Leadership Instagram reminder? Students didn't know where they were supposed to go. For breaks during the SAT, give students the opportunity to get up and stretch.

- Can we bring in guest speakers (former EML students at M-A or elsewhere) to specifically discuss with the current EML students what their four years at M-A can look like?
- Strategy 4: Expanded Parent Education
 - Is there Data to show we did hold these meetings?
 - Who is the point person to organize and run these meetings?
- Strategy 5: Community college visits
 - Can we highlight which community colleges have excellent career programs
 - Examples: Skyline has biotech (I think), Mission College has both Firetech and Culinary programs
 - Create a list of these career programs at the community colleges for the College and Career Center to showcase
 - 12th-grade EML students had opportunities to visit colleges on College and Career Day
 - Karl will have specific updates on this strategy
 - Our new BRT (bilingual resource teacher) has been fantastic in finding engaging programs for EML students
- Strategy 6: College Field Trips for AVID
 - College trip costs continue to increase, and AVID can only afford to send one bus worth of students (40-45) instead of 2 this year with similar funding

[Parking Lot](#)

Budget Code:

Certificated - 01.0397.0.1110.1000.1116.200.480

Classified - 01.0397.0.1110.1000.2916.200.480