

FONDREN MIDDLE SCHOOL

SDMC Quarter 1 Meeting Minutes

September 15, 2026 | Approximately 5:35-6:00 PM | Virtual / Recorded Meeting

Facilitator	Principal LaKia Jackson
Committee	Site Decision Making Committee (SDMC)
Meeting Focus	Quarter 1 campus updates, accountability, instructional priorities, student data, and upcoming events

Purpose of Meeting

Principal Jackson welcomed members and reviewed the purpose of the Site Decision Making Committee (SDMC). The committee provides an opportunity for campus staff, parents, business/community members, and campus leadership to provide input regarding decisions and initiatives impacting Fondren Middle School.

Introductions & Membership

Participants included campus administration and staff, parent representatives, and community/business representatives. Principal Jackson also acknowledged Executive Director of Instruction Ms. Bruce, who was in attendance.

Campus Communication

Families and community members were reminded that campus information is shared through the Fondren Middle School website, ParentSquare, Instagram, and Facebook. Members were encouraged to notify the campus if outdated or inaccurate information is identified so corrections can be made promptly.

Campus Accountability Update

Principal Jackson shared the campus's continued academic growth. Fondren's accountability rating increased from 50 when she arrived in 2023 to 72 during the 2024-2025 school year and to 79 in the most recent results discussed. Domain 1 Student Achievement increased from 57 to 67. Leadership acknowledged the work of students and staff while emphasizing the continued goal of academic improvement.

Campus Action Plan

The campus action plan and instructional priorities were reviewed. Key areas discussed included:

- Ensuring high-quality instruction through strong teacher ownership and intentional instructional delivery.
- Increasing rigor and depth of instruction so students consistently engage in thinking, problem-solving, and academic discourse.
- Providing appropriate instructional supports for the campus's large emerging bilingual population.
- Using assessment data and measurable evidence to monitor and improve student achievement.

Beginning-of-Year NWEA Data

BOY NWEA Reading, Math, and Science data were reviewed as baseline measures for student growth. Sixth-grade math was identified as a relative strength, with performance above the 50th percentile. Seventh-grade performance was identified as an area requiring additional support, and eighth-grade math was highlighted as a significant area of focus, with the group performing at approximately the 26th percentile. The campus will continue monitoring progress through middle- and end-of-year assessments.

Dyad Student Travel Opportunities

Ms. Williams provided information regarding Dyad student experiences. Eligible seventh- and eighth-grade students will have opportunities for domestic and international travel. This year's destinations include Nashville and Panama. Eligibility includes requirements related to attendance, grades, and other program expectations. A parent information meeting was announced for September 23.

Principal Jackson emphasized that Dyad travel is provided at little to no cost to families beyond personal spending money and that the program assists with items such as luggage and passport preparation. The opportunity will also be used to encourage strong attendance, behavior, and academic performance.

Upcoming Campus Events

Event	Date / Details
Hispanic Heritage Month	September 15-October 15; student activities and celebrations planned.
Grandparents Day	September 18 during grade-level lunches: 6th - 11:30 AM; 7th - 12:00 PM; 8th - 12:30 PM.
Staff Professional Development Day	September 21; no school for students.
Open House	September 22, 5:30-7:00 PM.
Dyad Parent Meeting	September 23.
Coffee with the Principal	September 30.
Homecoming Game	October 14 at 7:30 PM at Butler Stadium; opponent TBD.
Homecoming Dance	Date to be determined.
Report Cards	Information forthcoming.

Follow-Up / Action Items

- Continue communicating upcoming events through the campus website, ParentSquare, and social media.
- Correct the identified Open House flyer/date information.
- Share Dyad parent meeting information and related eligibility details.
- Finalize and communicate the Homecoming Dance date.
- Communicate report-card information when available.
- Continue monitoring academic progress through the campus action plan and NWEA data.

Adjournment

The formal meeting concluded at approximately 6:00 PM. Members were invited to submit additional questions through the meeting chat. Principal Jackson also noted that meeting times may vary in an effort to accommodate participants' schedules and that the meeting was recorded.

Prepared from the Fondren MS SDMC Quarter 1 meeting transcript.