Hawthorne Middle School
School Site Council Meeting Minutes
October 20, 2026 8:30-9:30 a.m.

CALL TO ORDER

Time: 8:41 AM | **By:** L. Mische

L. Mische called the meeting to order at 8:41 AM and called for a motion to approve the agenda.

- **Motion:** Z. Jones moved to approve the agenda; N. Ruvalcaba seconded.
- **Vote:** Approved unanimously (11–0).

1. Review and Approval of September Minutes

SSC members reviewed the September minutes. One correction was noted under Item 4 (Officer Elections): the initial motion to nominate L. Mische was made by N. Ruvalcaba, rather than D. Guerrero. The minutes were updated to reflect this correction.

- **Motion:** N. Ruvalcaba moved to approve the September minutes as amended; A. Cardenas seconded.
- **Vote:** Approved unanimously (11–0).

2. Grade Level Reports

- **Sixth Grade (H. Gonzalez):**
  - *Restroom Facilities:* Female students requested improved restroom cleanliness and consistent restocking of toilet seat covers and sanitary napkins.
  - *Cafeteria Breakfast:* Limited white milk is available during classroom breakfast (approximately two per class). L. Mische advised teachers to contact the cafeteria when additional milk is needed; N. Ruvalcaba will also follow up with cafeteria staff.
  - *Student Outreach:* H. Gonzalez reported hosting a successful meet-and-greet with 6th-grade classes to introduce herself and the 6th-grade Vice President.
- **Seventh Grade (C. Muogboh):**
  - *Master Schedule & Honors Placement:* Students who recently underwent schedule changes inquired about taking both AVID and Math Honors simultaneously. The council discussed potentially offering two sections of 7th-grade Math Honors next year to increase scheduling flexibility.
  - *Elective Choices:* Students asked if they could select their own electives. N. Ruvalcaba affirmed the importance of student choice, noting that students scoring at Level 1 or 2 on the SBAC are currently placed in intervention courses. As students meet exit criteria, they may transition into Business electives based on seat availability. Discussions are also underway to expand HMS academies, including Business and TWBI.
- **Eighth Grade (K. Velez):**
  - *Camp & Extracurriculars:* Students inquired whether camp—which was well-received last year—will be offered to grades 6–8 this year. K. Velez also requested that teachers remind students of upcoming extracurricular opportunities outside the classroom.

3. Program Reports

- **District English Learner Advisory Committee (DELAC) – D. Guerrero (Parent Representative):**
  - Reported on the previous day's DELAC meeting, noting strong attendance from new members.

- *CA Dashboard & Suspensions:* District representative J. Annett reviewed California School Dashboard data, highlighting English Learner (EL) progress and suspension rates as areas of focus, and provided an overview of district suspension procedures.
- *Autism Awareness:* Following reports of bullying at elementary campuses with large special education populations, the committee suggested adding Autism Awareness activities to the calendar. For HMS, this could be integrated into the School Plan for Student Achievement (SPSA) as a family and student education goal in collaboration with counselors and the Special Education team.
- *Medi-Cal Updates:* Parents raised concerns regarding Medi-Cal coverage declines and volunteer requirements to reinstate insurance. Rudy Salas was identified as the district contact for further assistance; HMS will follow up for additional information.

- **District Advisory Committee (DAC) – T. Amezcua (EL Special Projects Teacher):**
  - *ELPAC Data:* Presented ELPAC data detailing student percentages across performance levels, breaking down results into two domains: Listening (35% Beginning to Develop) and Reading (69% Beginning to Develop).
  - *EL Action Plan:* Shared this year's instructional focus on text annotation. L. Mische noted that the Lexia program contains a hidden resource section dedicated to fluency that can be utilized for partner work.

4. School Plan for Student Achievement (SPSA)

- **Needs Assessment Review:**
  - Outlines were distributed to SSC members to evaluate current instructional programs, standardized assessments, professional development, teaching practices, parent engagement, and funding.
  - The goal of the review is to ensure budget allocations reflect the highest priorities of students, teachers, and families, guiding future purchases of physical materials and equipment.
  - Members brainstormed strengths and areas of need regarding parent involvement, followed by a whole-group discussion covering four key areas: *Academic Support & Student Learning*; *School Climate, Safety, & Culture*; *Family Engagement & Communication*; and *Resources & Support Services*.

Title I Budget Action Items

- **Expenditure Approval – Newsela Subscription:**
  - *Description:* Schoolwide subscription to Newsela, an online platform offering reputable articles scaffolded by Lexile level to support classroom instruction.
  - *Cost:* Approximately $6,000.00.
  - *Motion:* A. Cardenas moved to approve the Newsela subscription; Z. Jones seconded.
  - *Vote:* Approved unanimously (11–0).
- **Expenditure Approval – SmartPass Update & Supervisor Tech Needs:**
  - *Description:* Purchase of five iPad Minis for campus supervisors to support the rollout of the previously approved SmartPass system.
  - *Cost:* Not to exceed $6,000.00.
  - *Motion:* Z. Jones moved to approve funding for five iPad Minis; A. Cardenas seconded.
  - *Vote:* Approved unanimously (11–0).

Next Meeting: November 17, 2026

6. Questions / Comments: None at this time.

7. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at **9:31 AM**.