

SMASH Site Council Minutes
Wednesday, November 1, 2023 3:15-4:45 PM
Hybrid Format: Obama Center Library or Zoom

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://smmk12.zoom.us/j/84627439205?pwd=c0dDdkRPWxpRWTlrUIFYWZlZ09>

Meeting ID: 846 2743 9205

Passcode: 755366

In attendance: Teacher Sarah Daunis, Principal Jessica Rishe, Student TJ Turner, Student Zachary Lichtman, Student Lucienne Domingue, Teacher Anne Serapiglia, Teacher Jeff Rubin, Parent Nancy Chou, Parent Jonathan Bijur, Office Manager Ania Kubicz-Preis

Absent: Parent Naren Desai, Teacher Christian Carter

Jessica previewed the Agenda

Adopted Agenda

Motioned By TJ Turner Seconded By Jonathan Bijur

Approved minutes of last meeting

Motioned By Anne Serapiglia Seconded By Lucienne Dominique

Community participation - Invited, but no one requested participation

Reports and Announcements (regular agenda items)

Principal's Report:

Giving updates about our Muir/Smash campus

Some of the changes - currently under review by DSA

In addition to exterior work, they're also taking out all of the interior drywall

The estimate for the cost has grown

Demolition has begun

Trees need to be removed because they're causing water under the building

Additional work is underway

Assuming approval is received by February, the work will be completed by July 2025 with the intent of reopening August 2025

Even with the increased cost of the project, the repair cost continues to be less than half of the replacement cost. (This information comes directly from Cary Upton.)

Notes/Comments:

The estimated cost is 41 million, while the estimated cost to replace everything is 90 million. Parents are noting how expensive it is and wondering when it would be high enough to pivot to the point where it would move to replace. Jessica noted that they're already working on repairing, so not likely they would switch to replacement. There is also a conversation about the decision-to-action process and where is that extra money coming from. It will be up to the school board to decide - as it is coming from bond money - what needs to be shifted to make up for the difference. Also, a question was raised about how Muir is doing. Principal does not have survey data to reference, nor has she been reached out to at this point. Steve Richardson has been holding meetings and would have more information. Project-based learning is being encouraged in the district moving forward. The question is whether all or part of the campus will be ready by 2025. The Adult School will stay at The Obama Center and Olympic will get to use The Obama Center when the lease at SMC is over.

Student Reports:

Zachary shared that they will be preparing for a history test and upcoming essay. Seventh graders have a math test in two weeks. TJ shared how the Escape Rooms were a lot of fun. There were two - one for the younger students and older ones. Timing-wise, it went to plan. Today, there was time for clean-up and reflection. The Breadwinner movie was watched in preparation for the essay. The notes on medieval Islam are due on Friday. In math, they're working on Inequalities (in Algebra). There will be a test in two weeks. The students are working on the gardens. They'll be growing new plants in a few weeks. They get to choose their seeds, reflecting on their gardening process from last time, and using that information to inform their future garden.

Core 3 just switched advisories. In math, the fifth graders are working on Area and the fourth graders are working on data collection. The new units - What's Out There? and Is Seeing Believing? - were launched on Monday.

Core 2 did not report today.

PTSA:

Nov. 19th is our anniversary party. Jonathan shared that invitations have gone out. 300+ RSVPs. There will be a band, food, and swag. Nancy shared she's looking for more responses to the questionnaire. If there are any other ideas about how to get more responses from alumni, that'd be more than welcome.

Student Council:

Anne shared that the Talent Show had a huge turnout. It was well-attended and a lot of fun. It was standing room only. There was a Core 4 bake sale that raised a lot of money in support of the upcoming Catalina trip.

Additional Note:

Suehyun shared that there was a Halloween costume exchange and it was a huge success. It was made accessible to those who came at dismissal and the afterschool program families.

Old Business: None

New Business:

22-23 SMASH Attendance data was reviewed

It was noted that MS is not separate from elementary school on the graph.

Jessica highlighted the slide where it notes that 57 of the conferences were completed and 26 still to be completed.

She reached out to those 26, but hasn't heard back from them.

Marlen and Jessica worked together on this. Marlen is aware of the patterns because families had different reasons. Jessica noted the chronic rates and "Suppression Rate" in another slide.

No thoughts or suggestions about what to do to encourage people to be at school regularly.

22-23 State Survey Data about SMASH was reviewed

Students

Parents

Staff

In terms of student results

Questions and reactions:

TJ, Zachary, and Lucienne asked if the survey was anonymous. Without it being an invasion of privacy, could you unpack it with them and help them. Maybe those few were going through a tough time and needed help. It looks like the vast majority of students feel cared about and that's most important. It's kind of the best results you can get. Overall, they're pretty good results.

In terms of parent results

Questions and reactions:

Zachary wishes there was a way to know who disagreed and there could be a way to help them. Jessica noted that while most of the results are highly favorable, the lowest result had to do with rigor/and being challenged and not many people responded to the question about virtual learning. Jonathan followed up on the question of the program being rigorous/being challenged. Jessica talked about unpacking those with parents. Nancy asked what happens next with this data - Is there an action step after this? Jessica shared that at a state level they would want to know how we're doing as an alternative school and would see the strong data as a reason to stay open. Nancy wanted to know if there was a way to know which grades (of parents) responded and if there is a certain age group where parents are expecting something different. Jessica noted that we don't know which parents responded. Jonathan noted that parents and students seem - overall - well-served by SMASH and their teachers. Jessica noted that there will be other survey data gathered this year that we can use to compare with this data.

Community participation

Jessica invited participation

No one chose to speak

Motioned by Zachary Lichman Seconded by TJ Turner Meeting Adjourned at 4:08 p.m.

Meeting notes taken by Recording Secretary Sarah Daunis

Next meeting dates for 2023-24: 12/6, 1/10/24, 2/7, 3/6, 4/10, 5/8