

SMASH Site Council Minutes
Wednesday, November 14, 2018 3:15 PM in Anne's Room

In attendance: Arati Desai, Kirsten Sheridan, Anne Serapiglia, Jennifer Gardner, Nico Lombard, Mira Wagabaza, Maya Gillerman, Jessica Rishe

Absent: Michon Paris, Chrysta Powell, Christian Carter, Malaika Boyer

Motioned by Kirsten Seconded by Anne Adopted Agenda

Motioned by Maya Seconded by Nico Approved minutes of last meeting

Community participation: none

Reports and Announcements (regular agenda items)

Principal's Report: Update regarding inquiry-based learning high school. In April 2018, School Board directed Superintendent to create a project based learning (PBL) professional development cohort for SMMUSD teachers as part of a longer-range plan for spreading PBL across the District and prepare to serve a cohort of 9th graders August 2019. Superintendent's working committee has been meeting monthly to plan for August 2019. Committee is facilitated by Jonathon Mooney and consists of Superintendent, Asst Supt Ed Services, Director Curriculum and Instruction, coordinator of Innovation and Learning, Principals of JAMS, Lincoln, SMASH, Olympic, Malibu High and Samohi, SMMCTA President, and an assortment of PBL experienced K-12 teachers. Goal is to have information ready for prospective 9th grade families interested in PBL program in February. The PBL Professional Development cohort of 14 teaches from all 6 secondary sites has been training together this school year. This training is facilitated by coordinator of Innovation and Learning Devon Smith and SMASH Principal.

Student Reports: Core 4 is focusing on Geography Bee, Witch of Blackbird Pond essays, Jigsaw notes, science invention presentations, focusing on ratios and scale factors in math. Getting new book Chains tomorrow.

Seamus explained how he and other Core 3 students presented at a MUSE sustainability conference two weekends ago about their efforts with the Director of Food and Nutrition Services

For Mock Trial, the 7/8 graders already presented the prosecution and received a very high score. Students were highly prepared thanks to the parents who have coached them with great commitment. The 6/7/8 grade defense team will present Thursday.

Community Organization Reports (to include but not limited to the following):
PTSA: 11/27 6pm Talent Show will have a Fire Relief Fund focus.

We are looking for a SMASH parent lead to receive and redistribute the information from the “advocating for healthy food choices” parent group. Food and Nutrition Services is highlighting some scratch cooking fresh ingredient meals each month, see the Friday Letter each week for details about what/when. Core 3 held a discussion about the differing ways families approach meals and nutrition and how to hold the strength of your own ideas without putting down or shaming others.

Student Council: Peer mediation is underway. Most conflicts being mediated on the little yard so far. Mediators on the big yard will begin staying at the bench by the structure so they are easier to find in the big space. Planning a feedback session on a Friday to get revision ideas from the mediators.

Old Business: Motioned by Arati Seconded by Jayme Approved site plan which includes three goals (Written/oral expression, supporting a variety of learners, school climate)

Continued discussion from last meeting:

How do we as a SMASH community reach out and connect with incoming families of older aged kids (Cores 2,3,4)?

When older children come in with a Core 1 sibling, the families attend the summer park playdates and bbq. Core 3 teachers establish a buddy system to match up experienced and new students. When older children come into the STEP program, the STEP teacher Jen incorporates a “SMASH 101” seminar to help students acclimate to what might be different from their prior school settings. There is room to help new parents know about and understand lots of the Friday Letter references such as SMASHBashes. There is an ice cream social for all STEP families.

Can there be designated parent volunteers to connect with new families specifically? Can there be a STEP family back to school night where experienced SMASH parents come and welcome and share information (Classroom Parent, Friday Letter...) and connect with new STEP families? Can a buddy parent call and invite some new family to attend the Talent Show or Comedy Night etc with them? Can we help K parents fill out the Classroom Parent forms quickly so they have each other's contact info?

How can we activate a caring safety net of parents across families and how can we help our students be prepared for handling teen pressures?

Site Council discussed how to help students know what to say in various scenarios Miles To Go helps 7/8 graders practice exit strategies and ways to respond to peers related to substance use

DARE helps 5 graders practice what to say

Planned Parenthood helps middle schoolers practice language and strategies

Digital Citizenship Week—Common Sense Media

What additional scenarios and resources might we add?

How is the special education population served at SMASH? Students come to the STEP (Structured Therapeutic Education Program) program at SMASH in 5-8 grades from all other school sites in the District. The 9-12 grade STEP program is at Malibu High School. It is a program designed to support social emotional needs.

New Business: none

Community participation: none

Motioned by Jayme Seconded by Jen Meeting Adjourned

Next meeting dates for 2018-19: 12/19/18—focus on Family Engagement Policy, 1/23/19—focus on SMASH/Muir safety plan, 2/27/19, 3/27/19—Site Council election results, 5/8/19