

Sky Mountain Charter School Parent Council Meeting Minutes

By Zoom Teleconference

1423 W. State Street Suite A, Redlands, CA 92373

Tuesday, September 27, 2016 at 1:30pm

1. CALL TO ORDER

- Argi Sayari, SMCS Education Liaison, called the meeting to order at 1:33pm.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

- Argi led all meeting attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. INTRODUCTIONS/WELCOME/ROLL CALL

- Attendees: Viviana McDonald, Christy Harker, Danielle Kuhns, Christina Thompson, Karen Cobb, Shihching Wagner, Trinidad Vazquez, Miriam Dayan, Heidi Hall, Sarah Moore, Cindi Wallace
- School and IEM representation in attendance: Argi Sayari, Cynthia Rachel, Sarah Coyan, Jason Jones, Melissa Gonzalez, Burke Wallace, Stefanie Lamar, Laurie Goltara, Jami-Lynn Riley

4. HEARING OF THE PUBLIC

Members of the public may be heard on any item. A person addressing the Council will be limited to 3 minutes, unless the Site Administrator grants a longer period of time. Comments by members of the public on an item on the agenda will only be allowed during consideration of the item by the Council.

5. REPORTS

A. IEM Report; Jason Jones

- Enrollment; SMCS has shown a 30% student enrollment increase in the past year with approximately 1900 actively enrolled students.
- Happy and proud to see staff and families working together to make our school strong; Sky Mountain strong.

- Marketing; social media, tell our story, starting small with hopes to grow in our marketing techniques so we can spread the Sky Mountain message to as many families as possible.
- [#powerofchoice video](#)

B. Assessment Report; Melissa Gonzalez

- CAASSP; results will be sent out soon. 43 % of our students scored on or above grade level in ELA and 37% of our students scored on or above grade level in math.
- iReady; parent proctor window is complete, beginning view results show that 81% of our students scored on, above, or emerging grade level on the iReady ELA diagnostic ELA and 77% of our students scored on, above, or emerging grade level on iReady math diagnostic.
- We offer progress monitoring and response to intervention (RTI) free of charge as part of the iReady resource. Parents can contact their ES if interested in RTI or additional iReady resources to reinforce concepts. RTI uses diagnostic reports to individualize and find concepts that need to be refined and what types of lessons will work best.

C. Teacher Support Services; Burke Wallace

- 4 new ESs hired this year
- 31% enrollment growth
- We had many new teachers last year, we did not lose any teachers last year; our goal is to have happy ESs who want to stay with our school. Happy ESs provide best service to families.
- GEAs; SMCS has historically offered about 4 GEAs a year, Argi is now coordinating GEAs and is planning approximately 2 a month. .
- Official school FB page; we like to feature students doing great things. Parent Council members please feel free to let families know they can email Burke Wallace bwallace@ieminc.org or Argi asayari@ieminc.org with student features.

- ESi; this is a program we are working on and developing. ESi will allow teachers to teach online classes in areas they are interested in. SM has 102 ESs full of ideas and passions, we want to give them an opportunity to provide these classes to our students, and give families an opportunity to participate in these high quality classes with our ESs.

D. Curriculum Report; Stefanie Lamar

- Intervention program; supplemental print and online ELA and math intervention available through LCAP funds for students who score 2 grade levels or below on iReady diagnostic.
- Curriculum experts; we have two curriculum experts, one for ELA and one for math. The curriculum experts are truly experts on the intervention resources and are available to support parents, students, and ESs
- We have web based and in person tutoring intervention options for students in grades 4-11 who qualify. The tutoring vendors are A+ Home Tutoring and WebWise. You can visit the intervention page of our website for more information on intervention resources: [RTI Intervention Options](#)
- All ESs are participating in extensive training to grow in their knowledge of the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS). NGSS is a big shift from the previous science standards, there is a lot to learn. We are first equipping our ESs to better serve families. In the spring we will be offering trainings on NGSS to our families.
- CELDT testing is currently taking place. Once we have the scores, they will be used to guide instruction and tutoring opportunities for our EL students. We are looking for parents to join our new EL program committee to help develop the program; if you are interested in this opportunity please contact your ES.
- Our vendor approval process has been streamlined; this year we have added 90 new vendors, compared to last years 15 new vendors at this point in the year.

- Curriculum highlights; we will continue to showcase a specific curriculum or program each month via our curriculum highlight on the school website, listserv, and Facebook page.
- E. LCAP Report; Laurie Goltara
- [Powerpoint presentation](#)
 - Important for families to fill out the household (HH) form each year. This form provides the state with critical information. It is important that we have an accurate representation of the demographics of our students so we can receive the funding needed to support our students as a whole.
- F. Guidance Report; Jami-Lynn Riley
- SMCS high school (HS) enrollment has seen a 70% increase this year.
 - Last year we had 2 students enrolled in AP classes, this year we have 14 students enrolled in AP classes. Last year we had 3 students graduate a-g compliant, this year we have over 110 attempting a-g. Last year we had 99 a-g classes and no honors classes, this year we have 386 a-g classes, and we offer honor and AP courses in all areas. We are competitive for universities, our students have resources to be prepared.
 - A-g science Labs for category D biology, chemistry, physics; we use to have 1 lab in Orange County, now we have 80% of our students in labs within 20 miles from them. We will be bridging the gap for the other 20% with our new mobile science lab. We have hired a PLTW coordinator for that and are hoping to launch it soon; we are working on finding the areas of need for the mobile lab.

6. DISCUSSION ITEMS

- A. ESi
- Envisioned because many students want something beyond books and curriculum, ESi is an opportunity for students to take classes with a SMCS ES.
 - Classes can be supplemental, a full class, or tutoring,
 - ESi provides families with more opportunities within the school.

- [Link to ESi options](#) (this will be growing; we are just getting this program started)
- ESi is for all grades, not HS only.
- Families will hear more about this through listserv, website, and Facebook page as it begins to launch further.
- ESi is not necessarily a full semester.
- Questions about ESi; please feel free to reach out to your ES.
- Families can suggest specific classes, let your ES know or email Burke Wallace bwallace@ieminc.org so we can look into finding an ES who would be interested in teaching that class.
- Full launch of the ESi program will take place hopefully by 2nd semester but no later than fall of the 2017/18 school year.

B. Resource Center Availability

- Cynthia Rachel provided an update - Denise and Taryn are working to restructure their days so they can double the number of available slots each day; transition to take place in November. The goal is to allow 12 families a day.
- Parent volunteers; if we decide to do this, it would take place during a “work day” when families would not be at the resource center. Parents would help get materials on shelves, arranged, organized, etc. Volunteers would not have access to checkout materials during volunteer time or have any special privilege to checkout times. When we get the new hours for the center we can check with the office ladies to see when a “word day” would work.
- Parent council asked if HS student could have first two week priority? Cynthia Rachel answered that we can look into this. We need to ensure equal access for all families so we would need to consider limiting those families for only their HS students and not younger siblings. We would need to look further into this suggestion.
- Spring would be a good time to come look for next year, for HS especially.
- Over the summer Jami Lynn went over every single HS book, everything at the resource center for HS is valid and organized. There is also review a-g textbooks

available for HS families to look at while at the resource center. These a-g books are not available for checkout.

C. Vendor Relations

- If a family is having any problems with getting in touch with a vendor, or any other vendor concerns, please feel free to contact John Wilberger jwilberger@ieminc.org.

D. Subcommittees/new subcommittees

- Tabled until January meeting

E. Parent Council Officers

- Vivianna McDonald nominated Christina Thompson as SMCS parent council president, Karen Cobb nominated Sarah Coyan as SMCS parent council secretary, Danielle Kuhns volunteered to serve as SMCS parent council treasurer.

F. Collecting parent payment for GEA expenses

- Tabled until October meeting

7. ACTION ITEMS

A. Motion to approve alternate parent council member to fill vacancy

- Christina Thompson moved to approve alternate parent council member to fill vacancy, Danielle Kuhns seconded the motion. Lost quorum right before vote; tabled until October meeting.

B. Motion to approve May 19, 2016 Meeting Minutes

- Tabled until October meeting

C. Motion to approve August 30, 2016 Meeting Minutes

- Tabled until October meeting

D. Parent Council Officer Elections

- a. Motion to approve nominated SMCS Parent Council President
 - Tabled until October meeting
- b. Motion to approve nominated SMCS Parent Council Treasurer

- Tabled until October meeting
- c. Motion to approve nominated SMCS Parent Council Secretary
 - Tabled until October meeting
- E. Motion to approve elected 2016/17 SMCS Parent Council Treasurer as secondary authorized SMCS Parent Council bank account signer
 - Tabled until October meeting
- F. Authorize Education Liaison to manage expenses for GEA parent fees through the parent council bank account
 - Tabled until October meeting

8. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- Please email Sarah Coyan scoyan@ieminc.org with any items you would like included on the January 17, 2017 meeting agenda.

9. ADJOURN

- Argi adjourned the meeting at 2:46pm