

El Monte Union High School District  
Rosemead High School  
School Site Council Minutes  
Regular Meeting

May 29, 2019  
3:15 PM

SSC Responsibilities

- 1A. School Plan Development--Data Analysis & Needs
- 1B. School Plan Development--School Goals & Improvement Activities
- 1C. School Plan--Evaluation
- 1D. School Plan--Budget
- 1E. School Plan--Approval
- 1F. Parent Involvement Policy

- I. Call to order @ 3:19 PM
- II. Public comments: None
- III. Approval of agenda: Motion by Ostry → 2nd by Anaya → Unanimous Approval
- IV. Approval of meeting minutes from May 15
  - Motion by Ostry → 2nd by Quick → Unanimous Approval
- V. Safety Plan
  - A. Formatting Changes to Correct Paragraph Indentations
    - Motion to approve by Ostry → 2nd by Eder → Unanimous Approval
  - B. Remove last paragraph from p. 83, because it didn't make sense. Add explanation to p. 106 about the date, what it means.
    - Motion to approve by Quick → 2nd by Ostry → Unanimous Approval
  - C. Discussed to keep p. 97 as is. The yellow tape near the front entrance is not considered a real barrier to ingress/egress.
  - D. Discussing gate open and closed times.
    - 1. Need to be open for students leaving after hours, school activities.
    - 2. Need to talk with Maintenance and Dr. Bristol about this.

3. There is some concern regarding telling gate locked/unlocked times to the wrong people.

4. There are questions regarding security, having officers patrol periodically after hours, hiring a security company. Some think this would be a good idea.

5. Motion by D. Quick to add asterisked section stating that gates would be opened and closed according to the needs for a particular day and to remove the last column stating "closed" times at the end of the day, because the gate isn't closed after 6th period. Motion carried.

6. D. Quick shared the Suspected Child Abuse Form that should probably be attached in that section to the School Safety Plan. Other forms were shared. (At this point, Mr. Eder had to leave, so there was no longer a quorum to vote on any other items.) Mrs. Benitez suggested including URL links to the forms, checking at the District regarding which forms to use.

#### VI. Single Plan for Student Achievement (SPSA)

A. D. Quick shared a book list (including approximate costs) of science books and other books that may be particularly interesting to students, highlight women and people of color in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM). This fits in with our Single Plan for Student Achievement (SPSA) because it supports more opportunity, interest for our students in order to help reduce the achievement gap.

Mr. Benitez suggests hardcover books.

Mrs. Ostry suggests that we can check with departments around book suggestions.

Mrs. Anaya discussed her goal of increasing a literacy emphasis in her art classes by having students read art history, write about it. She noted that a class set of physical textbooks would cost thousands, but a digital program with lots of resources would cost about \$1700.

Mrs. Ostry stated that supporting different learning styles and interests is important, that repetition in different formats helps.

The general consensus is that real books still help, have a valuable place.

B. Chromebooks were discussed as providing many opportunities including sharing recommendations, accessing reference materials.

C. Mrs. Anaya asked the group to discuss what we mean by achievement gap.

1. Mrs. Benitez brought up students who are generally slower learning having reduced achievement.
2. Mrs. Ostry brought up ESL, disabled, chronically absent or tardy students as having achievement gaps compared with other groups.
3. Mr. Benitez brought up the racial achievement gap. He also discussed how need is defined by who receives free and reduced lunch, how many foster and homeless students we have, how many socioeconomically disadvantaged students we have. He brought up how we reduce the gap. He thinks Chromebooks will help.
4. Mr. Quick brought up that systemic racism manifests in a lot of ways.
5. Mrs. Ostry discussed how Chromebooks can take away the “out” for some students that would otherwise say they couldn’t do certain assignments. On the other hand, she said, there’s an expectation that this involves the parents. Parents now need to decide and make commitments about the Chromebooks.
6. Mr. Quick brought up that supplementing the use of Chromebooks with a quiet study place may help.
7. Mrs. Ostry discussed the importance of parent involvement being higher. Parents talking with parents about why some students don’t want to be here, don’t feel motivated, may lead to increasing parent involvement and reducing achievement gaps.
8. Mr. Quick emphasized that the students who do not achieve as highly aren’t necessarily bad or lazy, as they are often portrayed and sometimes present themselves, but may have lacked opportunities throughout their lives that prevent them from learning as much as others.
9. Mrs. Ostry asked if we need more counselors, perhaps a community center open on Saturdays, which may help?
10. Mrs. Benitez suggested more counselors, tutoring, and mentioned Mr. Elatar’s project (Student wellness centers).
11. Mr. Quick asked where the funding is coming from for the wellness center?
12. Mrs. Ostry wondered if funding for the wellness centers might come from PREP or from the Measure HS. She brought up that students who are habitually absent are now in a credit recovery program with Mr.

Paramo. As some point, the parent needs to be called in.

13. Mrs. Anaya states that it can be frustrating when parents are contacted and they lie. Perhaps calling home and having someone visit would help with students who are chronically absent.

14. Mr. Quick stated that he still thinks students need more counseling, the school needs to give counselors more support to let them spend more of their time counseling students.

15. Mrs. Ostry also stated that it is important to remember that there are different types of counseling, that we should ask ourselves how to focus our energy.

16. Mr. Benitez says that it is important to include some kind of decision making on the part of the student, at some point there needs to be an ending to the counseling. "You can lead a horse to water..."

17. Mrs. Anaya states that parent hours hamstring some students, makes them have to be late.

18. Mr. Benitez and Mrs. Ostry state that it is important how we talk with parents and kids.

19. Mr. Benitez states that we stress too much college. The stats show that there are more available spots in Junior College than 4-year rides.

20. Mrs. Ostry stated that on college signing day, it used to be only 4-year colleges. Now all are together.

21. Mr. Benitez questioned how it can be that 98% of AP students pass their classes, but only 50% pass the test.

22. Mr. Quick asked to see those numbers, invited putting this item up for discussion on a future agenda. He stated that he considers multiple factors in determining whether students pass, that there can be more to students taking advanced classes beyond passing the test at the end.

VII. Adjournment @ 5:00 PM