



Santa Monica Community College District
District Planning and Advisory Council
MEETING –OCTOBER 8, 2025
MINUTES

A meeting of the Santa Monica Community College District Planning and Advisory Council (DPAC) was held on Wednesday, September 24, 2025 in the SMC Student Services Center Conference Room 222, 1900 Pico Boulevard, Santa Monica. The meeting was also conducted via Zoom to allow for remote attendance.

I. Call to Order – 3:08 p.m.

II. Members Present

Jason Beardsley Administration, Chair Designee
Vicenta Arrizon, Academic Senate President, Vice-Chair
Sasha King, Administration Representative
Chris Bonvenuto, Management Association Representative
Jose Hernandez, Management Association Representative
Stephanie Amerian, Academic Senate Representative
Peter Morse, Faculty Association President
Matt Hotsinpillier, Faculty Association Representative
Cindy Ordaz, CSEA President
Martha Romano, CSEA Representative
Ailsa Ortiz, Associated Students President

III. Public Comments - None

IV. Review of Minutes: Motion was made by Vicenta Arrizon and seconded by Martha Romano to approve the minutes of the DPAC meeting on September 24, 2025 as corrected. *Unanimously approved.*

V. Reports: None

VI. Agenda

1. Report: [Institutional Effectiveness Committee](#)

The presentation by Kristin Lui-Martinez and Hannah Lawler, Chair and Vice-Chair of the Institutional Effectiveness Committee respectively, included the following:

- Institutional Effectiveness Defined: Systematic and continuous process of measuring the extent to which SMC meets its goals and mission
- Highlights of the IEC Scope and Function
- IEC Process
- Recommendations to DPAC:
 1. Conduct a study of the usage and impact of excused withdrawals (EW)
 - Conduct a qualitative and/or quantitative study to assess student and faculty practices regarding EWs and student outcomes associated with them.
 - Explore how the increased use of EW grades may be impacting key metrics such as persistence, course success, and completion.
 - Use the findings to inform professional development, policy adjustments, and student support strategies.
 2. Educate the campus on the Student Centered Funding Formula (SCFF) and its implications for funding and student success ensuring college practices translate into recognized success under the SCFF.

Link to: [IEC Presentation](#)

2. Update: Education Master Plan

Jason Beardsley shared a draft of the cover page and table of contents of the Master Plan for Education, 2025-2030. The plan will be presented to DPAC at its next meeting on October 22, 2025, pending review and approval by senior staff.

Link to: [Master Plan for Education Cover and Table of Contents](#)

3. Discussion: Annual Action Plans for 2026-2027.

- Data-Informed Scheduling, a finding in a previous Program Review Committee Report, was briefly discussed.
- Other sources of possible Annual Actions Plans include recommendations in the IEC Report and the Master Plan for Education. Discussions will continue throughout the fall with the goal of forwarding Annual Action Plans for 2026-2027 to the Budget Committee in the winter.

VII. Adjournment – 5:10 p.m.

Meeting schedule through June 2026

2025

October 22

November 12

December 10

2026

January 14, 28

February 11, 25

March 11, 25

April 8, 22

May 13, 27

June 10, 24