



Santa Monica Community College District  
District Planning and Advisory Council  
MEETING –DECEMBER 10, 2025  
MINUTES

A meeting of the Santa Monica Community College District Planning and Advisory Council (DPAC) was held on Wednesday, December 10, 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 – 3:04 p.m.

II. Members Present

Jason Beardsley Administration, Chair Designee  
Vicenta Arrizon, Academic Senate President, Vice-Chair  
Chris Bonvenuto, Management Association Representative  
Jose Hernandez, Management Association Representative  
Stephanie Amerian, Academic Senate Representative  
Matt Hotsiniller, Faculty Association Representative  
Elaine Roque, Faculty Association Representative  
Cindy Ordaz, CSEA President  
Martha Romano, CSEA Representative

III. Public Comments - None

IV. Review of Minutes: Motion was made by Vicenta Arrizon and seconded by Jose Hernandez to approve the minutes of the DPAC meeting on November 12, 2025. *Unanimously approved.*

V. Reports: None

VI. Agenda

1. Discussion: Proposed Annual Action Plans for 2026-2027

- Strategic Planning and data-informed scheduling.  
The initial workshop was held with department chairs on November 21st to brainstorm features for a future scheduling system. Key ideas included intuitive scheduling tools, better data on student preferences, analysis of course overlaps, and integration with educational plans. The next step will be to refine priorities in January, explore IT-built tools vs. third-party solutions (e.g., Stellic). Language for a 2026-2027 Annual Action Plan will be drafted by early February.
- 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 (Institutional Effectiveness Committee recommendation).  
Language for a 2026-2027 Annual Plan will be drafted for review at the next meeting.

- Integrate workplace violence prevention training into the upcoming 2025-2026 DPAC Action Plan as a strategy to foster a districtwide culture of safety and preparedness (Program Review recommendation).  
See [2025-2026 Annual Action Plan #2](#)  
This is already underway as a 2025-2026 Annual Action Plan. A year-end report will be provided at the end of the academic year.

2. OIR Group Report/Recommendations and District Implementation Plan

Link to: [Report by the OIR Group Independent Evaluation of Santa Monica College's Readiness and Response to October 14, 2024 Campus Shooting](#)

Link to: [Proposed District Implementation Plan](#) presented to the Board of Trustees on December 2, 2025.

Discussion included transparency and inclusivity in implementing 28 recommendations. Concerns were raised about lack of clarity on next steps and communication gaps. There was agreement that DPAC will serve as a reporting venue, with quarterly updates from OIR and internal accountability mechanisms. It was suggested that campus-wide engagement (e.g., Spring Flex sessions, departmental discussions) be planned with an emphasis on cultural change and proactive communication.

Recommendation No. 17 states that SMC should develop a campus-wide Code of Civility. It was noted that existing board policy [BP 3050 Institutional Code of Ethics](#) includes a paragraph on civility, but there is need for broader engagement and cultural integration.

3. \$1,000,000 Donation from Conrad Lee and Joan Dempsey Klein

This donation is a legacy gift of Conrad Lee and Joan Dempsey Klein received more than a decade ago, held in trust by the SMC Foundation, and designated for use in support of online education.

Link to: [Klein Donation Bulletin](#)

It was reported that 99 new sections were added (39 winter, 60 spring) using this special funding. Winter sections are 96% full; spring sections slightly ahead of overall fill rates. Popular courses include English, Math, Psychology, Sociology, Ethnic Studies. There was discussion on analyzing fill rates by time slots and modalities (online vs. on-ground). The Partial district funding allows the District to claim FTES. Drop rates and efficiency measures will be monitored.

4. DPAC Meeting Time: It was agreed that the start time of DPAC meetings starting in January 2026 be changed to 2 p.m.

VII. Adjournment – 4:13 p.m.

Meeting schedule through June 2026

January 14, 28

February 11, 25

March 11, 25

April 8, 22

May 13, 27

June 10, 24