



IRON HORSE MIDDLE SCHOOL

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Marissa Norris, Principal
Mona Keeler, Assistant Principal
Kate Bryzek, Assistant Principal

Veena Virdee, Office Manager
Katie Harp, Counselor
Jenny Bassett, Counselor
Soraya Cortes, Counselor

"Never Underestimate the Power of a Jaguar"

IRON HORSE SCHOOL SITE COUNCIL Minutes

Date & Time: Wednesday, April 22, 2026 @ 8:00am [Virtual link](#)

Meeting Start: 8:05 am

In attendance: Prashant Chandrasekhar, Shawn Armstrong, Ajeeta Chaudhri, Alyssa Robbins, Phyllis Davis, Jateri Willis, Savir Gill, Shuvo Roy, Michelle Hamon, Marissa Norris, Peng Hu

Location of Meeting: Library: Slides

1. **Comments/Questions from the Public/Discussion**
2. **Review/Approve [February Minutes](#)**
 - **Move for approval of the February Minutes:** Alyssa Robbins
 - **Second:** Prashant Chandrasekhar
3. **Family Engagement**
 - Makers Market was a huge success
 - Maybe include a Financial Literacy component (NextGen Finance; Everfii, IZZIT.org - Free programs used in AVID for Financial Literacy)
 - We may need to find another location for Maker's Market so we can expand on the event (not enough space in the MPR)
 - Career Day: Parent participation was great; a lot of focus and engagement in the activity
 - Science Fair?? (Armstrong and Laake can support this; have the meetings during Student Support - science department will take this on)
 - Electives Fair (how about all of the departments have their own "Fair" and that would be the department's required time for Open House)
4. **[SPSA](#) Discussion Approval**

- **GOAL 1: Proficiency in essential standards will increase in Students with Disabilities and EL learners increased in ELA and Math measured by state indicators.**
 - i. Using Standardized Testing
 - ii. Increase both ELA and Math scores for English Language Learners and student with disabilities
 - iii. Hoping to incrementally move students higher (want to move at least one color band per year)
 - 1. Improved Professional Development
 - 2. CARE team meets once a week
 - a. Focus on issues and academic interventions for referred students
 - b. This team comes up with ways to support these students
 - iv. Increase the supports on campus for these students using tutoring, etc.
 - 1. Also would like to enhance these supports with Family Engagement
 - v. EL training
 - 1. Universal Design for Learning (backwards planning to meet target standards)
 - vi. Looking to possibly find a way to introduce co-teaching
 - vii. Math manipulatives strategies and CPI strategies taught to our Paras
 - 1. Classified staff has had the CPI training; we would like to roll it out to the rest of the staff
 - viii. AVID strategies to enhance strategies and support ALL students schoolwide to incorporate
 - 1. Customized binder reminder created by Ashley Barr for sixth grade students
 - a. Expectation to have ALL students in sixth grade use this
 - ix. UDL

- x. Added Study Skills & hired an instructional assistant to support the goals
- xi. Dyslexia intervention for next year is needed
- o **GOAL 2: Equitable access to education and social emotional wellbeing**
 - i. Absenteeism:
 - 1. We have decreased but want to decrease our numbers even more
 - 2. Targeting specific subgroups: students with disabilities, socioeconomically disadvantaged, Filipino students and English learners
 - 3. **Add to 2.6:** Team up during Student Support - twice a month -(run by the school psychologist)
 - a. Quiet students who are not comfortable with school are being paired up with students like Leadership students.
 - b. This has been successful
 - c. We will survey at the end to check the results
 - i. Can this be enhanced by letting kids sign themselves up?
 - ii. In-school participation
 - ii. Focus on students who have less verbal skills by giving training to our staff
 - iii. **Add this as goal 2.2: Give students voice to provide feedback on their experience in class (with other students and/or teachers) (Maybe in the hotline)**
 - 1. **Even with a discipline issue, kids don't really want to escalate an issue...how can parents figure out what to do when their student is complaining about something (how to get the other side's story told)**
 - 2. **How can students specifically report on a teacher they are trying to give feedback to?**
 - 3. **Careline needs to be advertised better**

a. Put it into the family handbook

○ **GOAL 3: Improve English Language Proficiency and Academic Success for English Learners**

- i. LPAC scores will be used
- ii. ELD integrated supports for students
- iii. Professional development
- iv. Dig deeper to see where kids are really struggling
- v. ELO for our EL TELS
 1. Monitoring data by having LPAC interims so the kids can see what the test is like before they take them
 2. Send teachers to training
 3. Vocabulary instruction strategies for everyone for deeper understanding

4. Be Glad training - one from each subject (add to the goal)

Motion to approve SPSA with amendments: Savir Gill

Second: Ajeeta Chaudhri

5. Parents can find all of the resources provided by IHMS if they look into the [parent resources tab](#) on the school website.
6. May Meeting Vote
7. Student Update
8. Next meeting Agenda Items

2025-26 Meetings

(at Iron Horse Middle School Library or [virtually](#) @ 8:00am)

- September 17th
- November 5th
- January 21st
- February 25th
- April 22nd
- May TBD