Notes from SMILE Teacher Workshop (Winter 2018)

Challenges

Elementary

* Competition with sports
* Uncertainty of district funding
* Transportation for kids to get home
* Telling kids they can’t join ☹ they aren’t on grade level/don’t meet underserved needs
* Principal apathy
* Athletics and other activities that kids prioritize
* Long day!
* Waiting for parents to pick up kids (45 minutes this week)
* Parent trust
* Vying with sports program (basketball and cheerleading)
* Getting kids home
* Funds for field trips
* School meetings that conflict with SMILE
* Parents who don’t understand the program
* Unsupportive parents
* No time to prep
* Micromanaging administrators
* Limited experience outside of area
* Overscheduling limits activities

Middle School

* Sports and other activities draws kids away
* More hands on
* Diversity
* Too many after school options/sports
* Attendance issues – dropping out
* After school (lack of) energy
* Sports
* Storage
* SMILE teachers not confident in science
* Lack of administration support
* Attendance, especially after challenge day
* No elementary club
* No fun math lessons
* Lack of access to related field trips
* After school conflicts
* $

High School

* Ready to go activities
* Pre-planned activities
* Tired at the end of the day
* Too little time to put together materials /review lessons
* One more prep
* Coaches do not excuse club members to participate in meetings
* The road to college piece – needs to be better, more support and more activities
* SMILE teachers juggling multiple club/activities
* More physics
* Supplies and ideas (need more)
* Time
* Time
* **$**
* Sports schedule
* (Sports) Soccer season
* Kids committing to 67543 other clubs and sports
* Family cases (?) (students)
* Student family obligations
* Not enough math activities
* Travel distance

What works

Elementary

* Engaging activities
* Fun activities
* Teacher driven ideas
* Enthusiasm of the teachers
* SMILE support of teachers
* Support from OSU staff
* Treated as professionals
* Training from experts
* Community that feels safe
* Sense of family
* Believing all students are destined for success in college
* Students knowing it is okay to fail and try again
* Students feel safe to explore
* Feelings of community
* Food!!
* Having projects to share with kids
* Materials and lessons
* Kids who want to learn
* Excited kids willing to learn
* Tammi Talty
* Great students
* Pop Tarts
* Amazing teacher leaders
* PH 6 (picture of pteropod)
* Pteropods
* Genuine curiosity
* Small groups and two teachers
* Hands on fun activities
* FUN!
* I will find a way to help you!



* Fish
* Units that build conceptual understanding
* Engaged lids
* Smart and engaged kids
* Instructional freedom
* Great kids! Teacher recommendations
* Team building
* Dedication!
* Great PD
* A pathway to college
* Outside resources like 4-H ☺
* Outside -creeks
* Partnerships within the community 4-H
* Field trips and PD
* Working outside my specialty and learning from others
* Workshop ideas
* Great training
* Community w/other teachers + among kids
* SMILE budget to use as we see fit in our clubs
* Responsiveness of staff
* Support from SMILE staff
* Other SMILE teachers to bond with
* Archive of lessons on website
* Peace, love, care
* Everything
* The SMILEs ☺ (within a heart shape)
* The love (within a heart shape)
* Laughter
* The SMILES
* Workshops
* Exploration
* Hands-on
* Hands-on activities
* Team work
* FMSN
* Snacks and conversations
* Snacks
* Small groups
* ☺
* Relationships
* Zoo overnight
* SMILE camp at 4-H center
* Field trips
* Conversations with SMILE leaders
* College visits

First year

* Being shown how we can use current/new knowledge to our lessons that are kid friendly
* Materials provided for clubs
* The flexibility to teach the lessons the students want
* Having/getting supplies and lessons provided

Middle School

* Busing
* On Wednesdays which is a late start day
* The students: Attendance, Enthusiasm, Willing to try!
* Our students wanting to belong to a special club
* 8th graders who returned from 6th and 7th
* Elementary pipeline
* Kids/students activities, Food, Us teachers
* Fun activities
* Team building activities (warm-ups)
* SMILE staff
* Workshops, Stipend
* Other opportunities for training (Sea Grant, Project Wild)
* SMILE, Snacks,
* Students’ motivation
* ME! Space, food, time, support, enthusiasm, advocating
* Posting activities beforehand
* A place where you can just experiment, try it out and people accept you. You don’t have to be perfect ☺
* Consistency w/club advisors and routines that kids trust and feel safe with
* Different ways of learning
* Math and science
* Engineering
* Contact with college kids
* Collaborative work
* Good lesson plans on line
* Teachers’ time and dedication
* Kits
* Support from Admin
* SMILE program Team- Logistics, funding, support, kits
* Diversity (four quadrants)
	+ OSU Support, $, $, Treats, Funding, Candy (money, hands on, place

 to make friends, safety)

* + Students attending, Admin support, safe environment, We have a large after school club in place at our school – recruitment is ?
	+ Building partnerships. Partner teacher, Relationships, Role models, Relationships, Relaxed atmosphere and focus on fun, hands on experiments, Personal, Trust
	+ Relative activities to students, Engaging activities, Different activities, STEM, Curiosity, Interactive activities, Experiences, Competitions, Examples, More do, less talk

High School

* Julie’s organization
* Mr. ?
* 4-H and STEM Hub help
* Ideas from other SMILE teachers
* Accessibility
* Focal point of HS challenge event
* Feeder elementary and MS, advisors (☺) do a great job w/the program
* Students willingness to take risks
* Students year-to-year memory of the club (culture)
* Low pressure environment
* Freedom to run the club for our specific students
* Accessibility
* Workshops, activities
* Supplies
* Engaging activities that keep the students interested
* Equipment from SMILE for the activities
* Tiffany Sagmiller is awesome (2nd ed)
* Being able to plan both independently as well as a community
* Great support from SMILE at OSU
* Supplies and ideas from OSU (more is good)
* Program support form employer
* Food
* Snacks
* Parents who encourage participation
* Excitement about challenge
* Trip to OSU as incentive
* Challenge experience
* SMILE norms
* SMILE student leaders
* Challenging activities
* Kids have a great attitude
* Science is fun
* Science and math in a no pressure, no grades environment
* Acceptance
* Curiosity
* Kids enjoy exploring