

California Association of Health and Education Linked Professions,
Joint Powers Authority (CAHELP, JPA)
DESERT MOUNTAIN CHARTER SELPA STEERING and FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING
May 15, 2025 – 9:00 a.m.
Desert Mountain Educational Service Center, 17800 Highway 18, Apple Valley CA 92307

MINUTES

DESERT MOUNTAIN CHARTER SELPA MEMBERS PRESENT:

Allegiance STEAM – Dr. Callie Moreno, ASA Charter Schools – Anthony Lucey via zoom, Aveson Global Academy – Kelly Jung via zoom, Ballington Academy – Shannon Brandner, Desert Trails and LaVerne Preparatory Schools – Betsy Salguero, Julia Lee Performing Arts Academy – Rachel Thomas via zoom, Leonardo da Vinci – Anne Laird via zoom, Odyssey Charter – Chasityflame Price, Pasadena Rosebud – Shawn Brown via zoom, Pathways to College – James Connell, Southern California Flex Academy – Malia Lovell via zoom, Taylion High Desert Academy – Karen Ware

GUESTS PRESENT:

No guests were present.

CAHELP, DM CHARTER SELPA, AND DMCC STAFF PRESENT:

Pam Bender, Kayla Gewirtz, Heidi Chavez, Sheila Parisian, Dr. Peggy Dunn, Colette Garland, Deborah Sarkesian, Codi Andersen, Agustina Garcia, Angela Mgbeke, Annette Rego, Daisie Lambert, Danielle Côté, Isaac Medina, Jennifer Sutton, Linda Rodriguez, Lisa Nash, Melissa Jacobo, Maurica Manibusan, Misty Ubina, Miya Narvaiz-Ward, Rory Hazen, Veronica Rousseau

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the California Association of Health and Education Linked Professions, Joint Powers Authority (CAHELP, JPA) Desert Mountain Charter SELPA Steering and Finance Committee Meeting was called to order by Chairperson Pam Bender at 9:05 a.m., at the Desert Mountain Educational Service Center, Apple Valley CA.

2.0 ROLL CALL

3.0 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was no public participation.

4.0 ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

4.1 **BE IT RESOLVED** that a motion was made by Dr. Callie Moreno, seconded by James Connell, to approve the May 15, 2025, Desert Mountain Charter SELPA Steering and Finance Committee Meeting Agenda as presented. The motion carried on the following vote: 12:0:0. Ayes: Dr. Callie Moreno, Anthony Lucey, Kelly Jung, Shannon Brandner, Betsy Salguero, Rachel Thomas, Anne Laird, Chasityflame Price, Shawn Brown, James Connell, Malia Lovell, and Karen Ware. Nays: None. Abstentions: None.

5.0 CONSENT ITEMS

It is recommended that the Desert Mountain Charter SELPA Steering and Finance Committee consider approving several Agenda items as a Consent list. Consent Items are routine in nature and can be enacted in one motion without further discussion. Consent items may be called up by any Committee Member at the meeting for clarification, discussion, or change.

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BE IT RESOLVED that a motion was made by Karen Ware, seconded by Shannon Brandner, to approve the following Consent Items with an amendment removal of the January and June dates from the Desert Mountain Charter SELPA Meeting Calendar. The motion carried on the following vote: 12:0:0. Ayes: Dr. Callie Moreno, Anthony Lucey, Kelly Jung, Shannon Brandner, Belsy Salguero, Rachel Thomas, Anne Laird, Chasityflame Price, Shawn Brown, James Connell, Malia Lovell, and Karen Ware. Nays: None. Abstentions: None

5.1.1 April 17, 2025, Desert Mountain Charter SELPA Steering and Finance Committee Meeting Minutes.

5.1.2 Removal of the January 15, 2026, and June 11, 2026, Meetings.

Removing the January and June meetings was discussed and agreed upon.

6.0 FINANCIAL COMMITTEE ITEMS

6.1 Set-Aside Refund FY 24-25

DM Charter SELPA is refunding \$514,692 of the set-aside funds due to the high ending balance. The end balance will be \$300,000, which meets the requirement of having a minimum of \$250,000. There will be a pause of the set-aside (8602 funds) 3% fee for the 2025-26 year. The refund will be completed towards the end of the year.

7.0 CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER AND STAFF REPORTS

7.1 Legislative Update

- AB1009 (Blanca Rubio) Teacher credentialing: Provides the opportunity for Occupational and Physical Therapists with a valid license can verify meeting the basic skills requirement and 3 years of experience as a school-based OT or PT as satisfying the requirements to apply for a preliminary services credential with a specialization in Administrative Services. Concern: in order for a credential teacher to go forward with the Administrative Services credential, they must have 5 years of experience. Status: referred to Appropriation.
- AB84 (Muratsuchi) School Accountability – Charter Schools: If the population of the non-classroom-based charter is larger than the authorizing district, that charter is going to have to go to either a larger district or be authorized by the county office. Passed with a 7 – 2 vote. Amendments are in the works. Status: going to the Commission on Appropriations.
- AG1381 (Muratsuchi) California School Finance Authority: Would establish the Educational Workforce Housing Revolving Loan Fund. Status: referred to the Education Commission.
- AB560 (Addis) Special Education – Has gone forward to distribute the initial assessment and the workload. The Superintendent of Public Instruction will have a recommendation of adult to pupil rations by July 1, 2027. Status: re-referred to the Committee of Appropriations.

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- AB606 (Quirk-Silva) This bill is looking at alternative measures for those with out-of-state credentials with a specialization in pupil personnel services. The credential would be valid for 2 years and eligible for renewal. Status: referred to Appropriations.
- AB1224 (Valencia) Teacher credentialing; substitute teachers; days of service. Having 60-day teacher substitutes instead of 30-days. State SELPA and the California Association and the Superintendents are supporting it. Status: ordered to the 3rd reading.
- H.R. 2333 (Mannion) Protecting Students with Disabilities Act: making sure that funds are not eliminated when the restructuring of the Department of Education takes effect. Makes sure that it does not reduce any funding for any of the programs under IDEA. Status: referred to the House Committee on Education and Workforce.
- H.R. 2598 (Huffman & Van Hollen) Full Funding Act: asking for full federal funding for the Federal Funding of IDEA. This has never been fully funded. Status: referred to the House Committee on Education and Workforce.
- AJR-7 (Addis) Special Education Funding: would make the President of the United States and Congress ensure that services and funding for students with disabilities are uninterrupted. Status: ordered to the 3rd reading.

7.2 Credentials Bridge Authorization Update

A total of 11 Charter SELPA participants and 148 DM SELPA participants have gone through the Credentials Bridge Authorization process.

7.3 Special Education Connection Approval

The cost for a 2-year contract with the complete package is \$45,000 and includes Desert Mountain Charter SELPA and Desert Mountain SELPA. The usage of the subscription items used will be tracked. Training may be available. Discussion regarding the shared cost with Desert Mountain SELPA was discussed. Pam will look into it.

7.4 Services Survey and Vision Input

Directors completed a 5-minute online Survey regarding services and vision.

7.5 Desert Mountain Children's Center Client Services Reports and Updates

7.5.1 Client Reports

Charters receiving DMCC services have had client services and referral reports sent to the Charter's point of contact via encrypted email from Keri Downing. For any questions about these reports, contact Linda Llamas at Linda.Llamas@cahelp.org.

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7.5.2 [Mental Health Article](#)

A review of Mental Health article “*Turn Awareness into Action For Lasting Change*,” was provided. This article urges individuals and organizations to go beyond conversations by taking action through meaningful steps towards mental wellness, support, and systemic changes. One in 5 adults and one in 6 youth are impacted. Access to care remains limited and that is due to stigma disparities and underfunded resources. Actions taken include promoting self-care, sharing personal stories to help reduce stigma in the community, and advocating for more support. [Mental Health Articles](#) are available on the DMCC website.

7.6 [Professional Learning Opportunities](#)

7.6.1 Professional Learning Summary

In April, 40 participated in CAHELP led trainings, workshops, or committees. Family Engagement lead with 21 participants. For the year, 520 participated in training courses, with 317 attending on-sites and 203 attending regional trainings to date.

7.6.2 Community Advisory Committee

Representative meetings requiring 1 LEA staff member and a parent or community member are available virtually. The representative meeting is from 4:30 to 5:00 pm. The presentation is from 5:00 to 6:00 pm. The 2025-2026 dates are:

- September 18, 2025
- November 13, 2025
- February 19, 2026
- April 16, 2026

7.6.3 Directors’ Training Save the Date

These trainings are for LEA Special Education Directors and Coordinators. Directors may invite other LEA staff to attend. Trainings will be held from 12:00 to 2:00 pm at the Desert Mountain Educational Service Center on:

- October 17, 2025
- February 20, 2026
- April 17, 2026

7.6.4 Orton-Gillingham Approach

Training dates are October 27-31, 2025. It may be offered as a hybrid for those who are far away. Registration is \$500 for CAHELP members and \$700 for non-members.

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7.6.5 Upcoming Events

A list of upcoming trainings was provided in the material packet.

7.7 Resolution Support Services Summary and Update

7.7.1 Due Process Summary

There have been 8 filings for the year. There have been 52 Alternative Dispute Resolutions with 27 initiated by the LEA and 25 initiated by parents.

7.7.2 Due Process Activity Summary

There is an open case that was filed in March.

7.7.3 Legal Expense Summary

A list of expenses was provided in the material packet.

7.8 Compliance Update

The IEP Implementation Data Collection – Cycle B data range for the IEP review is March 3 – April 30, 2025. The data collection window is May 1 – June 30, 2025. The final due date is June 30, 2025. Directors were asked to have it to SELPA by June 27, 2025.

7.8.1 State Performance Indicator 13

A reminder was provided to review the 8 questions in the Secondary Transition portion of IEPs for students 16 and older as several are not being completed. A report on students 15 years of age will be provided for review of the transition portion of IEPs.

7.8.2 The Target Monitoring Year

The Targeted Progress Report #3 is due July 10, 2025, for the reporting period January 1 – June 30, 2025.

The Individual Transition Planning – AB438 was approved September 28, 2024. The Career Technical Education Program is a great resource for transition planning. Directors were encouraged to reach out to Deborah Sarkesian for trainings.

AB438 requires that the transition language in the IEP is required when the student goes to high school and if it is not, the IEP team needs to have documentation as to why the team determined that the transition language was not needed. It must be there by the time the student is 16 years old. The decision needs to be made in the eighth grade.

Discussion took place regarding students who left LEAs and are getting ready to return. Pam will reach out to CDE for clarification on waivers and processes.

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7.9 California Longitudinal Pupil Achievement Data System (CALPADS) Update

Directors were asked to reach out to Terri Nelson and Colette Garland for the indicator searches. The 16.21 CALPADS report lists of overdue meetings without delay reason, no pending record sent for overdue, and data discrepancies. There is an opportunity to send a pending record notifying CALPADS that the meeting is coming.

Charters were reminded to review data with SEIS administrators. If an IEP is going to be overdue, let Colette know so a pending record can be submitted with a delay reason.

7.10 Personnel Data Report Update

The Personnel Data Report has been completed. We are waiting for anomalies to be processed through CDE. There may be questions regarding differences in personnel between one year and the next.

7.11 Desired Results Developmental Profile (DRDP) Update

Reminder to make sure DRDPs are completed. Rating results go into SEIS. Charter staff administering DRDP are required to go through the training.

7.12 Special Education Information System (SEIS) Update

Reminder to check the dashboard for overdue plan reviews, reevaluation, and initials; follow up on e-signatures and unaffirmed meetings.

Colette will create a search for students that turn 15 years old in between IEPs.

7.13 Career Technical Education (CTE) Updates minute 1:23

The California Transition Alliance “Be A Student Commissioner” flyer was shared.

7.14 Prevention and Intervention (P&I) Updates

7.14.1 Prevention and Intervention Training

There are 3 new pathways and new single trainings around behavior.

7.14.2 California PBIS Call for Proposals

The 10th Annual Conference is in Sacramento October 8-10, 2025. They are looking for presenters.

7.14.3 PBIS Cognitive Disabilities

Article “*Providing Access to School, Wide Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports for Students with Significant Cognitive Disabilities*” was shared. It is about the history of EBS and how it was person-centered. Over time it transitioned into what we now know as

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PBIS. The article talks about how the continuum of practices within the PBIS framework can be used to assist students, especially those with special needs and those with cognitive disabilities. There is a table in the article that shows how to apply universal design for learning into the elements of PBIS to assist classroom teachers with setting up good classroom management and structure.

7.15 Occupational and Physical Therapy Services Reports and Updates

7.15.1 OT and PT Services

There has been an influx of referrals for young learners.

7.15.2 We Are Here to Help

Back to school supports are available including School readiness for TK, Kinder, and Preschool, self-regulation and co-regulation classroom techniques and strategies, fundamental principles for teaching print and cursive, strategies for sensory or behavior, and safe handling techniques for students with physical disabilities and sensory sensibilities.

Please contact Codi Andersen with any questions regarding services or reports.

7.16 SELPA Form DM 114 – Behavioral Emergency Report (BER)

7.16.1 Behavioral Emergency Report (BER) Red-lined

7.16.2 Behavioral Emergency Report (BER) Online Use Only

7.16.3 Behavioral Emergency Report (BER) Print Use Only

Danielle Côté reviewed Form DM 114 – Behavioral Emergency Report (BER). Those writing BERs are not explicit enough in terms of the justification to place hands on students. Prompts and guiding language were added. This form is only to be used for students with an IEP. Students in general education and students with a 504, should complete an incident report where behavior, emergencies, and serious property damage can be reported.

Additional language regarding serious property damage will be added to the end of the directions paragraph. In Section 1, language was added regarding Ed code to utilize positive behavior interventions to support students. The writer must choose option A or B. Section 2 has minor changes. Section 3 is new. It refers to triggers, so educators explicitly describe what led to the incident. Section 4 is a description of the incident. Section 5 is new in regard to a briefing process explaining injuries and how those injuries were treated. Sections 6 and 7 explain the serious property damage. Section 8 is the IEP meeting date. Going back to Option A and B, there are hands on seclusion or serious property damage for which LEAs do not need to discuss the incident. It is important that an IEP meeting takes place to discuss the incident and appropriate supports which could be functional behavior, assessment, and the design or the revision of the behavior plan. Section 9 indicates the individual(s) who completed

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the report and how the report is routed.

There is an online version that provides expandable fields. There is a printout version that can be used to write the report.

A discussion took place regarding the work “trigger.” It is the language that is used in CPI trainings.

8.0 STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS’ COMMENTS / REPORTS

Rosebud Academy reported that they are doing well. They have a small temporary location and are making it work. Pushing forward with the next steps and recovering from everything.

Aveson reported that they are doing great. The elementary campus is at Cleveland. There has been a reduction in behaviors with the more structured campus. AGLA is having more difficulty with 4 classrooms for an entire middle school and high school. They are next to an adult transition program and a continuation high school. Staff are making it work.

Osysey reported that they are making their spaces work as best they can. Students have really been happy to just be with one another and be at school. A neighboring school has been kind enough to allow Odyssey students to use the playground. The upper graders are enjoying their space at the Art Center. Odyssey is trying to figure out what they are going to do next year as Odyssey South’s campus is not going to be available. Children are resilient.

9.0 CEO COMMENTS

Congratulations to LaVerne Elementary Preparatory Academy who was given the Distinguished School Award.

While going through the budget process, it was realized that when the Educationally Related Mental Health Services (ERMHS) funding changed, several LEAs that received services had not been charged or invoiced for those services provided by DMCC. DM Charter SELPA will be looking at that.

10.0 MATTERS BROUGHT BY THE PUBLIC

There were no matters brought by the public.

11.0 ADJOURNMENT

BE IT RESOLVED that a motion was made by Dr. Callie Moreno, seconded by James Connell to adjourn the Desert Mountain Charter SELPA Steering and Finance Committee Meeting at 10:24 am. The motion carried on the following vote: 12:0:0. Ayes: Dr. Callie Moreno, Anthony Lucey, Kelly Jung, Shannon Brandner, Betsy Salguero, Rachel Thomas, Anne Laird, Chasityflame Price, Shawn Brown, James Connell, Malia Lovell, and Karen Ware. Nays: None. Abstentions: None.

The next regular meeting of the Desert Mountain Charter SELPA Steering Committee will be held on Thursday, June 12, 2025, at 9:00 a.m., at the Desert Mountain Educational Service Center, 17800 Highway 18, Apple Valley, CA 92307.

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Individuals requiring special accommodation(s) for disabilities are requested to contact Cindy Quan at (760) 955-3555, at least seven days prior to the date of this meeting.