

**DESERT MOUNTAIN CHARTER SELPA STEERING and FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING**

*June 12, 2025 – 9:00 a.m.*

Desert Mountain Educational Service Center, 17800 Highway 18, Apple Valley CA 92307

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**MINUTES**

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**DESERT MOUNTAIN CHARTER SELPA MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Alliegance STEAM – Dr. Callie Moreno, ASA Charter Schools – Kari Ramos via zoom, Ballington Academy – Shannon Brandner, Desert Trails and LaVerne Preparatory Schools – Nila Pacheco, Julia Lee Performing Arts Academy – Rachel Thomas via zoom, Leonardo da Vinci – Anne Laird via zoom, Options for Youth – Christina Leal, 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, Jennifer Sutton, Deborah Sarkesian, Heidi Chavez, Kayla Gewirtz, Dr. Peggy Dunn, Agustina Garcia, Bobbie Taylor, Codi Andersen, Colette Garland, Guille Robles-Burgos, Dr. Karina Quezada, Linda Rodriguez, Lisa Nash, Maurica Manibusan, Miya Narvaiz-Ward, Sheila Parisian, 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 9:03 am, at the Desert Mountain Educational Service Center in Apple Valley, California.

**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 Karen Ware, seconded by Shannon Brandner, to approve the June 12, 2025, Desert Mountain Charter SELPA Steering and Finance Committee Meeting Agenda as presented. The motion carried on the following vote: 9:0:0. Ayes: Dr. Callie Moreno, Kari Ramos, Shannon Brandner, Nila Pacheco, Rachel Thomas, Anne Laird, Christina Leal, 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.

**BE IT RESOLVED** that a motion was made by Dr. Callie Moreno, seconded by Nila Pacheco, to approve the following Consent Items as presented. The motion carried on the following vote: 9:0:0. Ayes: Dr. Callie Moreno, Kari Ramos, Shannon Brandner, Nila Pacheco, Rachel Thomas, Anne Laird, Christina Leal, Malia Lovell, and Karen Ware. Nays: None. Abstentions: None

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5.1.1 May 15, 2025, Desert Mountain Charter SELPA Steering and Finance Committee Meeting Minutes.

### **6.0 FINANCIAL COMMITTEE ITEMS**

#### 6.1 Fiscal Allocation Plan – Section E

Column E of the AB602 Revenue distribution shows a fee adjustment of 3.53% to the base allocation. It supports the program specialists and regional services. The administration fee adjustment of 7% of the base allocation supports the Desert Mountain Charter SELPA administrative activities. The Charter Executive council and the Governance Council review the fee rate annually to determine if the percentage is appropriate to fund our administrative activities and services.

#### 6.2 2024-2025 DM Charter SELPA Related Services

Charters that are utilizing OT or PT services will have an annual rate of \$7,811. The annual rate for the education support is \$3,906. These are calculated by either of those rates multiplied by the number of students served monthly. Documentation is provided to the Charters throughout the year.

### **7.0 CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER AND STAFF REPORTS**

#### 7.1 Legislative Update

Any bill that was going forward has to be out of the House that it originated in by June 15, 2025 or it becomes dead or goes into a 2-year hold which means it can come back next year. If it originated in the Senate, it then goes to the Assembly and vice versa.

- AB560 (Addis) Special Education – Has been significantly amended. Asking districts to start working with their unions and staff on possible caseload limits as they go forward. They are asking Superintendents of Public Instruction to establish a work group so by July, 2027 they can produce a recommended pupil to staff ratio. Status: passed the assembly.
- AB606 (Quirk-Silva) 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: passed the assembly.
- AB1224 (Valencia) Teacher credentialing; substitute teachers; days of service. Changing to 60-day teacher substitutes instead of 30-days. State SELPA and the California Association of Superintendents are supporting it. Status: moved forward.
- AB1009 (Blanca Rubio) Teacher credentialing: Provides an opportunity for Occupational and Physical Therapists with a valid license who 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. Status: passed the assembly.

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- 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: passed the assembly.

### 7.2 Credentials Bridge Authorization Update

A total of 12 Charter SELPA participants and 173 DM SELPA participants totaling 185 participants have gone through the Credentials Bridge Authorization process.

Having one point of contact in the Charter Human Resources Department Heidi can speak to is helpful. They can be taught what the process is and what needs to be done.

### 7.3 Desert Mountain Children’s Center Client Services Reports and Updates

#### 7.3.1 DMCC Client Reports

The Charter’s point of contact received the DMCC client and client services reports via encrypted email from Keri Downing. For any questions about these reports, contact Linda Llamas at [Linda.Llamas@cahelp.org](mailto:Linda.Llamas@cahelp.org).

#### 7.3.2 DMCC Article: Understanding PTSD in Children and Adolescence

A review of Mental Health article “*Understanding PTSD in Children and Adolescence*,” was provided. This article speaks about symptoms and the importance of supporting our youth and our children at schools when looking at how they respond to trauma. There can be regressions in behavior such as tantrums, wetting themselves, depression, substance abuse, self-injury, and suicidal ideations. [Mental Health Articles](#) are available on the DMCC website.

### 7.4 [Professional Learning Opportunities](#) Updates

#### 7.4.1 Professional Learning Summary

In May, 60 staff members participated in CAHELP led trainings, workshops, or committees. Family Engagement led with 38 participants. For the year, 580 participated in training courses, with 355 attending on-sites and 225 attending regional trainings to date. Of the 580, 262 participated in Behavioral Supports trainings.

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7.4.2 Co-Teaching Save the Date

Trainings will be held from 8:30 to 11:30 am at the Desert Mountain Educational Service Center in Apple Valley.

Co-Teaching: Purpose, Benefits, and Building Parity in Professional Partnerships

- September 22, 2025
- February 10, 2026

Co-Teaching Approaches and Effective Co-Planning & Co-Assessing

- October 13, 2025
- March 10, 2026

7.4.3 Speech-Language Pathologists Collaborative Save the Date

Trainings will be held from 1:30 to 2:30 pm at the Desert Mountain Educational Service Center in Apple Valley.

Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC)

- September 8, 2025
- November 5, 2025

Assessments/Report Writing

- February 4, 2026
- March 11, 2026

7.4.4 Upcoming Events

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

7.5 Resolution Support Services Summary and Update

7.5.1 Due Process Summary

A comparison between last year and this year was reviewed.

<b>2023-2024</b>	<b>2024-2025</b>
<b>Ethnicity</b>	
Hispanic 50%	Hispanic 25%
Hispanic/Caucasian 25%	Hispanic/Caucasian 0%
African American 25%	African American 12%
Chinese American 0%	Chinese American 25%
Chinese 0%	Chinese 13%
Filipino 0%	Filipino 13%
Russian/African American 0%	Russian/African American 12%

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2023-2024	2024-2025
<b>Language</b>	
English 50%	English 75%
ELL 25%	ELL 25%
Reclassified 25%	Reclassified 0%

Last year, 4 out of 5 filings had speech and language impairment listed as a secondary disability. This year, there are a substantial number with no secondary disability.

2023-2024	2024-2025
<b>Current Placement</b>	
General Ed. 50%	General Ed. 0%
General Ed. Pull Out 50%	General Ed. Pull Out 62%
General Ed. Virtual Prep 0%	General Ed. Virtual Prep 13%
Extensive Support Needs 0%	Extensive Support Needs 13%
Non-Public Schools 0%	Non-Public Schools 12%

2023-2024	2024-2025
<b>Underlying Issues</b>	
Placement 100%	Placement 13%
Services 0%	Services 37%
Placement & Services 0%	Placement & Services 25%
Assessment 0%	Assessment 13%
Child Find 0%	Child Find 12%

<b>ADRs: 72</b>	
Initiated by LEAs	42
Initiated by a parent	30
<b>Status</b>	
Resolution/Signed IEP	33
Continuance	10
No resolution	29
SELPA Facilitated IEP	35
Coaching Sessions	14
LEA Facilitated IEP (SELPA Support)	12
Other	11

<b>Issues/Concerns</b>	
Advocate or Parent Disruption	16
Implementation of IEP (Accommodations/Services)	15

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Communication/Collaboration Breakdown	12
Assessment/Eligibility	12
LRE/Placement	10
FAPE	3
Placement Rupe/Transitions	2
Other (1-Bullying; 1-Transportation)	2

7.5.2 Due Process Activity Summary

There is an open case that was filed in March. There have been 8 filings for the year, one of which is a filing on a parent.

7.6 Compliance Update

Compliance and Improvement Monitoring Process (CIM) Progress Reports: Target Progress Report #3 is due July 10, 2025. The reporting period is January 1 – June 30, 2025.

IEP Implementation Data Collection – Cycle B: Data range for IEP Review is March 3 – April 30, 2025. Data Collection window is May 1 – June 30, 2025

Data collection final due date is June 30, 2025. Charters are asked to complete IEP Implementation Data by June 27<sup>th</sup>.

Disproportionality has two requirements. The Student Record Review is due June 30, 2025. LEAs identified disproportionate year 1, the Data Quality Activity is due July 10, 2025.

7.7 California Longitudinal Pupil Achievement Data System (CALPADS) Update

The 1<sup>st</sup> Certification is due Friday, July 25, 2025. There is an amendment window. The final certification is due Friday, August 8, 2025.

7.8 Desired Results Developmental Profile (DRDP) Update

CDE extended the date to June 30, 2025 due to the fires. Rating results need to be entered into SEIS, TKs are included. Charter SELPA is responsible for submitting it to DRDP. Charters were reminded to make sure that all staff conducting the DRDP have taken the DRDP video training at [www.draccs.org](http://www.draccs.org).

7.9 Special Education Information System (SEIS) Update

Charters were encouraged to review the dashboard. Pending records with delay reasons for overdue meetings can be submitted. Pending records will assist with the 16.21 CALPADS report temporarily. Meetings must still be completed.

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### 7.10 Career Technical Education (CTE) Updates

On July 1, 2025, CTE will change its name to Career Readiness and Employment Services (CRES). The team looked at all the services provided, and Career Readiness and Employment Services captures what the program does.

7.10.1 CalWorks Subsidized Employment Program Report goal is 38 placements and the year to date is 30 placements.

7.10.2 CalWorks Youth Employment Program Report

The CalWorks Youth Employment program contract goal is 20 and the year to date is 11 placements.

7.10.3 Transition Partnership Program Report

The Transition Partnership Program exceeded the contract goals in the following areas.

Job Exploration Counseling Services  
Workplace Readiness Training  
Work-based Learning Experience Services  
Work Experience Placements Services  
Instruction in Self-Advocacy Services  
Counseling in Post-Secondary Services  
Receive DOR Services

7.10.4 WorkAbility I Report

WorkAbility contract goal is 243 and the year to date is 37. This is a direct correlation to the fingerprinting law that went into effect this school year.

7.10.5 Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act Report

Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act contract goal is 335 and the year to date is 265.

7.10.6 Transition Partnership Program Annual Professional Learning and Collaboration

For LEA contracted TPP staff. This will be held on September 25, 2025 at Desert Mountain Educational Service Center in Apple Valley from 8:30 am to 1:00 pm.

7.10.7 Transition Planning for All Students

Will be held on November 6, 2025 virtually from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm.

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- 7.10.8 Postsecondary Education, Career & Community Showcase
- The Resource Fair is being rebranded. There will be vendors and community resources for families and school sites and an inspirational speaker. It will be held on April 15, 2026 at Desert Mountain Educational Service Center in Apple Valley from 5:00 to 7:00 pm.
- 7.11 Prevention and Intervention (P&I) Updates
- 7.11.1 Empowering Educators: A Pathway to Mental Health & Well-Being
- This new hybrid course training pathway is on foundational information related to mental health, literacy, social, emotional learning and how trauma and adverse childhood experiences impact learning. The information portion will be in the canvas module online. Then an in-person session will follow on how to apply the information in the classroom. The 6 day in-person series is from 1:30 to 3:30 pm at the Desert Mountain Educational Service Center in Apple Valley.
- 7.11.2 Tier 3 Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports: Prevent-Teach-Reinforce Module
- This is geared for preschool, TK, and kindergarten students. This 4 day in-person series is from 8:30 am to 2:30 pm at the Desert Mountain Educational Service Center in Apple Valley. Participants must attend all 4 days. Only 4 site teams will be accepted per semester.
- 7.11.3 Tier 3 Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports: Prevent-Teach-Reinforce for Young Children
- This is geared for kindergarten to 12<sup>th</sup> grade students. This 4 day in-person series is from 8:30 am to 2:30 pm at the Desert Mountain Educational Service Center in Apple Valley. Participants must attend all 4 days. Only 4 site teams will be accepted per semester.
- 7.11.4 Tenth Annual CAHELP PBIS Recognition Event - Save the Date
- PBIS schools that worked with SELPA's PBIS team and completed the California PBIS application for recognition will be celebrated on September 17, 2025 from 5:00 to 7:00 pm at the Desert Mountain Educational Service Center in Apple Valley.
- 7.12 Occupational and Physical Therapy Services Reports and Updates
- 7.12.1 Occupational and Physical Therapy Services Report
- For any questions or concerns, please contact Codi Andersen.
- 7.12.2 Understanding Dyslexia: Assessment & Intervention

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This course presented by Penny Stack will be held on July 25, 2025 from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm at the Desert Mountain Educational Service Center in Apple Valley.

### **8.0 INFORMATION / ACTION ITEMS**

AT 10:00 am Malia Lovell left the meeting.

#### **8.1 SELPA Form DM 114 – Behavioral Emergency Report (BER)**

The final document was reviewed. There is a print use and an online version. They will be located in SEIS under reference and in the document library once approved. The font is larger; dropdown menus were added to race, ethnicity, LEA of residence, and LEA of attendance. These will be incorporated into the CPI training.

**8.1.1 BE IT RESOLVED** that a motion was made by Christina Leal, seconded by Shannon Brandner to approve the DM114 Behavioral Emergency Report (BER) as presented. The motion carried on the following vote: 8:0:0. Ayes: Dr. Callie Moreno, Kari Ramos, Shannon Brandner, Nila Pacheco, Rachel Thomas, Anne Laird, Christina Leal, and Karen Ware. Nays: None. Abstentions: None.

### **9.0 STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS' COMMENTS / REPORTS**

LaVerne Preparatory was recognized for all their students meeting state standards. It made national news. The Charter school will be expanding to sixth and seventh grade for the 2025-2026 school year.

Lisa Nash was recognized for her 26.6 years of work as she retires at the end of the month. She has been a valuable member of our organization working in multiple capacities. Her legal knowledge and attention to detail is amazing. She will be greatly missed. Congratulations on your retirement Lisa.

### **10.0 CEO COMMENTS**

San Bernardino County Superintendent of Schools will be performing technology upgrades in August and September. The conference rooms will not be available during that time. The DMCS Steering and Finance Committee meeting on August 21, 2025 will be held virtually.

We are looking at the need to continue with the Steering and Finance Committee meetings as Brown Act meetings. Policies and procedures do not need to be voted on by this group as they are voted on by the Governance Council. Many multi-district SELPAs across the state are going away from Brown Act meetings. Our Local Plan will be reviewed to see if the Brown Act is a requirement.

### **11.0 MATTERS BROUGHT BY THE PUBLIC**

There were no matters brought by the public.

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**12.0 ADJOURNMENT**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that a motion was made by Dr. Callie Moreno, seconded by Nila Pacheco to adjourn the Desert Mountain Charter SELPA Steering and Finance Committee Meeting at 10:10 am. The motion carried on the following vote: 9:0:0. Ayes: Dr. Callie Moreno, Kari Ramos, Shannon Brandner, Nila Pacheco, Rachel Thomas, Anne Laird, Christina Leal, 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, August 21, 2025, at 9:00 a.m., virtually by zoom.

*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.*