

MINUTES

Thursday, October 17, 2024 – 9:00 a.m.

DESERT MOUNTAIN CHARTER SELPA MEMBERS PRESENT

Allegiance STEAM Academy – Dr. Jacque Williams, ASA Charter Schools – Anthony Lucey via Zoom at 9:09 am, Aveson Global Academy School of Leaders – Kelly Jung via Zoom, Ballington Academy – Shannon Brandner, Desert Trails Preparatory/LaVerne Elementary – Anais Guerra, Encore Jr/Sr High – Dr. Guillermo Muñoz at 9:23 am, Julia Lee Performing Arts – Nika Hall via Zoom, Leonardo da Vinci – Anne Laird via Zoom, Odyssey Charter – Chasityflame Price, Options for Youth – Georganne Kirkwood, Pasadena Rosebud Academy – Shawn Brown via Zoom, Southern California Flex Academy – Malia Lovell, Taylion High Desert Academy – Karen Ware.

CAHELP, DM SELPA, AND DMCC STAFF PRESENT

Pam Bender, Angela Mgbeke, Bobbie Taylor, Colette Garland, Daisie Lambert, Deborah Sarkesian, Heidi Chavez, Iván Campos, Jessica Soto, Karina Quezada, Kayla Gewirtz, Lisa Nash, Maurica Manibusan, Miya Narvaiz-Ward, Peggy Dunn, Sheila Parisian.

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.

9:09 am Anthony Lucey joined via zoom.

2.0 ROLL CALL

3.0 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

No public comments.

4.0 ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

4.1 **BE IT RESOLVED** that a motion was made by Malia Lovell, seconded by Karen Ware, to approve the October 17, 2024, Desert Mountain Charter SELPA Steering and Finance Committee Meeting Agenda as presented. The motion carried on the following vote: 12:0:0. Ayes: Dr. Jacque Williams, Anthony Lucey, Kelly Jung, Shannon Brandner, Anais Guerra, Nika Hall, Anne Laird, Chasityflame Price, Georganne Kirkwood, Shawn Brown, Malia Lovell, 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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- 5.1 **BE IT RESOLVED** that a motion was made by Chasityflame Price, seconded by Anais Guerra to approve the following Consent Item as presented. The motion carried on the following vote: 12:0:0. Ayes: Dr. Jacque Williams, Anthony Lucey, Kelly Jung, Shannon Brandner, Anais Guerra, Nika Hall, Anne Laird, Chasityflame Price, Georganne Kirkwood, Shawn Brown, Malia Lovell, Karen Ware. Nays: None. Abstentions: None.
- 5.1.1 September 19, 2024, Desert Mountain Charter SELPA Steering and Finance Committee Meeting Minutes.

6.0 PRESENTATIONS

6.1 Career Technical Education (CTE)

Deborah Sarkesian and Angela Mgbeke introduced the Prevention and Intervention (P&I) team and provided the P&I brochure. The P&I team introduced themselves individually. Angela shared the team's professional experiences and types of memberships, who they supported, and Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS). The P&I team is comprised of many expertise and faculties, specialties, and different backgrounds including coaching and leadership expertise, applied behavioral analysis, and classroom experience.

Ariel Clark discussed establishing a Social Culture of membership that encompasses common language, common vision/values, and common experience. She shared the Support Services that include training, coaching, technical assistance, and content expertise. Available trainings include behavior, PBIS, social emotional, trauma-informed, and customized trainings tailored to what Charters need.

Daniel Anchondo discussed the fee for service. A full contract includes training and coaching. Prevention and intervention trainings can be individually designed. Cost varies per full or half day trainings. Services can be written in LCAP for associated things to assist with costs. Participating contracted schools and those participating in PBIS in California can be recognized by the CAPBIS Association. They are recognized with a bronze, silver, gold or platinum Implementation Award. CAHELP hosts a recognition event celebrating all schools that participate throughout the year and present them with plaques. A video of the recognition was shared.

9:23 am Dr. Guillermo Muñoz joined in-person.

7.0 FINANCIAL COMMITTEE ITEMS

7.1 Subsequent Year Tracking Form v3.1

Kayla Gewirtz shared that the MOE reports are still being collected. A reminder was sent out yesterday. The SEMA and SEMB need to be completed. Samuel Barker will be reaching out regarding the Excess Cost Report.

Pam Bender asked that information be sent to our business department throughout the year, so they can look to see if your district is going to pass. There are a variety of formulas that you can use to try to make sure you pass your MOE. If your district does not pass, the district will have to return money. The requirement is to spend one more dollar than last year on special education. There is a formular that can be used in cases when a large expenditure no longer exists, for example, when a student with many costs moves out of the district. When reminders are sent to your fiscal department, directors are copied on those emails so we can make sure everybody in in the know.

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Malia Lovell requested clarification. Services currently provided by a non-public agency are costly. We are switching to more direct hiring which is a significant cost savings. They still have to spend that money, right?

Kayla Gewirtz stated that there is a form for that; there are four different allowable reasons for why you did not spend enough. Charter SELPA can help you through that process.

8.0 CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER AND STAFF REPORTS

8.1 Legislative Update

Pam Bender shared the following legislative updates.

AB217 (Addis) has been signed changing emotional disturbance terminology to emotional disability.

AB2268 (Muratsuchi) has been signed exempting children in TK from being assessed with the ELPAC. It has been found not to be appropriate for four-year-olds.

SB445 (Portantino) was signed and goes in effect January 1, 2027, or no later than eighteen months after the final draft of the established IEP template is complete. Once adopted, CDE is required to translate the template into the ten most spoken languages in California and have it available on their website. Information will still need to be added to the template.

Dr. Jacque Williams asked if they are working with some of our providers such as SEIS as to what it will look like when we transfer over. Pam explained that there is a workgroup from a variety of agencies who put the format together and put everything together. We do not know if they have worked with any of the software agencies. Jacque suggested that maybe they will, once they finalize it. It is going to have an impact. Pam stated that at this point, they are not making the new template mandatory statewide. We do not know what the mandate is going to be once completed.

SB483 (Cortese), now being cited as the Max Benson's Law, the elimination of prone restraint. It goes into effect on January 1, 2025. We are in the process of letting all of our nonpublic schools and nonpublic agencies know that this is no longer allowed. We are also notifying our residential schools who are outside of California because in order for our students to go to those schools, they have to be certified by CDE requiring them to follow this legislation. We have amendments that will be sent out so they understand that they will not be allowed to use prone restraint.

AB438 (Blanco Rubio), the post-secondary goals and services goes in effect in July of 2025. This will require LEAs to start looking at training middle school teachers who will be writing transition goals and services so the students will have them in place by the time they enroll in ninth grade. The IEP team could see if there is a benefit that a student does not need those services until age sixteen with a good justification as to why they might not need it until age sixteen.

AB2725 (Blanco Rubio), OT/PT Administrative credentials providing an opportunity for OT/PT therapists who have at least three years of school-based experience to be able to satisfy the respective requirements to enroll in a preliminary services credential program with a specialization in administrative services. The Governor vetoed the bill. In his memo response he suggested to move it to CCTC and let CCTC make that determination.

SB1263 (Newman) which puts together a workgroup to look at the TPAs and programs that have low passing rates. It was signed and goes into effect in July of 2025.

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SB1391 (Rubio), teacher preparation and retention data, looking at the Cradle to Career data system being able to create a teacher training and retention dashboard to be put in place before January of 2026. The Governor vetoed this bill stating that there is already a Cradle to Career system and a dashboard system that this bill should be worked into the system already in place rather the increasing or enacting another system that works side by side, and the cost that would go along with it.

8.2 Alternate Pathway Diploma

Pam Bender shared that Victor Valley Union High School District will present on October 29th at Desert Mountain Educational Service Center (DMESC). Additional information was sent this week. They are looking at part presentation and part workgroup. It will be in person only. Please register through the email that was sent out. If you did not receive it, reach out to Heidi.

Heidi Chavez asked that if there is somebody else you would like to invite, please register them. It is a workgroup so brainstorming and understanding what you can take back and create to take back to your Boards.

Pam Bender added that it would be great to bring someone from Student Services like a coordinator or director of curriculum as this affects everyone.

8.3 Credentials Bridge Authorization Update

Pam Bender shared that the SELPA will present the Credential Bridge Authorization training process to the Governance Board on November 1st for approval. Participants must have a cleared credential as well as the Autism Authorization. Those with newer credentials already have the Autism Authorization in their credential. The training will be offered by zoom with the understanding that participants must have their cameras on and be engaged for Pam to sign off on their participation. There is a \$100 CTC fee to file the paperwork with CTC.

8.4 Desert Mountain Children's Center (DMCC) Client Services Reports and Update

Daisie Lambert shared that if a Charter receives DMCC services, the district point of contact receives the client services report and client referral report by encrypted email from Keri Downing. For questions about either report, please email Linda Llamas, Linda.Llamas@cahelp.org. There is also a Responding to School Crisis training on October 24th and 25th. It is free to members and costs \$50 for non-members. Flyers are available on the back table.

8.5 [Professional Learning Opportunities](#)

Heidi Chavez shared that for September, there were seventy-five participants that attended a CAHELP training, workshop, or committee; forty-three participated in on-sites; thirty-two attended regional trainings. We are currently at 20% of where we ended last year. Last year we ended with a total of nine hundred thirty-six staff members attending one of our trainings, workshops, and committees. These numbers are not duplicative. Two-day trainings and pathways are counted as one attendance per participant. Tomorrow is the first Director's training of the year. Lauri Arrowsmith with Lozano Smith, will be presenting on When ERHMS is Not Enough. It is in person and virtually.

Heidi Chavez shared that the CAC Distressing Behaviors at Home: What Do I Do Now? presentation on November 14th being held in person and virtually. Anxious Generation books will be raffled off.

Heidi Chavez shared that the IMTSS Conference being held on February 27th at High Desert Church; Dr. Tina Payne Bryson will present No-Drama Discipline for Educators. The cost is \$175 for members

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and \$200 for non-members.

8.6 Resolution Support Services Update

Sheila Parisian shared that there is one case since the last meeting. The downfall with not having many cases is that she does not get to work with some of the directors.

Dr. Jacque Williams stated that the collaboration with the CAHELP team and law firms was exceptional. There was always open communication letting us know what was going on. She is grateful for that collaboration.

8.7 Compliance Update

Dr. Peggy Dunn reviewed the Compliance information provided in the meeting materials. There are seven LEAs in Cyclical Monitoring for small LEAs Cycle B. All activities are due February 28, 2024. She is working with CDE regarding box.com issues.

Dr. Peggy Dunn discussed the Annual Determination Letters will be coming out earlier this year, in February. Indicator s nine and ten will be pulled from CALPADs following the initial certification deadline of December 13th which is earlier than previous years. The timeline compliance data will also be pulled earlier. Charters are doing a phenomenal job overall. There are thirty-seven over due annuals, nine overdue triennials, two initials which are the sixty-days, and eleven thirty-day reviews. CDE's magic number is zero. She encouraged Charters to look into P&I offerings to assist in areas in the annual determination letters.

Dr. Peggy Dunn reviewed the Compliance and Improvement Monitoring (CIM) provided in the material packet. The next progress report is due January 10, 2025.

Dr. Peggy Dunn reviewed the Non-Public School Update provided in the material packet.

8.8 SEIS Update

Colette Garland reminded Charters that the 2024-25 school year is open for CALPADS. Reports and records are being sent daily. Make sure errors are being checked, review the discrepancy reports, and follow up on unaffirmed and unsigned IEPs. One hour LEA check-ins regarding SEIS submissions will start next week. There are additional validations coming out with CALPADS. Clear out all the teacher requests as students have moved around. The accommodations from IEPs are uploading to TOMS automatically overnight, please make sure testing coordinators also have access. Open Forum and SEIS training are listed on the dashboard.

8.9 DRDP Update

Colette Garland provided a DRDP update for students in TK and kindergarten affecting Charter staff. The website to be used is draccess.org. It provides information, assessment support, and a video library for staff needing training. All information is due in SEIS by February 10, 2025.

8.10 Career Technical Education (CTE)

Deborah Sarkesian discussed AB438, post-secondary goals and transition services. The Transition Planning for All Students training is on November 7th via zoom.

Deborah Sarkesian provided clarification on a question posed at the last meeting regarding education code 45125.1. She explained that with the word pupil being inside the description, CTE will continue

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to provide services to students regardless if they turn eighteen during the school year to meet requirements of a parent signature.

8.11 Prevention and Intervention (P&I)

Deborah Sarkesian highlighted that there were sixty-one schools in the high desert that were celebrated. Five schools starting out in the process received bronze, twenty-five received silver, fifteen received gold, and sixteen received platinum. The coaching piece helps ensure that the framework is being implemented to fidelity. Resource called Positive Proactive Approaches to Supporting Children with Disabilities is available. As Region 10's technical assistance center, PBIS and MTSS can be used for students in special education as they are students in general education first. Our MTSS sustainability network is coming back.

8.12 Occupational and Physical Therapy Services Reports and Updates

Pam Bender shared that OT/ PT reports were provided for students receiving those services. If there are any concerns, please contact Codi Andersen, Codi.Andersen@cahelp.org.

9.0 INFORMATION ITEMS

Pam shared that the Great Shake Out is scheduled to take place at 10:17 am and all meeting participants will be participating. The building will be evacuated and then everyone will be allowed to come back in.

10:12 am Dr. Jacque Williams stepped out.

9.1 Special Education Connections Subscription

Pam Bender shared that names will be provided to our business department and the contract will be organized with Special Education Connections. They provide daily updates of different articles. It is interesting to read about state and federal program cases and things that are happening in other states to see if it mirrors what is happening here in California.

9.2 Legal Updates and Pro-Tips for 2025 Flyer

Pam Bender shared that the Legal Updates and Pro-Tips for 2025 is being held on February 18th from 8:30 am to 3:15 pm. There are a total of five different attorneys that are going to be speaking about keeping yourselves out of trouble and providing resources. It is sponsored by the State SELPA organization. It is provided online and costs \$75.00. Jack Clark and Cynthia Vargas are presenting.

10.0 STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS COMMENTS / REPORTS

No comments/reports at this time.

11.0 CEO COMMENTS

Remember that there is low incidence funding available. Last year Marina Gallegos talked about an overage in funding. Colette pulled the numbers, and it looks like there are ten, maybe twelve students throughout the Charter SELPA. When looking through them, there are a couple of kids that did not have a qualifying primary or secondary disability. Multi-disability and autism are not low incidence disabilities. When requests for low

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incidence equipment is received, Pam looks at the request and if they do not have qualifying disabilities, they are denied.

The CAHELP Newsletter provided by our virtual team is available if you would like to subscribe.

Quote: Learning is the only thing the mind never exhausts, never fears and never regrets. Leonardo da Vinci.

12.0 MATTERS BROUGHT BY THE PUBLIC

No matters brought forward by the public.

13.0 ADJOURNMENT

LET IT BE RESOLVED that a motion was made by Chasityflame Price, seconded by Christina Rose, to adjourn the Desert Mountain Charter SELPA Steering and Finance Committee Meeting at 10:19 a.m. The motion carried on the following vote: 12:0:0. Ayes: Anthony Lucey, Kelly Jung, Shannon Brandner, Anais Guerra, Dr. Guillermo Muñoz, Nika Hall, Anne Laird, Chasityflame Price, Georganne Kirkwood, Shawn Brown, Malia Lovell, Karen Ware. Nays: None. Abstentions: None.

The next regular meeting of the Desert Mountain Charter SELPA Steering Committee will be held on Thursday, November 14, 2024, at 9:00 a.m., at the Desert Mountain Educational Service Center, 17800 Highway 18, Apple Valley, CA 92307.

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.