

California Association of Health and Education Linked Professions  
Joint Powers Authority (CAHELP JPA)  
**DESERT MOUNTAIN CHARTER SELPA EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING**  
*January 16, 2025 – 11:00 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 EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Allegiance STEAM Academy – Dr. Sebastian Cognetta, Desert Trails Preparatory and LaVerne Elementary Preparatory Academies – Debra Tarver via zoom, Leonardo da Vinci Health Sciences Charter– Courtney Cox via Zoom, Odyssey Charter and Odyssey Charter South – Chasityflame Price, Options for Youth – Bryan Gillespie, Pathways to College – James Connell, Southern California Flex Academy – Malia Lovell via Zoom

### **GUESTS PRESENT:**

Dr. Jacque Williams – Allegiance STEAM

### **CAHELP STAFF PRESENT:**

Pam Bender, Heidi Chavez, Dr. Peggy Dunn, Deborah Sarkesian, Kayla Gewirtz, Jennifer Sutton

### **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 11:13 a.m., at the Desert Mountain Educational Service Center, Apple Valley.

### **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 the adoption of the January 16, 2025, Desert Mountain Charter SELPA Executive Council Meeting Agenda presented failed due to lack of quorum.

### **5.0 CONSENT ITEM**

5.1 **BE IT RESOLVED** that the approval of the May 9, 2024, Desert Mountain Charter SELPA Executive Council Meeting Minutes presented failed due to the lack of a quorum.

5.2 **BE IT RESOLVED** that the approval of the October 17, 2024, Desert Mountain Charter SELPA Executive Council Meeting Minutes presented failed due to the lack of a quorum.

### **6.0 INFORMATION/ACTION**

6.1 The Children and Youth Behavioral Health Initiative (CYBHI)

CYBHI is available to provide therapy and skill building to LEAs. Options are available through various vendors including Desert Mountain Children’s Center. Charters can contract with DMCC

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for these extra services. It must go through an educational entity so the contract would go through Desert Mountain SELPA, who would then have an MOU with DMCC to provide those services.

### 7.0 CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER AND STAFF REPORTS

#### 7.1 Charter School Supports

Encore closed its doors on January 9, 2025. Local Charters have opened up their doors and offered orientations for students to attend their schools. There were 610 students attending Encore. The Hesperia Unified School Districts Board has approved an extra graduation for Encore seniors to graduate with their friends.

Pam will provide the Charter SELPA and DM SELPA Steering and Finance Committees with a policy and procedures for midyear closures of our Charter schools.

SEIS and CALPADS are being updated with the appropriate locations for Encore students.

Charter Schools that have been lost in the Eaton Fire:

- Aveson School Leaders
  - Executive Director Ian McFeat
  - Director of Special Education Kelly Jung
- Odyssey Charter-South
  - Chief Executive Officer Carlos Garcia Saldana
  - Director of Special Education Chasityflame Price
- Pasadena Rosebud
  - Chief Executive Officer Shawn Brown

When asked what they might need in the interim, they are asking for assessments and protocols.

#### 7.2 Legislative Update

7.2.1 Committee Members have been posted at the State level:

- Senate Education Committee – two are from our area.
  - Senator Rosilicie Ochoa Bogh (R-Yucaipa), Vice-Chair
  - Senator Eloise Gomez Reyes (D-San Bernardino)
- Senate Budget Sub-Committee No. 1 on Education
  - Senator Rosilicie Ochoa Bogh (R-Yucaipa), Vice-Chair
- Senate Appropriations Committee – no one in our area

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- 7.2.2 Legislative Calendar provided in the materials was reviewed highlighting that the last day for bills to be introduced is February 21, 2025.
- 7.3 SEIS/CALPADS Update
- SEIS trainings and Open Forums continue. Dates and times can be found on the SEIS dashboard.
- Cory Stacy from LCS is presenting SEIS at the Director's Training on February 21, 2025. Directors were encouraged to attend.
- 7.4 Professional Learning Updates
- From July 1, 2024, to December 31, 2024, 375 participants attended a training, workshop, or committee with 246 participating in on-sites and 129 participating in regional trainings. Of the 246 participating in on-sites, 235 attended behavior supports trainings, which is 63% of those participants. The majority of those are CPI trainings.
- The IMTSS Symposium titled *'No-Drama Discipline for Educators'* presented by Dr. Tina Payne Bryson will take place on February 27, 2025, at High Desert Church from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm. The cost is \$175 for members and \$250 for non-members. Anyone can attend.
- 7.5 Career Technical Education (CTE) Updates
- The virtual Transition Planning for All Students training will be held on February 6, 2025, from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm. Attendance was encouraged to assist with the implementation of AB438 (Rubio).
- 7.6 Career Technical Education (CTE) Updates
- The two-day Fundamentals of Restorative Practices will be held on January 29 & 30, 2025, from 8:00 am to 12:00 pm.**
- The Authorized California PBIS External Reviewer (ACER) training 2.0 will be held January 21, 2025, from 9:00 am to 11:00 am or 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm. The PBIS recognition window will be opening up in March. To apply to be recognized from California PBIS, an ACER is needed.**
- 7.7 Cyclical Monitoring for Small Schools Update
- The Cyclical Monitoring Self-Review Activities Assessment of Infrastructure, Policy and Procedure Review, and Student Record Review are due by February 28<sup>th</sup>. Cycle C starts in 2026.

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7.8 Local Plan

We are waiting for our Local Plan to be approved by CDE.

7.9 Credential Bridge Authorization

Three informational meetings for Charter Human Resource staff were held in December to go over the requirements for the bridge authorization and what the role of the HR Department is in the process. HR identifies those with a cleared credential with the autism authorization. Those who meet the criteria are provided with the flyer to register. Contact Heidi Chavez to schedule a meeting with your HR Department.

**8.0 INFORMATION ITEMS**

8.1 Professional Learning Summary

The summaries are in the meeting materials provided.

8.2 Resolution Support Services Summary

There have been five filings for this school year so far. The breakdowns are:

**Primary Disabilities**

40% OHI  
40% Autism  
20% Specific Learning Disability

**Secondary Disabilities**

40% No secondary disabilities  
20% Specific Learning Disability  
20% Autism  
20% Speech Language Impairment

**Ethnicity**

20% Chinese American  
20% Russian/African American  
20% African American  
40% Hispanic

**Grades**

40% third grade  
20% fourth grade  
20% seventh grade

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20% eighth grade

### **Placement**

80% General Education pull out  
20% non-public school

### **Reasons**

40% placement  
40% Services  
20% Child Find

### 8.3 Upcoming [Professional Learning Opportunities](#)

The upcoming training flyers are in the meeting materials provided.

## 9.0 DM CHARTER SELPA EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEMBERS' COMMENTS / REPORTS

The California Charter School Association has pushed out fundraising initiatives on their site with a place to donate for those affected by the fires.

## 10.0 CEO COMMENTS

There is one application for a potential new Charter, Margaret Hill Academy located in San Bernardino.

Heartfelt support for all of our charters, families, staff, students affected by the fires.

Kayla Gewirtz was announced as the new CAHELP JPA Program Manager for Fiscal Services. She reported that there is a 2.43% COLA that is being applied to the AB602 base rate. The AB602 payments should be coming soon.

## 11.0 MATTERS BROUGHT BY THE PUBLIC

No matters were brought by the public.

## 12.0 ADJOURNMENT

Having no further business to discuss and no quorum, Pam Bender ended the meeting at 12:00 p.m.

The next regular meeting of the Desert Mountain Charter SELPA Executive Council will be held on Thursday, March 20, 2025, at 11:00 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*

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*(760) 955-3555, at least seven days prior to the date of this meeting.*