

GOVERNANCE COUNCIL MEETING

February 21, 2023 - 1:00 p.m.

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

MINUTES

GOVERNANCE COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

Academy for Academic Excellence – Lisa Lamb, Allegiance STEAM Academy – Sebastian Cогnetta, Apple Valley USD – Trenae Nelson, Baker Valley USD – Cecil Edwards (via WebEx), Barstow USD – Deanna Swearingen, Helendale SD – Ross Swearingen, Hesperia USD – David Olney (via WebEx), Lucerne Valley USD – Peter Livingston, Oro Grande SD – Scott Heitman, Silver Valley USD – Jesse Najera, Snowline USD – Ryan Holman, and Victor Elementary SD – Lori Clark.

CAHELP JPA STAFF PRESENT:

Jamie Adkins, Pamela Bender, Peggy Dunn, Thomas Flores, Marina Gallegos, Linda Llamas, Kathleen Peters, Adrienne Shepherd, and Jennifer Sutton.

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

The special meeting of the California Association of Health and Education Linked Professions Joint Powers Authority (CAHELP JPA) Governance Council was called to order by Chairperson Ross Swearingen at 1:01 p.m. at the Desert/Mountain Educational Service Center, Apple Valley.

2.0 ROLL CALL

3.0 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None.

4.0 ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

4.1 **BE IT RESOLVED** that a motion was made by Jesse Najera, seconded by Peter Livingston, to approve the February 21, 2023 CAHELP JPA Governance Council Meeting Agenda as presented. The motion carried on the following vote: 12:0:0: Ayes: Clark, Cогnetta, Edwards, Heitman, Holman, Lamb, Livingston, Najera, Nelson, Olney, Swearingen, D, and Swearingen, R. Nays: None, Abstentions: None.

5.0 INFORMATION / ACTION

5.1 Educationally Related Mental Health Services (ERMHS) Funding

Pam Bender proposed Educationally Related Mental Health Services (ERMHS) funding continue to pass through CAHELP JPA from member LEAs. The change in distribution of the ERMHS funding is listed in Trailer Bill 181 and was included in the Governor’s budget. Pam shared that she and Linda Llamas presented for the CDE Advisory Commission on Special Education (ACSE) on February 16, 2023 on the impact the change of funding distribution will have on different SELPAs. Pam reported that from January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2022, Desert Mountain Children’s Center had 78 staff resignations and at this time, 56 of the positions have been filled. Those numbers reflect that it is difficult to find qualified applicants. Pam confirmed that currently

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ERMHS funding moves from CDE to SBCSS then SBCSS transfers it to the SELPA. If it is determined to continue with the same system of services as is currently, the flow of the funds would remain the same. Pam continued the CAHELP JPA Governance Council can ask for the funding to come directly to SELPA with a journal note in the funding process or it could flow from SBCSS to the district with the district making the journal note and then transfer the funds to DMSELPA. Pam suggested that if it is approved for funding to continue through DMSELPA, that the discussion at the March meeting be on the process. Pam recommended the funding continue to go through SELPA in order for the students to remain receiving the current services and continuing the match with Department of Behavioral Health to provide services for all children.

5.1.1 **BE IT RESOLVED** that a motion was made by Lisa Lamb, seconded by Sebastian Cogna to approve ERMHS funding continue to pass through CAHELP JPA from member LEAs as presented. The motion failed on the following vote: 0:12:0: Ayes: None, Nays: Clark, Cogna, Edwards, Heitman, Holman, Lamb, Livingston, Najera, Nelson, Olney, Swearingen, D, and Swearingen, R, Abstentions: None.

BE IS RESOLVED that an amended motion was made by Peter Livingston, seconded by Trena Nelson, to approve adding language to include in the Local Plan to continue the pathway of ERMHS funding from SBCSS to CAHELP JPA/DMSELPA. The motion carried on the following vote: 12:0:0: Ayes: Clark, Cogna, Edwards, Heitman, Holman, Lamb, Livingston, Najera, Nelson, Olney, Swearingen, D, and Swearingen, R. Nays: None, Abstentions: None.

In the discussion, it was confirmed the funding received by the districts would reflect as revenue but if the district contracts with DMSELPA, the funds transferred out would reflect as expenditure. Pam informed the council members that SBCSS Human Resources reported there will be no layoffs in the 2023-24 school year so meeting the March 15 layoff notice deadline is not a concern. There was discussion about presenting information to district boards on the importance of ERMHS funding continuing to pass through to DMSELPA by adding language to the Local Plan in an amendment. Pam will provide a history of ERMHS funding as well as sample Local Plan language for the superintendents to present to their district boards for approval.

6.0 GOVERNANCE COUNCIL MEMBERS COMMENTS / REPORTS

Based on consensus by the council members present, the March 10, 2023 CAHELP JPA Governance Council Meeting was rescheduled to March 17, 2023 at 9:00 a.m.

7.0 CEO COMMENTS

Pam Bender thanked the council members for their input and for working together.

California Association of Health and Education Linked Professions,
Joint Powers Authority (CAHELP JPA)

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8.0 MATTERS BROUGHT BY GENERAL PUBLIC

None.

9.0 ADJOURNMENT

Having no further business to discuss, a motion was made by Lori Clark, seconded by Ryan Holman, to adjourn the meeting at 1:41 p.m. The motion carried on the following vote: 12:0:0: Ayes: Clark, Coggnetta, Edwards, Heitman, Holman, Lamb, Livingston, Najera, Nelson, Olney, Swearingen, D, and Swearingen, R. Nays: None, Abstentions: None.

The next regular meeting of the CAHELP JPA Governance Council will be held on Friday, March 17, 2023, at 9:00 a.m., at the Apple Valley Unified School District, Conference Room B, Apple Valley, CA 92308.

Individuals requiring special accommodations for disabilities are requested to contact Jamie Adkins at (760) 955-3555, at least seven days prior to the date of this meeting.