

DESERT MOUNTAIN CHARTER SELPA STEERING and FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING

March 21, 2024 – 9:00 a.m.

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

MINUTES

DESERT MOUNTAIN CHARTER SELPA MEMBERS PRESENT:

ASA Charter School – Dale Betts via Web Ex, Aveson Global Academy/School of Leaders – Kelly Jung via Web Ex, Elite Academic Academy – Jen Edick and Adam Woodard both via Web Ex, Encore Jr/Sr High – Madison Dennison, Pathways to College – James Connell, and Taylion High Desert – Karen Ware.

CAHELP, DMSELPA, & DMCC STAFF PRESENT:

Jamie Adkins, Pam Bender, Ivan Campos, Heidi Chavez, Marina Gallegos, Colette Garland, Linda Llamas, Maurica Manibusan, Miya Narvaiz-Ward, Lisa Nash, Sheila Parisian, Annette Rego, Linda Rodriguez, Veronica Rousseau, and Deborah Sarkesian.

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 9:14 a.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 the adoption of the March 21, 2024 Desert Mountain Charter SELPA Steering and Finance Committee Meeting Agenda failed due to lack of quorum.

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.

5.1 **BE IT RESOLVED** that the following Consent Item be tabled to the April 18, 2024 due to lack of quorum.

5.1.1 February 22, 2024 Desert Mountain Charter SELPA Steering and Finance Committee Meeting Minutes.

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6.0 CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER AND STAFF REPORTS

6.1 Legislative Update

Pam Bender presented a brief legislative update. She highlighted that Assembly Bill (AB) 2173 is to change the terminology of emotional disturbance to emotional disability and it has been passed by the Education Committee so it will continue to move forward. It was shared that many parents do not like the terminology of emotional disturbance and will not allow it to be used for their child's eligibility. This could cause the child to miss out on services that are available to them.

Pam continued that AB 2768 would allow teachers at nonpublic schools to apply for the Golden State Teacher grant program. It is at the assembly education committee. Pam said AB 2340 would require managed health care plans to cover all medically necessary services and not allow imposed limits. This bill could affect DMCC billing.

6.2 Alternative Pathway Diploma Update

Pam Bender provided an update on the Alternative Pathway Diploma. The committee has met once and will meet again this week to develop a plan. Pam said the committee has decided that instead of looking at curriculum, they will focus on what state standards must be met to achieve the alternative pathway diploma.

6.3 Desert Mountain Children's Center Client Services Reports and Update

Linda Llamas presented the Desert Mountain Children's Center Client Services monthly reports and updates. She shared Children and Youth Behavioral Health Initiative (CYBHI) is being offered so schools can apply for and become eligible to bill Medi-Cal Services and private insurances for many services. As part of the initial pilot program, Linda stated Redlands USD and Rialto USD were selected as pilot schools. She continued that applications will be accepted again in July 2024 and in January 2025. Linda said after January 2025, applications will be accepted on an ongoing basis. Linda also presented the draft reimbursement rates. The idea is for schools to combine funding to make the services whole or fully billed for. Linda encouraged the committee members to review the materials in the meeting packet as well as the videos. She added that DMCC was asked by San Bernardino County Superintendent of Schools (SBCSS) to be part of a series of collaborative meetings with other healthcare entities and the two districts approved as part of the pilot program to create toolbox for support and technical needs.

6.4 Professional Learning Summary and Update

Heidi Chavez presented the Desert Mountain Charter SELPA's Professional Learning Summary and updates. Heidi said program specialists will be reaching out to committee members to

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schedule time to discuss professional development for the upcoming school year. She shared Region 10 and Captain X will be presenting *NeuroHarmony: Fostering Inclusion through Evidence Based Practices for Individuals with Autism* on April 11, 2024. This training will be at West End Educational Service Center and is for educators as well as families. Heidi said funding is available for families with children receiving services through Inland Regional Center (IRC) using a dedicated vendor number when registering. SELPA Administrators of California will be presenting *The Promise & Potential: Universal Screenings for Reading Difficulties including Dyslexia & Considerations for Future Implementation and Intervention*. The training is virtual and is scheduled for April 15, 2024. SELPA Administrators of California will be presenting *Legal Trends for 2024* on April 16, 2024 and it will be held virtually. Community Advisory Committee is scheduled for April 18, 2024 with the topic of *IEP Meetings 101: Understanding the IEP Process* and will be held virtually. The final Directors' Training of the school year is scheduled for April 19, 2024 on the topic of *Special Education Updates* and will be held in person.

6.5 Resolution Support Services Summary and Update

Sheila Parisian presented the Desert Mountain Charter SELPA's Resolution Support Services Summary and update. She said with the end of the year approaching, be aware of contentions in IEPs and be proactive by looking at parent requests as well as unsigned IEPs.

Pam Bender reviewed a 9th Circuit court decision regarding a student who is deaf and hard of hearing. The family asked for computer assisted/aided real-time transcription (CART) and the LEA denied the request but offered a very similar service to ensure the student needs were met. The LEA prevailed in the Office of Administrative Hearings (OAH) decision because they did provide FAPE. Pam said the case was taken to the 9th District court, where the LEA showed the student needs were met under Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). Parents then submitted to the Supreme Court and LEA was found to have upheld IDEA, however the court found that the LEA did not meet Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Pam said ADA states a person is to be provided with whatever it is they want for their disability and this applies to students that are deaf and hard of hearing only at this time. Pam said a Section 504 Plan is a general education function so it is not addressed on the CAHELP JPA website but there will be information added as well as for ADA. Pam encouraged the committee members to review materials for Agenda Item 6.5 to see what might change and to also review LEA policy pertaining to ADA and Section 504 Plans.

6.6 Compliance Update

Sheila Parisian presented an update on compliance items from the California Department of Education (CDE). She said the Annual Determination Letters were emailed to LEAs this week and reviewed the due dates for the ongoing monitoring processes. Sheila reminded the committee members that if they have nonpublic agencies (NPA) providing services to their students, there must be evidence of services being provided at the school site.

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Colette Garland provided information on the SEIS Service Tracker option. She demonstrated how to add services for a group of students as well as for an individual student. Colette said the LEAs are to continue tracking services provided as it will be required beyond CDE looking for a snapshot from March 1, 2024 through April 29, 2024.

Pam Bender reiterated that there must be documentation onsite of when services are provided to students, whether by LEA staff or NPA staff.

6.7 Career Technical Education Update

Deborah Sarkesian provided the Career Technical Education (CTE) update. She shared the Transition Resource Fair is scheduled for April 16, 2024, 5:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m. The audience is students who are in 9-12th grades, their families, and educators. Families will be given resources to help them transition to the workforce or post-secondary education.

6.8 Occupational and Physical Therapy Services Reports and Update

Pam Bender provided the Occupational and Physical Therapy Service reports and update.

7.0 FINANCE COMMITTEE ITEMS

7.1 Federal Funding Allocation

Marina Gallegos provided an update on the Federal Funding Allocation. She reviewed the 2023-24 Local Assistance Entitlements (3300). Marina said federal funding is paid as a reimbursement so funds are not provided until a claim is submitted. Samuel Barker emailed forms to the LEAs that are to be returned by April 20, 2024. Marina provided a list of reporting periods for federal expenditure reports. She said it is preferred for the funds to be spent within the fiscal year for tracking purposes.

8.0 INFORMATION ITEMS

8.1 Upcoming Professional Learning Opportunities

9.0 STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS COMMENTS / REPORTS

None.

10.0 CEO COMMENTS

Pam Bender shared a YouTube video: [World Down Syndrome Day Video for Kids](#).

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11.0 MATTERS BROUGHT BY THE PUBLIC

None.

12.0 ADJOURNMENT

Having no further business to discuss, Pam Bender ended the meeting at 10:16 a.m.

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

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.