

DESERT MOUNTAIN CHARTER SELPA STEERING and FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING

May 16, 2024 – 9:00 a.m.

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

MINUTES

DESERT MOUNTAIN CHARTER SELPA MEMBERS PRESENT:

Allegiance STEAM Academy – Jacque Williams, ASA Charter School – Anthony Lucey via Zoom, Aveson Global Academy/School of Leaders – Kelly Jung via Zoom, Desert Trails Preparatory/Laverne Elementary Preparatory – Chantal Mendoza, Elite Academic Academy – Jen Edick via Zoom, Encore Jr/Sr High – Madison Dennison, Leonardo da Vinci Health Sciences Charter – Anne Laird via Zoom, Odyssey Charter Schools – Chasityflame Price via Zoom, Pathways to College – James Connell, Southern California Flex Academy – Malia Lovell, and Taylion High Desert – Karen Ware.

CAHELP, DMSELPA, & DMCC STAFF PRESENT:

Jamie Adkins, Codi Andersen, Pam Bender, Ivan Campos, Heidi Chavez, Danielle Cote, Peggy Dunn, Marina Gallegos, Colette Garland, April Hatcher, Linda Llamas, Isaac Medina, Miya Narvaiz-Ward, Sheila Parisian, Annette Rego, Linda Rodriguez, Jennifer Rountree, Veronica Rousseau, Deborah Sarkesian, Jessica Soto, and Misty Ubina.

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 9:04 a.m., at the Desert Mountain Educational Service Center, Apple Valley.

2.0 ROLL CALL

3.0 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None.

Note: Kelly Jung stepped out of the meeting at 9:13 a.m.

4.0 ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

4.1 **BE IT RESOLVED** that a motion was made by Malia Lovell, seconded by James Connell, to approve the May 16, 2024 Desert Mountain Charter SELPA Steering and Finance Committee Meeting Agenda as presented. The motion carried on the following vote: 10:0:0: Ayes: Connell, Dennison, Edick, Laird, Lovell, Lucey, Mendoza, Price, Ware, and Williams. Nays: None, Abstentions: None.

5.0 INFORMATION / ACTION

5.1 Desert Mountain Charter SELPA Steering and Finance Committee Meeting scheduled for June 20, 2024 (**ACTION**)

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The Desert Mountain Charter SELPA Steering and Finance Committee members discussed the possibility of the June 20, 2024 meeting being cancelled. Pam Bender explained that many schools will be out of session and there is not much legislative change expected at this time of year.

5.1.1 **BE IT RESOLVED** that a motion was made by Malia Lovell, seconded by Jacqueline Williams, to approve the June 20, 2024 Desert Mountain Charter SELPA Steering and Finance Committee meeting to be canceled as presented. The motion carried on the following vote: 10:0:0: Ayes: Connell, Dennison, Edick, Laird, Lovell, Lucey, Mendoza, Price, Ware, and Williams. Nays: None, Abstentions: None.

6.0 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.

6.1 **BE IT RESOLVED** that a motion was made by James Connell, seconded by Madison Dennison, to approve the following Consent Item as presented. The motion carried on the following vote: 10:0:0: Ayes: Connell, Dennison, Edick, Laird, Lovell, Lucey, Mendoza, Price, Ware, and Williams. Nays: None, Abstentions: None.

6.1.1 April 18, 2024 Desert Mountain Charter SELPA Steering and Finance Committee Meeting Minutes.

Note: Kelly Jung returned to the meeting at 9:35 a.m.

7.0 CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER AND STAFF REPORTS

7.1 Legislative Update

Pam Bender provided a legislative update including the status of several 2-year bills. Pam also provided information on Assembly Bill 2173 pertaining to the language change from emotional disturbance to emotional disability. The meeting materials included links to the legislation, the Advisory Commission on Special Education (ACSE) presentation, and a template letter to legislators for those interested.

7.2 2024-25 Desert Mountain Charter SELPA Steering and Finance Committee Schedule of Meetings

Pam Bender presented the 2024-25 Desert Mountain Charter Steering and Finance Committee

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Schedule of Meetings. She shared her appreciation for the increased attendance with the start time being changed to 9:00 a.m. beginning 2023-24.

7.3 Alternate Pathway Diploma

Pam Bender reviewed recent Alternate Pathway Diploma sub-committee plans. She said there are some districts that are further along in planning and implementing their alternate diploma pathway. There will be a presentation/workshop meeting held so all member LEAs can hear the same information on standards and credits needed as well as the implications of the decisions. The decision of process is to be made at the local level with DMSELPA offering support and suggestions for the member LEAs. Pam said K-8 LEAs are not expected to attend but are welcome to send a representative if they are interested in the information.

7.4 Credentials Bridge Authorization

Pam Bender shared the SELPA plan for assisting member LEAs. The decision of process is to be made at the local level with DMSELPA offering support and suggestions for the member LEAs. Pam said there will be a workshop/presentation meeting that will include superintendents and educational services staff of member LEAs to all discussion of the standards that need to be met in order to receive the alternate diploma. Pam added that administrators are welcome to participate and bridge their credentials as well.

7.5 SEIS Transitional Update

Pam Bender shared an update for Web IEP data storage. She reported SBCSS Technical Services is downloading Web IEP data to each LEA, allowing LEAs to have full access to their student information. Pam said that Colette Garland is following up with each LEA on their IEP status and SEIS submission.

7.6 CALPADS Support

Pam Bender shared the support provided to LEAs and their Special Education Directors, MIS staff, and CALPADS staff preparing for P2 certification. She said Colette Garland is working with LEAs to view any errors in CALPADS due to SEIS transition and/or the CALPADS redesign. If there are problems, Pam asked for Colette to be contacted so errors and concerns can be addressed before the CALPADS certification window closes on June 30, 2024.

Colette Garland stated that any IEPs that have not been entered in from the transition to SEIS must be added right away. She advised that an IEP meeting has been held, the meeting must be affirmed in SEIS, even if waiting for signatures or if there will be multiple IEP meetings. Affirming the IEP will update SEIS to show the meeting was held and prevent it showing incorrectly on the dashboard.

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7.7 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. All contracts with DBH are up for renewal which means any agency can apply for them. DMCC will continue to apply for them. DMCC received contract extension for 0-5 year olds and have written the proposal for the contract that will be for 3-5 years. Contracts for 6-21 will be coming out for proposal between July and September. 6 month extension received on those contracts and will write for the contracts to continue.

7.8 Professional Learning Summary and Update

Heidi Chavez presented the Desert Mountain Charter SELPA’s Professional Learning Summary and updates. She reported participation is 172% higher than the previous year with behavioral supports continuing to highly attended. Heidi stated an email sent to directors earlier in the week that included three surveys: Directors Training topics, Community Advisory Committee (CAC) topics, and point of contact for professional learning flyers. She asked the directors to complete the surveys to assist in planning for 2024-25. Heidi highlighted Celebrating Families with the next cohort beginning in August 2024 with pre-interviews with the families. Celebrating Families is offered in-person only to allow for connections and for CAHELP staff to model behaviors for the participants.

Ivan Campos presented the Save the Date flyer for Speech-Language Pathologists (SLP) Collaborative Group which are scheduled to be in-person. He said these will be workgroup style meetings so there is more interaction and conversation. Ivan reported that augmentative and alternative communication (AAC) is a growing need in the region and though Some SLPs have had training in AAC, not all are comfortable in using it.

It was asked for the SLP Collaborative Group to be offered virtually as well because those are interested and would attend are prepared to fully participate remotely. It was shared that CAHELP will be offering more virtual access as a result of the pending purchase of Owl technology.

Sheila Parisian added the SLP Collaborative Group is a great training opportunity with an increase in legal complaints pertaining to lack of service implementation.

Jacque Williams asked for training that will assist LEAs when contracting SLPs, what to look for, and how to read reports. Ivan said he has been having conversations with individual LEAs and is available to continue those meetings. He asked to be contacted by anyone else interested.

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7.9 Resolution Support Services Summary and Update

Pam Bender called on Sheila Parisian to present the Desert Mountain Charter SELPA's Resolution Support Services Summary and update. Sheila said this is another month with no new filings for DMCS. She reported there have been records requests received which could lead to upcoming filings. Sheila shared Scrubbing the Questions training is scheduled for June 4, 2024, at DMESC with lunch provided. Administrators are also welcome to attend the training. She said it is an alternative dispute resolution training to build on skills for conflict resolution and to learn to ask culturally sensitive questions.

7.10 Compliance Update

Peggy Dunn presented an update on compliance items from the California Department of Education (CDE). Peggy shared IEP Implementation is in progress but most charter members are not affected because they are part of small schools monitoring. She confirmed a small school is defined as having 100 or less students with disabilities. Peggy continued that Compliance and Improvement Monitoring (CIM) Progress Report #1 for Targeted 3 is due by July 10, 2024. She stated that no charter LEA is in intensive monitoring at this time. She stated Cyclical Monitoring for Small Schools Cycle B will begin in fall 2024. For DMCS there are 45 late plan reviews and 12 late re-evaluations. Peggy said that when IEPs are not kept current, LEAs are likely to fall into CIM. Peggy shared she will continue to have phone calls and Zoom calls LEAs involved monitoring.

Colette Garland again asked for IEPs to be affirmed and stated when an additional meeting is held or changes take place, to open an amendment and continue. Colette stressed that when an IEP has been marked as "Sent for electronic signature", it must be updated when the signature is received. She said that Web IEP data has been delivered to most LEAs. Colette added the post-secondary files are being worked through with letters being sent with a June 15, 2024, due date to allow a grace period. It was shared that a number of LEAs are having trouble with SEIS signatures and Colette agreed to contact SEIS and follow up.

7.11 Prevention and Intervention Update

Deborah Sarkesian provided the Prevention and Intervention update. She reported this year's PBIS Recognition event is scheduled for September 25, 2024 at DMESC. Deborah stated the window closed on May 10, 2024 and scoring is now progress. She added that once scoring is completed, schools will be notified with an official invitation naming the schools being recognized and at what level. Deborah expressed her appreciation of teachers hard work.

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7.12 Occupational and Physical Therapy Services Reports and Update

Codi Andersen provided the Occupational and Physical Therapy Service reports and updates. Codi highlighted the following trainings: Transportation Safety Training on September 20, 2024, and Implications of Motor Differences in Autistic Children and Adults on July 29, 2024. Implications of Motor Difference in Autistic Children and Adults will be presented by a physical therapist who works with people who have autism, is autistic herself, and has a child with autism. Codi presented the dates for both the Occupational Therapy Professional Learning Collaborative and the Physical Therapy Professional Learning Collaborative. Codi concluded by reporting Size Matters Handwriting Program will be offered on August 9, 2024.

8.0 FINANCE COMMITTEE ITEMS

8.1 Mental Health Average Daily Attendance (ADA)

Marina Gallegos provided information regarding Federal Mental Health ADA funding. She said for LEAs receiving DMCC Services the funding is processed as reimbursement with LEA business staff complete the form to submit to CDE with supporting documentation from DMCS. Marina has provided the pass-through funding amounts to the LEAs. She said an invoice will be sent to LEAs on SBCSS letterhead requesting pass-through funds. Marina reported that Thomas Flores has been in contact with LEA fiscal staff to assist in completing required forms.

8.2 Low Incidence Fiscal Report

Marina Gallegos spoke to the status of low incidence reimbursement requests. She reported the funds are available for all LEAs. Currently there is one claim pending with back-up documentation being needed for processing.

8.3 Independent Educational Evaluation (IEE) and Assistive Technology Assessment (ATA) Funding

Marina Gallegos reported on the status of available funding for independent educational evaluations (IEE) and assistive technology assessments (ATA). She shared that each LEA has up to \$5000 available. Marina said Form D/M 83 is required to request the reimbursement and must be submitted no later than August 30, 2024. The form was included in the meeting materials and is also available in the repository of the CAHLP JPA website.

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9.0 INFORMATION ITEMS

9.1 Upcoming Professional Learning Opportunities

Jennifer Rountree explained that Real Talk is for families and community members to receive resources and answers to their questions and concerns regarding autism. She said it also allows participants to connect with others in the community.

10.0 STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS COMMENTS / REPORTS

None.

11.0 CEO COMMENTS

Pam Bender confirmed that there will be no meeting in June as per agenda item 5.1. She said that moving forward, the Finance Committee items will be closer to the beginning of the agenda. This allows the LEA fiscal staff to attend a portion of the meeting and only the portion that applies to them.

Pam reported that Marina Gallegos will likely not be attending the August 15, 2024 meeting due to retiring. Marina will provide training and mentorship for her replacement. Pam also reported that Jamie Adkins has accepted a position with California Schools JPA effective May 20, 2024. The requisition for Jamie's replacement has been submitted to Human Resources but has not yet been posted. Pam shared that April Hatcher will fill in for Jamie until the position is filled.

12.0 MATTERS BROUGHT BY THE PUBLIC

None.

13.0 ADJOURNMENT

Having no further business to discuss, a motion was made by Karen Ware, seconded by Malia Lovell, to adjourn the meeting at 10:28 a.m. The motion carried on the following vote: 11:0:0: Ayes: Connell, Dennison, Edick, Jung, Laird, Lovell, Lucey, Mendoza, Price, Ware, and Williams. Nays: None, Abstentions: None.

The next regular meeting of the Desert Mountain Charter SELPA Steering Committee will be held on Thursday, August 15, 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.