

DESERT MOUNTAIN CHARTER SELPA STEERING and FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING

November 16, 2023 – 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 Web Ex, Aveson School of Leaders – Kelly Jung via Web Ex, Desert Trails Prep Academy/Laverne Elementary Prep – Chantal Mendoza, Elite Academic Academy – Jen Edick via Web Ex, Encore Jr/Sr High – Madison Dennison, Julia Lee Performing Arts Academy – Michelle Rasmussen, Leonardo da Vinci Health Sciences Charter – Anne Laird via Web Ex, Pathways to College – James Connell, Southern California Flex Academy - Malia Lovell via Web Ex, and Taylion High Desert – Karen Ware.

CAHELP, DMSELPA, & DMCC STAFF PRESENT:

Jamie Adkins, Codi Andersen, Pam Bender, Heidi Chavez, Danielle Cote, Peggy Dunn, Marina Gallegos, Colette Garland, Daisie Lambert, Isaac Medina, Lisa Nash, Annette Rego, Linda Rodriguez, Jennifer Rountree, Deborah Sarkesian, Jennifer Sutton, and Bobbie Taylor.

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.

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 James Connell, seconded by Madison Dennison, to approve the November 16, 2023 Desert Mountain Charter SELPA Steering and Finance Committee Meeting Agenda as presented. The motion carried on the following vote: 9:0:0: Ayes: Connell, Dennison, Edick, Jung, Laird, Lovell, Mendoza, Ware, and Williams. 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.

5.1 **BE IT RESOLVED** that a motion was made by James Connell, seconded by Madison Dennison,

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to approve the following Consent Items as presented. The motion carried on the following vote: 9:0:0: Ayes: Connell, Dennison, Edick, Jung, Laird, Lovell, Mendoza, Ware, and Williams. Nays: none, Abstentions: none.

- 5.1.1 Approve the October 19, 2023 Desert Mountain Charter SELPA Steering and Finance Committee Meeting Minutes.

*Note – Anthony Lucey joined the call at 9:12 a.m.

6.0 CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER AND STAFF REPORTS

6.1 Legislative Update

Pam Bender presented a legislative update. She stated that when a bill is chaptered it means it has been approved and will be implemented. Pam also reported that the legislature will reconvene January 2024 with the Governor's budget being released on January 10, 2024. Pam highlighted that for Senate Bill (SB) 323, emergency safety procedures do not have to be included in student IEPs but instead must be included in the school emergency plan. Regarding Assembly Bill (AB) 1466, it was stressed that seclusion is not allowed in the educational setting. Pam reviewed the requirements implemented in AB 1722 – Pupil Health: credentialed school nurses, registered nurses, and licensed vocational nurses. Pam confirmed that schools do not need to have a nurse on site, only available to the site.

6.2 SEIS Transition Update

Pam Bender provided a SEIS transition update. She said most of the charter LEAs have been entering their IEPs in SEIS. For the LEAs that are submitting for CAHELP assistance, IEPs that are labeled as Priority are done within 1-2 days of receipt. Priority means a parent called and is requesting an amendment so the eligibility evaluation or plan review needs to be entered right away. There are approximately 30 staff who have been trained to do the data entry with some doing it after hours, during down time in their workday, and some on weekends. Handwritten forms are more time consuming than typed ones because that eliminates the ability to copy and paste the data. Pam shared that DMSELPA has received 1444 IEPs with 563 completed. Pam explained the current focus is on IEPs held July 1-October 4, 2023 because pupil count is due December 15, 2023. Pam said if any LEAs need assistance with the initial affirming to let Colette Garland know.

Colette Garland thanked the committee members for their patience during the transition. She shared that records are being sent to CalPads already.

Danielle Cote suggested letting parents know before their scheduled IEP that there is a new system with a different look to the forms to help ease worry and concern.

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

Daisie Lambert presented the Desert Mountain Children’s Center Client Services monthly reports and updates. She shared the monthly mental health research article topic of helping students during the holiday season.

6.4 Professional Learning Summary and Update

Heidi Chavez presented the Desert Mountain Charter SELPA’s Professional Learning Summary and updates. She stated the Community Advisory Committee (CAC) meeting is scheduled virtually for November 16, 2023. It is imperative that participants register so they can receive the link to attend. The SLP Collaborative is scheduled for January 17, 2024 with the topic of Non-biased assessment for English learners with potential developmental language disorder. The iMTSS Symposium is scheduled for February 21, 2024 at the Doubletree Hotel in Ontario, California with a cost of \$250.00 per person. The next CAC meeting is scheduled for February 22, 2024 and will be provided by the CAHELP JPA Outreach Team. Heidi continued that HOLA Language Services training is scheduled for November 29-30, 2024 and is for any staff that assist with translating in IEPs so they can be legally compliant. The fee for HOLA training is \$200.00.

6.5 Resolution Support Services Summary and Update

Lisa Nash presented the Desert Mountain Charter SELPA’s Resolution Support Services Summary and update.

6.6 Compliance Update

Peggy Dunn presented an update on compliance items from the California Department of Education (CDE). She shared that LEAs have been asked by CDE to provide feedback to help them improve future monitoring cycles. Step 3 of Compliance and Improvement Monitoring Process (CIM) is currently underway with a window of October 1-November 30, 2023. Peggy needs to receive all plans by November 30 so the DMCS assurances can be submitted to CDE. She reminded any LEAs in Small Schools Monitoring to submit required documents as requested.

*Note-Michelle Rasmussen joined the call at 9:36 a.m.

6.7 Career Technical Education Update

Deborah Sarkesian provided the Career Technical Education (CTE) update. She shared that as of November 15, 2023, they have received 259 referrals and their goal is 275. The deadline for referrals is November 17, 2023. If the goal is not met, Deborah said an email will be sent to the teachers offering first come first serve enrollment. Deborah reported the instructional supply deadline is December 31, 2023 which allows teachers \$250 to use for purchasing program supplies.

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6.8 Prevention and Intervention Update

Deborah Sarkesian provided the Prevention and Intervention update. She reported onsite requests have been for scaling up Tier 1 Supports and Interventions to help prevent overload in Tiers 2 and 3. There has also been an increase in requests for providing PBIS in the home as well as understanding classroom management supports. As a parent of two children with IEPs, Deborah thanked the committee members for what they do for special education students. She is thankful for their hard work and all they do.

7.0 INFORMATION ITEMS

7.1 Monthly Occupational & Physical Therapy Services Reports

Codi Andersen referred to SB 323 and stated that the PT and OT staff can support LEAs in addressing how to ensure students are safe during emergencies. She said the LEAs can contact her with any questions or if assistance is needed. Codi also shared that California will pass regulations that as of March 2024, occupational therapists will be considered licensed mental health providers. Codi continued that currently OT and PT services are offered at Tier 3 MTSS but DMSELPA is envisioning an infrastructure that will provide solid interventions for Tiers 1 and 2 including OT and PT. It is in the planning phase with possible pilot studies this school year that can include providing for students in general education and not just those with IEPs.

7.2 Upcoming Professional Learning Opportunities

8.0 STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS COMMENTS / REPORTS

None.

9.0 CEO COMMENTS

Pam Bender shared that at the October meeting, there was discussion about the California Association of School Psychologists (CASP) memo regarding Larry P. Pam reported she has received legal opinion from an attorney as well as discussion with State SELPA, since the law has not changed the view of the CDE has not changed. She continued that the Office of Administrative Hearings will base their decisions on what CDE follows so DMSELPA and Desert Mountain Charter SELPA will not change their stance at this time.

Pam read a poem by Henri Frederic Amiel “Thankfulness is the beginning of gratitude. Gratitude is the completion of thankfulness. Thankfulness may consist merely of words. Gratitude is shown in acts.” She also read “Beginning of November” from Innergrowth Reset.

Pam wished the attendees a Happy Thanksgiving with hopes of spending time with friends and family.

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10.0 MATTERS BROUGHT BY THE PUBLIC

None.

11.0 ADJOURNMENT

Having no further business to discuss, a motion was made by James Connell, seconded by Madison Dennison, to adjourn the meeting at 9:56 a.m. The motion carried on the following vote: 11:0:0: Ayes: Connell, Dennison, Edick, Jung, Laird, Lovell, Lucey, Mendoza, Rasmussen, Ware, and Williams. Nays: none, Abstentions: none.

The next regular meeting of the Desert Mountain Charter SELPA Steering Committee will be held on Thursday, December 14, 2023, 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.