

**DESERT MOUNTAIN CHARTER SELPA STEERING and FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING**

*December 14, 2023 – 9:00 a.m.*

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

**MINUTES**

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**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, Elite Academic Academy – Jen Edick via Web Ex, Encore Jr/Sr High – Madison Dennison, Leonardo da Vinci Health Sciences Charter – Anne Laird via Web Ex, Pasadena Rosebud Academy – Shawn Brown 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, Ivan Campos, Heidi Chavez, Peggy Dunn, Marina Gallegos, Colette Garland, Linda Llamas, Maurica Manibusan, Lisa Nash, Sheila Parisian, Karina Quezada, Annette Rego, Linda Rodriguez, Jennifer Rountree, Veronica Rousseau, Deborah Sarkesian, Jessica Soto, 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 Program Manager Heidi Chavez 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 Madison Dennison, seconded by Jaque Williams, to approve the December 14, 2023 Desert Mountain Charter SELPA Steering and Finance Committee Meeting Agenda as presented. The motion carried on the following vote: 10:0:0: Ayes: Brown, Connell, Dennison, Edick, Jung, Laird, Lovell, Lucey, 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, to approve the following Consent Item as presented. The motion carried on the following vote:

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10:0:0: Ayes: Brown, Connell, Dennison, Edick, Jung, Laird, Lovell, Lucey, Ware, and Williams.  
Nays: none, Abstentions: none.

5.1.1 Approve the November 16, 2023 Desert Mountain Charter SELPA Steering and Finance Committee Meeting Minutes.

### **6.0 CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER AND STAFF REPORTS**

#### **6.1 Legislative Update**

Deborah Sarkesian presented the legislative update. She shared the California School House Rock – How a Bill Becomes a Law as well as the Stated Budget Process.

#### **6.2 SEIS Transition Update**

Peggy Dunn provided a SEIS transition update. She said that all member LEAs should be using SEIS at this time. Peggy called on Colette Garland to provide more information.

Colette confirmed with CDE that CALPADS can be certified for LEAs without the special education errors. Colette advised the committee members to submit a CALPADS help desk ticket notifying them that the LEA is part of Desert Mountain Charter SELPA so CALPADS can do the override for LEA approval. Colette reported that the IEPs that were submitted to SELPA on fillable forms are almost completely entered.

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

Linda Llamas presented the Desert Mountain Children’s Center (DMCC) Client Services monthly reports and updates. Linda then shared the dates DMCC inputs Progress of Goals in SEIS for the current school year as: 09/15/23, 12/15/23, 02/16/24, and 05/17/24. Once the data is entered in SEIS, the information is sent to the student’s legal caregiver. Linda then shared the mental health trends report providing information on how increased stress among youth has led to an increase in substance use. Linda asked for the report to be shared with anyone who might benefit from the information provided. Linda also reported that all of the articles will soon be available on the CAHELP website for reference.

#### **6.4 Professional Learning Summary and Update**

Heidi Chavez presented the Desert Mountain Charter SELPA’s Professional Learning Summary and updates. Heidi highlighted Celebrating Families as a 16-week resiliency program with a core of substance recovery. Families from member LEAs are welcome to attend in person at the Desert Mountain Education Services Center. Dinner is provided for the families followed by age-appropriate breakout sessions then regrouping for family activities. Heidi shared the iMTSS

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Symposium is in the final stages of planning with break-out sessions having been determined. The cost is \$250 per person and includes breakfast, lunch, and swag. She encouraged at least one person from each LEA to attend to gather information on preventing educator burn out to share with other staff and is also open to any educator, not just Desert Mountain Charter SELPA members. Heidi also stated the next Community Advisory Committee will meet on Thursday, February 22, 2024 virtually. The representative portion of the meeting is 4:30-5:00 p.m. with the presentation following until 6:00 p.m.

6.5 Resolution Support Services Summary and Update

Lisa Nash presented the Desert Mountain Charter SELPA's Resolution Support Services Summary and update. She reported there have been three filings with two of them being related to the same student and one counter filing by a student. However, call three have been settled so there are no active cases. Lisa shared that a local school district received a prevailing decision on a filing to defend an offer of placement for a student with severe intellectual disability.

6.6 Compliance Update

Peggy Dunn presented an update on compliance items from the California Department of Education (CDE). Peggy said eight LEAs are in Compliance and Improvement Monitoring (CIM) targeted level and have submitted steps 1, 2, and 3. She will keep copies for her reference and directed committee members to maintain a copy as well. The assurances have been submitted to CDE assuring the documents have been submitted. The LEAs that are in Targeted 3 must submit directly to CDE. Peggy shared that Step 4 is implementation of the submitted plan with a progress report due on July 10, 2024. Peggy continued that in the spring, LEAs will receive an Annual Determination Letter providing a status update. She reminded the members that the submitted plans are for multiple years. Peggy shared information on an upcoming webinar on disproportionality and encouraged each of the LEAs to participate.

6.7 Career Technical Education Update

Deborah Sarkesian provided the Career Technical Education (CTE) update. She said the deadline for CTE and Transition teachers to apply for instructional supplies is December 31, 2023. Deborah shared the team had a goal to receive 275 program referrals and they received 309 referrals. Deborah reported there is a committee in the desert mountain region that is working towards streamlining the fingerprinting process so the different agencies in the area are following the same procedures.

6.8 Prevention and Intervention Update

Deborah Sarkesian provided the Prevention and Intervention update. Deborah stated the team wishes everyone happy holidays and a restful winter break.

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### 6.9 Occupational and Physical Therapy Services Update

Codi Andersen provided the Occupational and Physical Therapy Services update. She shared there is an OT collaborative scheduled for January 16, 2024 at 2:00 p.m.- 4:00 p.m. and a PT collaborative scheduled for January 17, 2024 at 1:30 p.m.- 3:00 p.m. These collaboratives provide a time for occupational therapists and physical therapists to meet with colleagues for questions and supports.

## 7.0 FINANCE COMMITTEE ITEMS

### 7.1 Mental Health Fund Transfer

Marina Gallegos shared information regarding the mental health fund transfer. She reminded the committee members that effective July 1, 2023, mental health funds were distributed directly to LEAs. The CAHELP JPA Governance Council voted on May 12, 2023 that the funds would be redirected back to Desert Mountain Charter SELPA (DMCS) so DMCC services could continue. This applies to LEAs in the desert mountain region and virtual charters. Marina continued that there was concern about Maintenance of Effort (MOE) but SBCSS Internal Business District Advisory provided account codes so the funds would not be counted towards LEA MOE. She said she emailed the committee members and the LEA fiscal staff that the fund transfers do need to begin. Marina asked the committee members to speak with their fiscal staff then provide her with feedback as to the best way to make it happen. Marina advised that federal funds are different and sent as reimbursement instead of apportionment so a process for those funds is in planning. Marina confirmed the change has been written into the Local Plan. She also confirmed that member LEAs that are not in the desert mountain region will not be transferring those funds to DMCS.

## 8.0 INFORMATION ITEMS

### 8.1 Monthly Occupational and Physical Therapy Services Reports

### 8.2 Upcoming Professional Learning Opportunities

## 9.0 STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS COMMENTS / REPORTS

Jacque Williams commented that the amount of work put in and the diligence of the SELPA staff with CALPADS certification and the transition to SEIS was off the charts amazing, phenomenal, and deeply appreciated. Madison Dennison seconded the statement.

## 10.0 CEO COMMENTS

On behalf of Pam Bender, Heidi Chavez wished everyone a happy holiday and season of giving. Then a video was shared “Inspiring Power of Giving (and veggie soup)”. Heidi concluded by wishing the committee a happy holiday while making memories and enjoying the surrounding company.

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**11.0 MATTERS BROUGHT BY THE PUBLIC**

None.

**12.0 ADJOURNMENT**

Having no further business to discuss, a motion was made by Madison Dennison, seconded by James Connell, to adjourn the meeting at 9:55 a.m. The motion carried on the following vote: 10:0:0: Ayes: Brown, Connell, Dennison, Edick, Jung, Laird, Lovell, Lucey, Ware, and Williams. Nays: none, Abstentions: none.

The next regular meeting of the Desert Mountain Charter SELPA Steering Committee will be held on Thursday, January 25, 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.*