SANTA MONICA-MALIBU UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Early Care and Development District Advisory Committee – MINUTES
Wednesday, October 15, 2025 @ 5:30pm

I. Call to Order @ 5:41pm
   Present: Ivy Chang, Gary Huff, Raven Kras, Susan Samarge-Powell; Ben Swett; Stacy Rouse (attempted!)
   Absent: Laurie Lieberman, Laura Manson
II. Public Comments - None
III. General/Old Business - None
IV. Board Liaison report – None
V. Staff Updates
   a. Susan shared that enrollment has been lower in both ITC and Preschool programming – likely the result of TK expansion, and more local programs taking students at younger ages
   b. SAP continuing with pilot program from RAS at Franklin and Edison; Edison has been smooth; Franklin has had some 'growing pains' but we have no one on the wait list anymore, so this has helped Franklin with childcare.
   c. ELOP continuing on multiple levels at all sites; TK – 6th grade for eligible students, but can also take in non-ELOP students if all ELOP students have been offered the program and space remains.
VI. New Business –
   a. TK Presentation shared that is being presented at all elementary school campuses this school year; recommendations to include a "History of TK in SMMUSD" slide that provides context for sites about TK classrooms that were in place prior to the UPK rollout.
   b. Discussion around ways to expand communication about SMMUSD ECE environment. Noted that it will be important to work with Brandyi, the new Communications Director in ensuring all district communication starts with ECE through high school, rather than just TK – 12th grade
   c. Offer from Ben and ECTF to find ways to support SMMUSD publicly, as well as with whatever needs our early learning environments have.
VII. Announcements
   a. November 17th is the screening of *Make A Circle: A love letter to Early Childhood Educators and a rallying cry for a childcare system in crisis.* Will be held at the SMPL and a panel after with Q&A
   b. November 18th will be *Unpacking Education in ECE* at SMC
   c. December 3rd will be an SMC Job Fair and a Men in ECE panel
VIII. Adjournment @ 6:53pm