



SANTA MONICA - MALIBU UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Early Care and Development District Advisory Committee – MINUTES
Wednesday, March 25, 2026 @ 5:30pm

- I. Call to Order @ 5:40pm
Present: Ivy Chang, Raven Kras, Laurie Lieberman, Ben Swett, Susan Samarge-Powell
Absent: Gary Huff, Laura Manson, Stacy Rouse
- II. Public Comments - None
- III. General/Old Business – Approved February minutes
- IV. Board Liaison report – Board member Laurie Lieberman shared that spring break was coming up and the board has been updating all board policies this year. In addition, she discussed that there is a citizen initiated decision to ask for a parcel tax from the Santa Monica community in the fall elections.
- V. Staff Updates
 - a. Susan shared enrollment information for ITC, Preschool, School Age Programs (SAP), RAS with Edison and Franklin, and ELOP
 - i. The updated numbers include wait list numbers and potential need for classrooms.
- VI. New Business –
 - a. Site Update Discussion/Feedback for 26-27
 - i. Edison will be closing the 6-hour preschool to open up a 2nd TK
 - ii. McKinley Extended Day (6-hour) program will be reduced to a Part Day (3-hour) program to mirror all other programs except the full day
 - iii. CDS will bring in RAS at more sites (beyond Edison and Franklin) to support the childcare need
 - iv. ELOP is expanding it's inter-richment programs to assist the teacher interest and student need in after school assistance
- VII. Announcements
 - a. The CSPP program (preschool) will have a formal program review in April, 2026; the CCTR programs (ITC and SAP) will have a formal program review in May, 2026; the DAC may be interviewed as our Advisory Council
 - b. Susan noted that a parent from McKinley requested that Susan bring up the parent's concerns about the one extended day collaborative classroom being reduced down to 3 hours. While Susan noted that all collaborative preschool classrooms are 3 hours except for McKinley, the parent said that she believes it is important for working families with children who have special needs to have access as well. Unfortunately, the state does not pay for the 2nd half of the day, and as we are moving out of Hold Harmless for 26-27 it is not fiscally



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responsible of our programs to keep a classroom open that doesn't receive funding. The members of the DAC discussed that difficult financial decisions are always hard, and that perhaps there may be options that can be offered if we learn more about the family's needs.

- c. Member Ben Swett reintroduced the idea of bringing CDS' programs into visibility. He noted that he believes virtual tours, website renovations, and a social media presence will make a large difference for community interest.

VIII. Adjournment @ 6:53pm