



EL DORADO COUNTY CHARTER SELPA **Wednesday, September 16, 2015**

Meeting was held via GoToWebinar
teleconference on Wednesday, September 16,
2015 at 2:00 pm

MINUTES – EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

EDCOE/Charter SELPA:

*David M. Toston, Associate Superintendent	*Vicki L. Barber, Retired EDCOE Supt. of Schools
*Ginese Quann, Charter SELPA Director	*Francie Heim, EDCOE/Charter SELPA Consultant
*Robert Steponovich, SELPA Business Services Director	*Kathleen Hall, Administrative Assistant
Tamara Clay, EDCOE SELPA Director	

Executive Committee Members:

*Mary Searcy Bixby, Altus Institute	*Lynne Alipio, Altus Institute
Elise Darwish, ASPIRE Public Schools	*Paula DeGroat, Lifeline Education
*Donn Harris, Oakland School for the Arts	*Cindy Petersen, Gateway Community Charters
*Pat Hill, Mission View	Preston Smith, Rocketship Education
*Genevieve Thomas, Rocketship Education	*David Sciarretta, Einstein Academies
*Tim Wolf, San Diego Consortium	Gia Truong, Envision Schools
*LTC Richard Wallis, Oakland Military Institute	Karin Marsolais, Preuss
*Jean Hatch, Redding School of the Arts	Dawn Evenson, iLead Schools
Jonathan Dean, The O'Farrell Charter School	Steve Gocke, Learn4Life
*Mike Tracy, Heritage/Temecula Prep	

Guests: *Cindy Atlas, San Diego Special Education Consortium, *Shelly Lether– Valley Prep Academy Charter School; *Samantha Pohaku, The O'Farrell Charter School (for Jonathan Dean); *Julie Mattoon, KIPP Bay Area Schools; *Sam Conway, Charter SELPA; *Kate Galea, Charter SELPA

*Denotes attendance/participation via GoToWebinar

1. Educationally Related Mental Health Services (ERMHS)

a. ERMHS New Allocation Plan Language

Executive Committee was asked to provide input on additional ERMHS Allocation Plan language that was proposed as a refinement to existing language. It would establish a process to allocate potential reserves at year end that exceed the established range that is set between 5% and 10%. Additional information was provided in Attachment 1a.

David Toston presented the document and reviewed the recommendations in detail. By May of each fiscal year, Charter SELPA leadership shall make a finding of sufficiency of ERMHS ending balance for the current fiscal year and will set the reserve level in a range from 5% to 10%. Additional details are included in the corresponding document.

Executive Committee members concurred with the recommendations included in the "ERMHS Allocation Plan Language" document without change.

b. Determination of Funding Sufficiency

By September 15 of each year, Charter SELPA administration will make a finding of sufficiency for ERMHS funding and establish the funding rate for Level 2 between \$2,000 and \$3,000.

Charter SELPA intends to set the rate at \$3,000. Additional information that supports the decision was provided in Attachment 1b.

This information was shared with Executive Committee and will be shared as an information item at the September CEO Council meeting. The information was shared with the field in September, so members could plan accordingly.

Executive Committee members concurred with the criteria for the determination of sufficiency included in the "Determination of Funding Sufficiency" document without change.

2. 2015-16 Rate For Special Education Funding (Budget Advice)

The Charter SELPA Allocation Plan language requires CEO Council to annually set the state special education member rate, taking into account projected deficits in statewide funding.

Executive Committee was asked to provide input on the recommendation to set the 2015-16 rate at \$505 (based on 2015-16 ADA) and to recognize the 2013-14 prior year deficit restoration amount of \$9.29 per ADA which is being accounted for in 2015-16 as income and is distributed to eligible 2013-14 members based on 2013-14 ADA. Additional information was provided in Attachment 2.

David Toston reviewed the document, including the background of budget rates and deficit restoration. Important to highlight that prior year deficit restoration will be for charters who were members at the time of the deficit only. New charter members who joined us in 14-15 are not eligible to receive the 2013-14 deficit restoration funding.

Executive Committee members concurred with the recommendation to set the 2015-16 rate and recognize the 2013-14 prior year deficit restoration amount. They concurred with the recommendations included in the "2015-16 Budget Advice and Deficits" document without change.

3. Charter SELPA Policies

a. Charter School Closure Policy – CEO Policy 27

A closure procedure was adopted by CEO Council in May, 2013. That language has been included in the proposed policy set forth in Attachment 3a.

The policy has been further refined to add more clarity to the financial closing process and required documentation. The policy has been further strengthened by requiring immediate notification when a charter revocation is issued or a charter non-renewal occurs. Executive Committee input was requested and the policy will be placed on the September CEO Council Agenda for adoption.

David Toston presented the proposed closure policy and reviewed the different scenarios which constitute a school closure – CDS code change, merging, voluntary closure, involuntary closure through non-renewal, or closing involuntarily through revocation by an authorizing LEA. If a school is going to be closing for any reason the Charter SELPA must to be notified immediately. Additional components have been

added to the proposed policy, including documentation, notification of closure, financial closeout of a single partner and an organization partner, bankruptcy proceedings and circumstances under which state and federal funds may be withheld.

Included in the proposed policy are additional criteria for release of state ERMHS funds if there are no allegations or findings of fiscal mismanagement by the authorizer or Charter SELPA.

Executive Committee members concurred with the proposed Charter School Closure – CEO Policy 27 document without change and the policy will be presented to CEO Council for adoption at the September CEO Council meeting.

b. Federal Maintenance of Effort Policy – CEO Policy 28

We do not have a current policy that covers federal Maintenance of Effort practices and it is highly recommended that one should be in place. A proposed policy and corresponding Administrative Regulation were included as Attachment 3b.

The proposed policy is based on federal requirements and our current SELPA practices. Executive Committee input was requested and the policy will be placed on the September CEO Council Agenda for adoption.

David Toston presented the proposed policy and confirmed that CMO or organizational partners have the ability to reallocate within their organization.

Executive Committee members concurred with the proposed Federal Maintenance of Effort Requirement – CEO Policy 28/Administrative Regulation 28 document without change and the policy and AR will be presented to CEO Council for adoption at the September CEO Council meeting.

4. Membership Update

David shared information on the recent closures of two member charter schools – FAME Public Charter and Rowland Heights Charter Academy.

FAME Public Charter School’s charter petition was revoked, the school closed and the school is currently under bankruptcy proceedings. The Charter SELPA considers them closed and no longer a member but will continue to work with the authorizer as needed on closeout of the school.

Rowland Heights Charter Academy has had their petition revoked with multiple charges including fiscal mismanagement. They are in the process of appealing the revocation to Los Angeles COE. The Charter SELPA considers them closed and no longer a member.

Vicki Barber reminded Executive Committee members of the CEO Council meeting scheduled for Thursday, September 24th. Kevin Gordon of the Capitol Advisors Group will be speaking on the Sacramento political scene and upcoming topics of interest for charter schools throughout the state.

David Toston introduced a new member of the Charter SELPA leadership team - Robert Steponovich, the SELPA Business Services Director. He looks forward to meeting everyone at next week’s CEO Council meeting.

5. Next Meeting Date

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Charter SELPA Executive Committee will take place Thursday, November 12th, 2015 at 10:00 a.m. via GoToWebinar teleconferencing.