

School Districts/Groups in Attendance:

Carol Keyes – Palm Springs USD	Sherry Purcell – LAUSD	Kevin Trommer – Compton USD
Silma Navarro – Fontana USD	Dawn Bray – Beaumont	Tanya Perry – Bear Valley USD
Donna Ross – Oceanside USD	Christine Wilhite – Butte COE	Marisol Avina – CA Endowment
Karen Cloutman – San Diego USD	Jeremy Ford – Oakland USD	Sarah Bachez – CASBO
Patricia Eaton – Chula Vista USD	Leticia Garcia – Riverside COE	Frida Friend – Santa Paula USD
Cathy Bennett – Sac City USD	Vina Guzman – CSBA	
Deanna Neibuhr – Partner for Children	Susan Jarrold – San Diego USD	

Legislative Update:

- Several more districts are interested in adding their logos onto both letters
- Riverside COE, Laytonville USD, Compton USD, Oakland USD, and Butte COE
- The letter is now in Dr. Pan’s office (and attached).

Congressional Update:

- CTA took the letter to the California delegation during their recent visit
- Ami Bera and Jeff Dunham are considering doing a letter to CMS from the CA Congressional delegation– a draft is in the works
- Dianne Feinstein’s office is working with CTA as well

DHCS Questions & Answers (John Mendoza and Michelle Kristoff):

Q. What is the plan for transitioning LEA services to RMTS?

A. No decision has been made at this time; internal DH

CS discussions as well as additional discussions with CMS still need to take place. DHCS will provide updated information to the stakeholder community as soon as it is available.

Q. We understand some LECs have prepared the RTCs for the LEAs? If that is true, what is the department’s position on that?

A. The RTC Policy and Procedure letter does not preclude LECs and LGAs from preparing RTCs. We view this as an active partnership and it is positive from our perspective. LEAs still need to sign the RTC. If the LEAs do not agree with it and do not sign off, they will not get paid. Everyone should be working together. However, the appeals process may be used as needed. DHCS needs specific information regarding this situation to determine if it is occurring. Anyone who has this problem should set up a separate call through Hellan or Ruchi.

Q. Can you give us a status update on the review of invoices? How is the decision being made for payment – on what basis? How will you inform districts?

A. As of April 30th, appx 2,300 invoices received. CMS has reviewed 100. DHCS is training in-house “volunteers” to get the invoices done and to determine the best way to inform stakeholders. Our goal to have all invoices completed and sent to CMS by September 2014. Santa Paula USD had a specific issue of not being paid since 2012 — Santa Paula USD is to send documentation of what was submitted prior and call Michelle Kristoff to discuss.

Q. What is the plan for processing the 7500+ RTCs that are outstanding?

A. Volunteers will work overtime, evenings and weekends as necessary to have all RTCs completed by September 2014. General updates will be posted on the DHCS website. Individual districts will get letters regarding decisions on their specific invoices. DHCS is trying to be “as transparent as possible”. If invoices do not get processed, districts will not be paid. We could lose the program if CMS deadline is not met. We hope to start releasing payments in June 2014.

Q. If LECs are holding up the RTC process, what happens?

A. DHCS requires specific examples; will not address hypothetical situations. If your LEC is holding up the process, please let DHCS know. This includes, not sending it to the state in a timely manner. Claims will be processed on a first come first served basis.

Q. We have been told that DHCS has hired 15 new staff to process the RTCs. What is the funding for those positions?

A. This is not true. Employees within the Safety Net Financing Division have been reassigned to work on SMAA during day and overtime. CMS is in the office once a week to review invoices and are contacted by phone when questions arise.

Q. A question has been raised by the LEAs about whether DHCS is using withholds from LEAs participating in the LEA Billing Option program to pay for the new MAA positions or for MAA purposes? Can you clarify this?

A. Absolutely not.

Q. Can districts use LAUSD model?

A. The LAUSD RMTS was grandfathered in for that district to use. CMS will not agree to LAUSD plan outside of that district; DHCS submitted a plan to CMS that provides for one system to be used by LECs and another to be used by LGAs; DHCS will continue to have stakeholder discussions. Asked for a year on interim claiming to allow for a plan that all can live with; still waiting on decision.

DHCS is happy to join in on more calls and answer questions as they become apparent.

Next Meetings:

Wednesday May 21st at 11am

Thursday May 29th at 11am