

**Next Meeting: Monday, June 9<sup>th</sup> at 11am**

**Call in number: 1-800-444-2801; Code: 4010981**

Members in Attendance:

Donna Ross – Oceanside USD	Chuck Muirhead – AFI Advisors Inc.	Maria Thomas – CSBA
Patricia Eaton – Chula Vista USD	Frank Biehl – Practi-cal	Dawn Bray – Beaumont USD
Carol Keyes – Palm Springs USD	Tiffany Ward – MBT	Mary Cahill – San Diego County
Martha Alvarez – San Diego USD	Lydia Bourne – CSNO	Don Warkentin – West Hills CC
Karen Cloutman – San Diego USD	Cathy Bennett – Sac City USD	Hansine Fisher – HFA
Sherry Purcell – Los Angeles USD	Leticia Garcia – Riverside COE	Margarita Bobe – Los Angeles USD
Amanda Mozes – Paradigm Inc.	Rose Uranga – Veritam Inc.	Jeremy Ford – Oakland USD
Christine Wilhite – Butte COE	Rob Roach – Twin Rivers USD	Melissa Lovick – Downey USD
	Janice DiCroce – San Diego County LGA	Kathy Ryan – CSNO
	Laura Bayhnam – CA Schools Health Services	

**School Districts Updates**

- Sac City USD met with her LGA regarding RTC. The LGA explained they requested from DHCS their rationale when reviewing RTCs – DHCS did not provide them any guidance, therefore San Bernardino LGA’s attorney advised them not to sign off on the RTCs. Per Sac LGA , all LGAs agreed to not sign off on RTCs if they are 2% higher than benchmarks, and they will put a cover letter on top explaining to DHCS that if the RTC/invoice is approved, payment should be issued directly to the LEA. With this said, Sac LGA said they will not sign- off on Sac City’s RTC. It was asked if a similar situation was happening with the LECs
- Janice DiCroce , San Diego LGA said they will look at each individual RTC and make decisions on whether to sign or not, based on the RTC and the LEAs back up.
- Beaumont USD reported their submission was “lost in papers on their desk” but the LEC called and was apologetic.
- LEC meeting to take place at Yolo Office of Education on first Thursday of June (June 5<sup>th</sup>).
- Districts discussed intimidation that is taking place. District staff are afraid of speaking up regarding problems due to fear of losing their jobs. Calls have been made to county offices of ed.

- Within the LGAs, there has been pressure on LGA Co-Chair, Janice DiCroce, San Diego LGA. Janice reported a petition being circulated to remove her as co-chair by San Mateo, Napa and Alameda over the procurement issue.
- There was general consensus that there should be more than one platform for the entire state now that it appears that the same contractor was chosen by the LGA Plumas RFP groups and the LECs. ; school districts should have the opportunity to choose between two systems
- LACOE LEC is unhappy about the LEC RFP choice.
- San Diego LGA has chosen another platform but DHCS has not decided to accept this choice yet. It was pointed out that there is a draft of a plan in place; so there should be room for adjustments.
- Adjustments discussed: change wording that explains that there is one platform for the state to reflect “limited platforms” so that districts have the opportunity to choose whichever platform works best for them (a school choice should be: ideally DHCS should provide software standards and any software company that met the standards could be used).
- BIG QUESTION – what happens on July 1<sup>st</sup> if a year of interim claiming is denied?
- It was stated that it will be interesting to see which districts gets checks vs. bills from DHCS when the deferred claims are paid
- Community colleges are being told they must wait until all the back payments get out before they can develop a separate group for them.

### **Legislative Strategy**

- The letter authored by Dr. Pan is circulating the senate and assembly. Senator Lui is gathering signatures in the Senate.
- Congress Member Ami Bera’s (D. Sacramento) office is scheduled to meet with CMS.
- Dianne Feinstein’s office also spoke with CMS
- Meeting with Diana Dooley and education organizations was canceled and is rescheduled for June 5<sup>th</sup>
- CSBA wrote a letter to the congressional delegation and obtained 200+ signatures

### **LEA Billing Option**

A report was given by members of the LEA Billing Option Ad-Hoc Workgroup (AHWG) of their workgroup meeting with DHCS which occurred May 28.

1. The AHWG meeting date was changed to accommodate the vacation schedule of Jennifer Brooks. Ms. Brooks was not in attendance at the meeting. Michelle Kristoff was in attendance for the full meeting. John Mendoza was in attendance for the morning portion.
2. Michelle Kristoff announced that the following about future workgroup meetings:
  - a. DHCS will invite all LEAs to attend
  - b. DHCS will allow LEAs to attend on a first-come-first-serve basis
  - c. DHCS does not agree with its own legal opinion that the JPA is a vendor. They will allow LECs who are part of the JPA to attend.
  - d. DHCS will not allow other vendors to attend.

- e. DHCS will manage all future document feedback from the AHWG from the DHSC email box, not through the Co-chair structure that has been in place for more than 20 years.
- f. DHCS has eliminated the LEA by-laws, participation requirements, and conflict of interest statements.
- g. DHCS will require AHWG participants to maintain a confidentiality agreement but did not indicate how they will enforce that agreement
- h. DHCS is proposing sub-committees to do the work of the Ad Hoc
- i. DHCS took a list of topics to be addressed in 2014-2015 and allowed the group to prioritize. It was not indicated how the content for the topics will be developed.
- j. ADHCS has significantly reduced the work assignments for the NCI contract

Workgroup members expressed concern about these changes and wondered why DHCS appears to be dismantling the AHWG which is authorized by AB2608. It was suggested that the reason why that LEA Billing Option Program does not have the problems that the SMAA program is because of the collaborative interaction the AHWG has with DHCS.

Concern was expressed that DHCS is not using the \$1.5 million LEA withhold that is being put towards their consultant, Navigant Consulting, Inc. (NCI), paid for by the districts to help with LEA Billing Option transition to RMTS . Given the large number of issues which need to be resolved regarding the integration of the LEA Billing Option program with RMTS, workgroup members asked DHCS for regular reports from NCI on this topic.

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