

LEA/SMAA Workgroup Minutes: Monday, July 21st at 11:00am

Next Meeting: Monday, July 28th at 11:00am

Members in Attendance:

- Caroline Nunes: San Diego COE
- Miguel Valencia: Leader Services
- Barbara Fasenmeyer: Colton Joint USD
- Debbie Rebottaro: Mendocino COE
- Kevin Trommer: Compton USD
- Tiffany Ward: MBT
- Roberta Stephens: MBT
- Whitney Knight: Palm Springs USD
- Jeremy Ford: Oakland USD
- Debbie Bickenbach: Practi-Cal
- Karen Tinker: San Diego USD
- Christine Wilhite: Butte COE
- Cathy Bennett: Sac City USD
- Aracely Miranda: Moreno Valley USD
- Sherry Purcell: Los Angeles USD
- Rob Roach: Twin Rivers USD
- Donna Ross: Oceanside USD
- Dan Daris: Oceanside USD
- Janice DiCroce: San Diego LGA
- Mary Cahill: San Diego LGA
- Dawn Bray: Beaumont USD
- Laura Ibarra: Paramount USD
- Vina Guzman: CSBA
- Amanda Mozes: Paradigm Inc.
- Patty Rucker: Moreno Valley USD
- Jennifer Moreno: CDE
- Patricia Eaton: Chula Vista USD
- Cathy Hanes: Banning USD
- Rose Uranga: Veritam Inc.
- Lisa Salas: Perris Elementary USD
- Frank Biehl: Practi-Cal
- Terri Jenson: San Bernardino City USD

District Updates:

- Debbie Rebottaro (MVUSD) has received 3 conditional denials for 09-10 Q4. No prior phone call was received from DHCS letting the district know that they were not compliant

Inland Empire Workshop Update:

- 32 attendees from the Inland Empire Area showed up
- Presentation covered basic foundation of new RMTS plan
- Survey went out – if you attended, please take the survey here: [RMTS Workshop Survey](#)
- Goal: To have more workshops throughout CA regions in the upcoming months
- Goal: Bring together different LEA/SMAA groups so there is an open forum for MAA coordinators to come together and discuss
- We will be distributing handouts from this workshop at a later date

RTC Update:

- Hellan (THK) had been communicating with John Mendoza at DHCS
- In her absence, a meeting took place with Sherry (LAUSD) Cathy (SCUSD) and Vina (CSBA)
- CMS has said they will review every single invoice. This seems unrealistic due to the few invoices that have been reviewed thus far
- Janice (San Diego LGA) has said that she too received a conditional denial email for 4 invoices
- DHCS Said they would personally contact LEAs prior to sending the conditional denial letters – individuals on the call said they are **not** doing this
- The only appeals process is with the LGAs/LECs – there is no appeal process with DHCS. Group has discussed that an ultimate recourse may be a lawsuit
- DHCS indicated on the 7/21 call that they reached out to CDE, and asked if they could assist with Administrative structures in the schools – they asked Sherry/Cathy/Vina if they could reach out to CDE to support the request. Note: CDE has offered help as far back as October yet DHCS denied the request
 - o Sherry will follow up with Sue or Jennifer (CDE) to determine next steps
- 10% issue: Per DHCS – there is NO 10% rule, and apparently the 10% rule is a rumor, however, LECs and LGAs are letting their LEAs know about this rule and it has gone viral
 - o There will be an official notice from DHCS that there is no 10% rule
- Offsets of paybacks are still being worked on; there is no official message to give the LEAs at this time except that they are working on figuring out when schools should pay back
- General Ed Teachers: Per DHCS – no other states have Gen Ed teachers in their MAA program – CMS is making an exception. DHCS said most schools are not providing proper justification for Gen Ed teachers- and referenced the RTC guidance on website. Again rumor control – it is not true that only rural schools (700 <or less) can include Gen Ed teachers. Vina will be sending to DHCS a Conditional Denial to show the analyst's statement.
- As districts, we must continue to share all examples of any misinformation being provided by DHCS so that we may bring that to them
- LGA Closure in San Bernardino: DHCS is Working with legal counsel on this matter; cannot discuss
- LEAs should receive a message – DHCS will ask SB County Council to reach out to LEAs to provide an update.
- Fresno LGA has closed their doors and will not be doing RMTS, but are turning in RTCs and working with the LEAs – DHCS stated they are not aware of Fresno not participating in RMTS.

Additional RTC Questions/Concerns:

- Is the state going to seriously consider a 2nd round of justifications? LEAs need a direction on how to proceed

Next Steps:

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- Monitor DHCS website and list serve for posting of “Hot Issues” related to 10% rule and justifications for GE teachers from non-rural LEAs
- Send DHCS spreadsheet with analyst notes re: GE teachers
- Send DHCS LEC/LGA guidance re: 10% rule
- Establish an RTC sub-committee to review conditional denials for consistency with evaluation and applicability of DHCS website guidance re: justifications; ask CDE to participate
 - o Volunteers for Subcommittee are:
 - San Diego: Janice DiCroce & Mary Cahill
 - Butte: Christine Wilhite
 - Oceanside: Donna Ross & Dan Daris
 - Mendocino: Debbie Rebottaro
- Agenda item for 7/28- SMAA weekly Update #15 July 18, 2014; consider sending group response to DHCS
- Ask TCE re: availability of legal counsel to advise about “under duress” changes to invoices; impact of state and federal false claim acts
- Revisit appeal process- need to add a level above DHCS as recommended previously by LEA SMAA workgroup

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