

**Next Meeting: Monday, August 4<sup>th</sup> at 11:00am**

Members in Attendance:

- 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
- Debbie Bickenbach: Practi-Cal
- Karen Tinker: San Diego USD
- Christine Wilhite: Butte COE
- 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
- Vina Guzman: CSBA
- Amanda Mozes: Paradigm Inc.
- Patty Rucker: Moreno Valley USD
- Sue Vang: CDE
- Patricia Eaton: Chula Vista Elementary SD
- Rose Uranga: Veritam Inc.
- Lisa Salas: Perris Elementary USD
- Lydia Bourne: CSNO
- Tanya Perry: Bear Valley
- Patti R: Fullerton College
- Michael Hubbard: Temecula Valley
- Karen Hall: Corona-Norco
- Martha Alvarez: San Diego USD
- Silma Navarro: Fontana USD
- Tracy Cole: Natomas USD

\*Please check and verify your attendance. I'm not sure I caught everyone. Thanks!

RTC Update:

- Discussion on how the group may want to organize the advisory committee as a response to the inconsistencies in the denials
  - o Volunteers for the RTC Advisory Committee are:
    - San Diego: Janice DiCroce & Mary Cahill
    - Butte: Christine Wilhite (may not be able to participate)
    - Oceanside: Donna Ross & Dan Daris
    - Mendocino: Debbie Rebottaro
    - Any other interested parties should contact Ruchi
  - o CDE doesn't need to participate in the sub-committee, but would like to be kept up to date on the denials
- Concerns raised that denials are occurring because clerical ratios are too high. Tony had previously stated that clerical work would count.

- Amanda (Paradigm) stated they are having a hard time determining the methodology used for denials; there doesn't appear to have consistent criteria
- Stakeholders clarified that the 14 day window begins as soon as the LEC/LGA receives the conditional denial notice, regardless of whether the school is in session.
- Debbie (MCOE) had misinformation from her LEC and replies were due back to DHCS today, but received an email extension from Jennifer Brooks at DHCS through "the end of the week"
- Last Thursday, an email from Jennifer Brooks, DHCS, went out to the SMAA committee sharing DHCS' request to CMS for a delay in RMTS implementation from September 30, 2014 to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter, January 30, 2015.
- Although DHCS has made this request, doesn't mean CMS will approve the extension. Should work under the assumption that the request will not be approved.
- Due to the large amount of inconsistencies, LEAs need to share their list of denials received to date, including the name of the school, analyst who denied the claim, any issues with the 14 day rule, and summary of the denial rationale to Sherry, Cathy and Ruchi. DHCS is currently working on a FAQ for the field that these details could help inform.
- Tiffany (MBT) has already sent in some info, but will resend to Ruchi.
- Questions were raised around the proposed extension to 2015, and if that means that payments will be delayed as well. Group does believe this would mean a further delay in payments.
- Jennifer Brooks' email reflects many of the issues raised by the LEA/SMAA workgroup representatives at the July meeting with DHCS. They are listening.
- Email also references taking out claiming universe grid, which will be helpful to the process
- Janice (San Diego LGA) raised an issue with the one platform rule, and would like to have another option/contractor. San Diego LGA already did a RFP and selected a different contractor. LAUSD and San Diego, for example, already had their software contract approved by CMS and it's not clear why they can't use them. Need to push for a standalone contractor for LEAs, at least in the out years.
- Question raised around the outcome of the education coalition letter to the Congressional delegation asking for 80% of the funds to be released. Was there ever a response?
  - o Will follow up with Hellan when she returns
- The group wanted to know what programs could/would close. Chula Vista shared that they are planning on closing their program. Janice (San Diego LGA) stated that San Diego lost half their districts during interim claiming. This issue should be raised at the state workgroup meeting next week.
  - o Sue Vang (CDE) offered to make this request of DHCS, including the services being cut.
  - o If programs close, DHCS will be unable to recoup some of their payback from future claims.
- Further discussion on the legal advice requested on the "under duress" changes to invoices; impact of state and federal false claim acts. Janice (San Diego LGA) stated it would not be appropriate for a LGA to change an invoice. A response from this group should go to DHCS on this issue.

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- Request to revisit the PPL that came out on RTCs and the lack of recourse for LEAs if DHCS/LECs worked together. There should be an ALJ appeals process in place as DHCS uses for other programs. When a LEA is audited, that is one form of an appeal for the LEA.

Action Items Completed from last week's meeting:

- Send DHCS spreadsheet with analyst notes re: GE teachers **DONE**
- Send DHCS LEC/LGA guidance re: 10% rule **DONE**

Next Steps:

- Continue to monitor DHCS website and list serve for posting of "Hot Issues" related to 10% rule and justifications for GE teachers from non-rural LEAs
- LEAs to email Sherry, Cathy and Ruchi their bullet points on the RTC inconsistencies
  - o Should include for each bullet point: the LEA, the analyst making the denial, key issues/rationale for the denial
- CDE will make request to DHCS about the number of schools who dropped out of the program and what services are/have been diminished
- Agenda item for 8/4 – finalize a group response to DHCS on the SMAA weekly Update #15 July 18, 2014
- Hellan to ask TCE re: availability of legal counsel to advise about "under duress" changes to invoices; impact of state and federal false claim acts
- Develop the agenda and talking points for the August 7<sup>th</sup> meeting with DHCS
  - o Revisit the appeal process - need to add a level above DHCS as recommended previously by LEA SMAA workgroup
  - o Issue of standalone/multiple contractors and what requirements should be made of providers to minimize DHCS workload. For example, single sign on for any platform.

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