

NEXT CALL: Please fill out the doodle poll so we can determine the best date and time for meetings going forward in 2015

Click: <http://doodle.com/qcfegs23u5uh2zyz>

School districts from across the state were part of the meeting. Below are minutes. Pass these on and let others know they can join in the calls.

Conference call number is: 1-800-914-8405; code is: 1785191#.

Report from Stakeholders Call –

The call commenced with a recap of the meeting with DHCS held on Monday, January 5th.

Deferral Issue - On January 12th, 2015 there will be a meeting hosted by CDE on back casting and the settlement agreement. See attached agenda and call in information.

To date, there has been no comment from DHCS on the feedback provided by this group on the back casting. On January 12th, a goal will be to review the data that was provided. The co-chairs for the LECs/LGAs were invited to participate in the meeting, and they are working to get a public call in number so the members of this SMAA/LEA work group will be able to listen in. It was clarified that the LGAs never agreed to DHCS' plan. Caroline Pfister, from the State Board of Education, has been the point person on the January 12th meeting. DHCS is allowing CTA's researcher, David Neben, to collect data from the LGAs and LECs to provide additional information for the back casting meeting. In person will be Cathy Bennett, Tanya Perry, and Dawn Bray (as Sherry Purcell is unable to attend in person).

Interim Payments - DHCS says checks are going out on those under \$50,000 in claims per quarter. A question was raised on the DHCS call about those receiving 75%, and the group was concerned with whether they would take this as a settlement. One idea suggested was all districts should receive 75% except Turlare and Turlock. For the districts receiving 40%, there is continuing concern that districts won't receive more than 40% of the funds owed to them – ever. DHCS is required to pay out initial settlements by the end of March. DHCS must submit their plan on the settlement agreement to CMS by the end of January although folks speculated that DHCS may ask the feds for additional time. The option for back casting claims with RTC should remain an option on the table.

Coder Issues - The PCG software only allows the Senior Coder to ask clarifying questions, which makes the function of the Primary Coder pointless. Concern expressed about why PCG will not come into compliance with the state plan, and that the State is willing to modify their plan to meet the PCG system limitations. CMS has approved allowing two clarifying questions from the Coders. See the exchange below on the coder issue and suggestions for change:

PCG Notifications – Five calendar vs. student days:

One issue raised by the group is that PCG is sending out notifications 5 calendar days before the moment, rather than the 5 student days as permitted by CMS. The manual doesn't say calendar days. (Tony Teresi issued a clarifying email that they will be using 5 calendar days during the first quarter and that the language in the manual was permissible for this to happen.) See below for memo and comment.

Additionally, PCG is stating that they are having "technical difficulties" with their system, which is not allowing the MAA coordinators to see the Moments or Notifications feature. There is a work around to this:

Log into the PCG system>Calendar>click Show Alternate Label?

Next: Alternate Labels> click Show Moment Dates?

The calendar will display #s on each date...

(We are ASSUMING this will show YOUR districts selected dates and how many moments)

Moments are already being released. Some districts were reporting that they had moments that were released during vacation last week and after 5pm. If your district has experienced any of these issues, please email: ngarcia@teachersforhealthykids.org.

It was mentioned that CMS believes that 5 student days is too much advance notice and they are considering moving to 24 or 48 hour advance notice. Will need to monitor, but should continue to follow the 5 student day rule until a formal policy change is issued.

Manual – Group has been reviewing the manual and are noticing inaccuracies in the document. Since districts are audited to the manual, this is a problem and the group needs to start compiling all the inaccuracies. Should look into a way to systematically track these issues. DHCS states that they have not received any issues on the SMAA line.

Trainings – Feedback on the training is that it was awful. This is a huge problem. The Q&A had wrong responses. There is no code 17 or 99 in the manual. Concerned that Senior Coders may end up needing to do 200 moments a day since Primary Coders cannot ask questions.

Moments – San Diego reported that they have 8 moments on Jan. 12. Only 5 out of the 8 had received notices for their moment. San Francisco USD reported only 1 moment for Monday. Need to make a note if any moment took place before January 5th.

Rosters – some districts reported that folks were removed from their rosters. LEAs need to double check that all the names they submitted are still on their roster. If not, then should appeal the removal. If you appeal, please let the group know.

SMAA/LEA Workgroup Notes: 1/7/2015

Inland Empire Report - Dawn shared that she continues to hold monthly meeting with the MAA coordinators and shares information from these workgroup calls. The next meeting is scheduled in Palm Springs for January 16th.

NEXT CALL: RESPOND TO DOODLE POLL ABOVE

CALL IN FOR JANUARY 12th CALL WITH CDE:

Participant Call Information for those attending remotely:

Toll Free Number: [1-866-590-5055](tel:1-866-590-5055)

Participant Access Code: [3190705#](#)

Press # again to participate