

Next call will be Thursday, April 23rd at 1pm
Call Number: 1-800-914-8405, Code: 1785191#

SMAA LEA Minutes 4/9/2015

Deferral:

DHCS submitted a proposal to CMS. It is similar to the one submitted in October, 2014. There was one change, suggested by Kern LEC, for there to be regional groupings. It is not completely clear what this will ultimately mean for all districts. David Nebin from CTA is currently running the new data but it is difficult since RMTS data is not available. It is unlikely the amount of money will be increased by regional grouping, but instead it would be redistributed differently than before. There has been some communication with Tim Hill, from CMS, concerning the unfairness of backcasting. A chart was developed for CMS showing that the system being used was being applied unequally. For example Kern LEC received 100% and no backcasting but in a comparison of invoices from San Diego Unified, their numbers were similar but they will receive an interim payment of 40% with backcasting.

The governor's office was also been contacted about approaching the HHS Departmental Appeals Board on appealing the CMS proposal. It was disappointing that Pilar Williams DHCS Deputy Director has already indicated that they were not going to appeal on behalf of schools.

RMTS

4th quarter has begun. No data from the 3rd quarter has been finalized or released yet from the LGA consortiums or the LEC's.

RMTS Implementation:

PCG Software - PCG sent a Bulletin regarding some future features to the software. (see attached)

- PCG software now sends TSP moments 5 student attendance days prior to their moment. However, the LEA's dashboard only reflects 5 calendar days (not the 5 student days). TSPs are receiving their notification prior to the LEA Coordinator knowing they have been selected. The PCG bulletin states the feature request for this issue has been submitted, but the feature will not be released until Oct-Dec. 2015 quarter.
- An LEA has requested the LGA send a daily 5 student attendance day moment report, and suggested that they ask PCG to run and distribute the report as part of their customer service.
- An LEA reported that their LEC indicated that PCG is the software platform in which the LEC's get to determine how to manage the moments. However, a standard for accountability needs to be set for future back casting and audits.
- It was thought that several LEC regions were allowed 3000 moments. However, this was earlier information that has since been updated since CMS would not allow. 2400 is the CMS

approved sample number, with a over collection of 15% for a total of 2,761. . There would be issues if the consortiums deviate from the agreed upon standard.

- An LEA was told that the LGA Consortium is charging a flat 6% plus a shared cost of the vendor fees (PCG and Fairbanks). Is this what the other LGAs are seeing?

Clarifying questions-

The LGA consortiums are planning a meeting with PCG. One of the issues on the list is Clarifying Questions. These are some of the issues that were raised on the call:

- CQ's need to be sent as soon as possible to TSP's so they may be answered correctly.
- CQ's have a 5-day expiration timeframe, which is not needed, yet DCHS wants to stick with this.
- PCG states that their software works correctly. However, CQ's went out on break. Several districts are having this issue. (what are the CQs set too, 5-student attendance days or 5 calendar days? And are they using the individual school calendars when releasing the CQ?)
- LEA's wanting to verify if a CQ has been sent must review the whole list to see who received a CQ or wait until a follow up email is received.
- TSP's have accidentally been deleted the link. How then can they reply to the CQ?

Final Code Change Procedure

- A list of what codes need to be changed must be submitted to PCG and they will manually change each one. Districts are concerned that it will not be done correctly.
- On the Coders screen when the moment pops up the date it was completed is visible not when it was sent. The screen will then be two days short.

To communicate the issues LEA's are having with PCG software and the inconsistency that are happening, a meeting will be set up with Michelle Kristoff and John Mendoza from DHCS. . A list of issues to be addressed or "wish list" will be discussed. This list is attached.

Upcoming Events:

April 20 Assembly Budget Sub-Committee hearing on MAA. 1:30 room 127

SB123 will be set for hearing. Carol Lui's bill would investigate moving the MAA program to CDE. Please contact Senator Lui's staff at Ed.Honowitz@sen.ca.gov if you have comments or concerns.

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