SMAA LEA Workgroup Call Minutes
Thursday, July 26th at 10am

1. Report on Deferral and discussion with DOF (See call information below)
   Recent call with DHCS SMAA workgroup to review the Prop 98 reconciliation process. Districts paying by check must send in money by October 2018. The first batch of payments has been issued, with a second and third to be sent out by the end of the year. There will be payment and reconciliation; finalizing process June of 2019.

   The netting process of payments and reconciliation is not straightforward and will need to be monitored carefully by school districts. DHCS made an agreement with CMS that guarantees this money be paid. Prop 98 funds secures that outcome. Payments are being sent out to LECs/LGAs and negative balances are being sent to DOF. The process was reported as cumbersome and difficult to track. Only one district has appealed at this point and it is pending formal review.

   There is still no clear process for the reconciliation of school district who have dropped out of the program.

   School districts are encouraged to verify the percentage paid to their LECs/LGAs to verify that double payment has not been issued and if fees have been credited back. DHCS is limiting their fees.

2. Report from meeting with DHCS

   RMTS Implementation Timeline LEA BOP - The July 1, 2019 timeline has been distributed (attached).

   The new SPA is still under review. CMS has asked for clarification of two issues. The notification process and coordination of care between school districts and health plans. A meeting will be scheduled to discuss the implementation process that will include school districts. The manual will also be reviewed.

   The 0-2 notification issue is still being reviewed. Currently it is at 5-5, and the proposal DHCS made to CMS allows it to change to 1-4.
DHCS Health Care Financing Division which covers fee for service Medi-Cal will soon be speaking to the Managed Care Division. Health plans have yet to be brought into the discussion and hopefully progress will be made soon.

3. Appeals Process

There was a recent meeting between DHCS, Audits and Investigations Unit and education groups, including CCSESA, CTA, LEA workgroup, CSBA and CDE. Audit adjustments were reviewed for LEA BOP. At this time, it is unknown what the total reimbursement impact and audit adjustments will be. The Department is working off of dated information posted in 2013. Updates that have been made, are not part of the Manual. However, DHCS says they may be included in training, though that is still unclear. It was noted there isn’t a workable process for appeals in the SMAA program and this is needed.

4. Cannabis Initiative Prop 64 – Update attached

A current study for Colorado shows that there is no great increase of marijuana use for minors. Usage is largely connected to such factors as parent’s usage. Cannabis use is low in comparison to alcohol and tobacco.

SB 275 (Portantino) would use cannabis funds for treatment, with little going to youth programs. The bill would develop set treatment standards, which are needed but would go beyond this goal. The hope is that there will be a meaningful stakeholders process included and that the bill be amended to only deal with treatment standards not how funds from Prop 64 would be used.

5. Mental Health in Schools

SB 1004 (Weiner) Prevention and Early Intervention (PEI) funds have a small percentage (17%) going to those under 25 years old. About 75% mental health issues are diagnosed by the age of 25. The bill would set priorities for these dollars so they could be allocated to address early childhood trauma. Aging Commissions in the counties have been opposing these efforts.

6. Back to School programs

Teachers for Healthy Kids has multiple resources and tools to support health outreach at school districts. Letter templates, robo-call scripts, on-line links, are all available for free. THK can also connect your district to health plan partners who are offering free health
education classes to parent groups and students, depending on your area. CHIPER is our on-line tool (www.chipers.org) that uses district tape match data to identify student who have recently fallen off of Medi-Cal. This information can help strategize targeted outreach efforts. Please contact Nena Garcia at 916-440-8811 or email ngarcia@teacherforhealthykids.org for more information.

7. NAME conference

http://www.medicaidforeducation.org/annual-conference/2018-baltimore-md