

**District Advisory Committee  
Board of Education Annual Mid-Year Written Report  
2023-2024**

**CHILDCARE AND DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**Administrator Co-chairperson:** Susan Samarge-Powell

**Co-chairperson:** Ben Swett

**Charges:**

**Charge 1** - Continue to research and discuss Universal Prekindergarten integration opportunities including ITC, Preschool, and Transitional Kindergarten.

**Charge 2** – Serve as a think tank to explore expanded staffing opportunities to regrow programs.

**Charge 3** – Explore the best avenues to maintain stable fiscal support even with variances of outside factors.

**Accomplishments to date:**

- The DAC team members have, over the course of the summer and school year worked through understanding enrollment and staffing for all CDS programs (including ITC, Preschool, and School Age) to better understand challenges associated with keeping the programs running to support the community
- The DAC has supported the district team as the expansion of Universal Prekindergarten (UPK) has greatly affected the manner in which the district develops and runs the preschool and Transitional Kindergarten programs

**Highlight(s) to date of particular note:**

- SMMUSD has committed to ensuring early education experiences are open to all SMMUSD families. The state of California has increased the UPK opportunities, and has expanded Transitional Kindergarten. SMMUSD has grown from eight to twelve TK classrooms and has done so to meet the needs of the community. Meanwhile, the DAC has worked with SMMUSD staff to ensure ITC and preschool programs still remain viable even as TK has expanded.

**Budgetary Implications:**

- As the district-committed annual million dollar contribution to CDS sunsets in the 23-24 school year, financial needs will need to be considered for the upcoming school years.
- The DAC requests that the board consider in what manner they would feel most comfortable providing financial support of the early learning programs in SMMUSD; the options include setting a consistent financial amount, or work with CDS to determine the need each year, which may vary based on state support and family fees.