



SANTA MONICA - MALIBU UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Early Care and Development District Advisory Committee MINUTES
Wednesday, January 5, 2022 at 6:00pm via Zoom

- I. Call to Order made by Chairperson Iao Katagiri at 6:03pm
 - a. Present: Ivy Chang, Gary Huff, Iao Katagiri, Laura Manson Board Member Jennifer Smith, Susan Samarge-Powell
 - b. Absent: Jon Kean, Raven Kras, Laurie Lieberman, Kristina Lizama, Ben Swett
- II. Public Comments – None
- III. General/Old Business - Action Item – Gary Huff made a motion to approve the minutes from the 12/1/21 meeting. All present members approved by acclimation.
- IV. Board Liaison report – Board Members Jennifer Smith shared how the board had recently discussed vaccination clinics, status of staff and student’s vaccination levels, as well as the status of returning to school after break. She also noted that Maria Leon-Vazquez is now the new President and Richard Tahvildarin-Jesswein is the new Vice President of the school board.
- V. SMMUSD Staff Reports – Susan Samarge-Powell provided District Covid-19 Updates, specifically around ITC, Preschool and School Age programs. Susan shared that during winter break PK merged at one site (Washington West); and School Age Programs held full day camp at Edison. Covid testing occurred during the two weeks and we had positive cases. In addition, the first three days of school have been challenging with so many staff absent due to Covid or family-related Covid needs. The CDS Admin team has been subbing consistently, and it looks to be the same for the foreseeable future. The district will provide Home Antigen Test kits for families if classrooms end up quarantining so they can return on a shortened timeframe (5 days from 10 days).

Susan also reported that the board approved the expansion of Transitional Kindergarten for the 2022-23 school year, and grant opportunities were discussed, including the Universal Prekindergarten Planning Implementation Grant as well as the Early Education Teacher Development Grant. Gary Huff and Laura Manson noted they would be interested in participating in the Early Education Teacher Development Grant with SMMUSD. Susan also noted that a group of 4 students from the Pardee RAND PhD Principles of Client-Oriented Policy Analysis course under Jeffrey Wasserman have just reached out in their first week of the class. They will be working with SMMUSD to come up with a deeper understanding of the Universal PK expectations, guidelines and opportunities.

- VI. New Business – Iao reminded the team that the midyear goals would soon be due for our DAC. Susan said she would share out an updated version of our goals and the DAC could review before submitting to the school board.

Next meeting dates are: 2/9, 3/9, 4/20 (if needed), 5/11, 6/15 (if needed)



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VII. Announcements- none

VIII. Adjournment – Chairperson Iao Katagiri closed the meeting at 7:03pm.