



SANTA MONICA - MALIBU UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Early Care and Development District Advisory Committee MINUTES  
Wednesday, March 6, 2024 at 5:00pm via Zoom (due to rain emergencies)

- I. Call to Order made by Susan Samarge-Powell at 5:05pm  
Present: Ivy Chang, Gary Huff, Raven Kras, Laurie Lieberman, Laura Manson, Stacy Rouse, Ben Swett, Susan Samarge-Powell  
Absent: Jon Kean
- II. Public Comments – None
- III. General/Old Business – Approval of the 1-10-24 Minutes by acclimation
- IV. Board Liaison report – Board members Lieberman and Rouse indicated no new information was prevalent at this time. Board members shared upcoming dates of board meetings and about events around the district, such as the Phantom of the Opera musical that just took place at Samohi.
- V. SMMUSD Staff Reports –
  - a. Susan Samarge-Powell shared the charts on enrollment by program type from February. She discussed ITC, Preschool, School Age, and TK programs, specifically.
  - b. Susan also noted that Early Learning would be presenting to the school board in either April or May; a discussion occurred around what to share and how to share it. Requests were made to consider positive, support stories coming from families in the variety of programs
  - c. It was also noted that we should invite the Communications team members (Gail, Diana, Esme) to come to a meeting so they can hear our areas of need and support communication messages/styles to the public. Board member Rouse suggested trying to find different ways to share information rather than in one style; this would support the variety of constituents in our communities
- VI. New Business
  - a. No new urgent business was discussed
- VII. Announcements
  - a. Remaining DAC dates for 2023-2024: 4/10, 5/1, 6/5 (if needed)
  - b. Member Kras made a recommendation about sharing with families the differences between Child Abuse and Neglect as she has seen people with a lack of understanding in the community; she also asked about how we provide resources to the early learning community (we noted that this occurs in our initial enrollment meetings, monthly newsletters, monthly parent workshops, and emails with families; we also have a bilingual community liaison who provides information about resources to families as needed).
- VIII. Adjournment – Susan Samarge-Powell closed the meeting at 6:10pm