



SANTA MONICA - MALIBU UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT  
Early Care and Development District Advisory Committee MINUTES  
Wednesday, April 26, 2023 at 5:30pm at CDS

- I. Call to Order made by Susan Samarge-Powell at 5:40pm
  - a. Present: Ivy Chang, Jon Kean, Laura Manson, Stacy Rouse, Ben Swett, Susan Samarge-Powell
  - b. Absent: Gary Huff, Raven Kras, Laurie Lieberman
- II. Public Comments – None
- III. General/Old Business - Action Item – All in attendance approved the 3/8/23 minutes by acclimation.
- IV. Board Liaison report – Board Member Jon Kean shared that the board is in the midst of the superintendent search with the continued hopes of a start date of 7/1/23. In addition, there is a lot of discussion and information about facilities at our board meetings. Much of the discussion is centered around security and safety as a high priority, while maintaining strong learning environments. Finally, there remains continued concern that while TK is mandated from the state, as a Basic Aid School District, we receive little in the way of funding and it is an expensive program. There is an interest in trying to work with advocates to reach out to the legislature so they understand the challenge.

We began by introducing one another, and Stacy asked us each to share how we are connected to early learning.

- V. SMMUSD Staff Reports –
  - a. Susan Samarge-Powell noted that her report would be mixed in with the new business, which is introducing our DAC to our new Board Liaison, Stacy Rouse, and provide contextual information to support her transition into our DAC.
- VI. New Business
  - a. Susan shared a brief history of our early learning programs and how the DAC has supported the development of our programs throughout this time. In addition, Susan shared information about ITC, Preschool Programs, School Age Programs, and Transitional Kindergarten (we did not get to talk too much about TK due to timing). We also shared the current enrollment numbers, as well as the plans for the 2023-24 school year. The discussion that took place primarily had to do with each of our perspectives on early learning and how we can best support our youngest students to have a strong foundation from our programs.
- VII. Announcements – We said Happy Birthday to Board member Jon Kean!
- VIII. Adjournment – Susan Samarge-Powell closed the meeting at 7:06pm